

## **WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30 May 2012 in the Village Hall, WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH

**PRESENT** Mr Paul Ritchie (Chairman)  
Ms Caroline Ward  
Mr Richard Fry  
Mr Don Byrom  
Mrs Aideene Turley

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mrs P. Parker (Clerk) and 3 members of the general public.

**69/12. Apologies for absence-** Christine Flemming, Emma Parker and Jane Somper

### **70/12. Co-Option to Parish Council**

AT proposed that Don Byrom be co-opted. This was seconded by CW and all were in favour. The Chairman welcomed Don to the PC and commented that, for the first time in a while, WWPC was at full strength.

**71/12. Declarations of Interest-** None

**72/12. Public Participation –**The following points were raised:

- Hedges were growing over on to the pavements at 2 Purbeck View and opposite 'Mycote'. The Clerk would report.
- The footpath off Chescombe Lane, to the right of the farm, had been obliterated in parts, a gate was chained and signage was missing. CW would report.
- Speeds above then limit had again been noted on the A354, particularly regarding buses and lorries. The Clerk would try to arrange for the Police, and perhaps DCC Highways, to be present at the July meeting when the subject would be discussed.

**73/12. Approval of Minutes-** The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2012 had been previously circulated and were now approved and duly signed.

## **74/12. Matters Arising**

NDDC Travel Workshop – This would be aimed at interested parties but with limited numbers. One representative from the PC would be invited, and Emma Parker had offered at the previous meeting. Specific issues would not be discussed. Another workshop would follow later in the year.

Footpath behind the walled garden – Mr Chichester had attended to the spikes and made them safe.

## **75/12. Planning – None**

## **76/12. Correspondence**

DAPTC- Spring Newsletter

Audit Commission – Consultation on appointment of external auditor for future years. Any objections to the appointment of BDO LLP should be emailed to the commission.

DT11 Forum – Funding Information/Trailway Broadband Project: A meeting would be held on 14 June to present and explain the project.

DAPTC – Details of forthcoming course ‘Making Your Meetings Work’. The Clerk would book places for AT, RF and DB.

DCC- Consultation on Day Care Services & Vocational Services- Meeting 10 July at the Corn Exchange, Blandford.

## **77/12. REPORTS**

- a) Playground – RF reported that wood chippings needed to be replenished. The Clerk would contact Mr Couldwell for details of a supplier.  
The bar between the swings and the multi-play was damaged and RF thought it would be a good idea to tape it over to prevent injury to children’s hands.
  
- b) Footpaths- Nothing to report except matter referred to in Minute 72/12.

## **78/12. Fields Close- Purchase of benches**

Mr Vater in Chescombe Lane had apologised for not being able to help at the moment.

Mr Adams had spotted some very good quality benches, with a 10 year guarantee, at Bartletts in Blandford. AT would have a look at them and report back at the next meeting.

DB had spoken to one or two residents who had expressed support for having the benches.

It was suggested that, when purchased, the PC may add plaques to them.

The Clerk added that grass cutting at Fields Close was going well and Mr Lovell had agreed to take on the year’s contract. He would present quarterly invoices for payment. Some residents had commented that the area was looking very good, as indeed it was. The same could not be said for the roundabout which belonged to

DCC. Only one cut had taken place and the grass had, consequently, been knee high. The Clerk had attempted to persuade DCC to pay for Mr Lovell to include the roundabout in his cutting schedule but this had been refused.

### 79/12. Summer celebrations

RF reported that everything was now in place for 4 June, with a final meeting planned to discuss timings. All households had received fliers, posters were out all over the village and a piece had been included in Valley News.

A local farmer had agreed to bring a pen of orphaned lambs on the day for the children to see. Live music was arranged. There were to be five real ales from three breweries at the mini beer festival. A fantastic response had been made to the call for prizes which meant that several raffles could be held.

RF had written a Risk Assessment which was handed to the Clerk for filing.

AT said that plans for the torch relay were on track. She appealed for volunteer marshalls as these were needed every 25-30 metres along the route through Whitechurch. Parking was organised in fields which would be sign posted. Bunting would be put in place on 11 July. AT asked that plenty of photographs were taken on the day, with special emphasis on taking one of the torch handover.

The Clerk had, unfortunately, to report that DCC Highways had telephoned to say that the planters, recently put in next to the village name signs, may have to be removed after the summer events. Guidelines on the placing of such objects had been sent to the Clerk.

PR thanked RF and AT for their work on the two committees. He added that £50 had been received from the Valley Players towards the cost of the celebrations.

It was agreed by all that any profit arising from Jubilee raffles or events should go back to the PC for re-investment in the village.

### 80/12. FINANCE

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Current Account | £8,506.44 |
|-----------------|-----------|

The Clerk explained that, of the total above, the following sums were earmarked:

£2,275 – Maintenance of Fields Close

£100 - from Valley News for Jubilee celebrations

- The following cheques were authorised and duly signed:

|   |     |         |
|---|-----|---------|
| Came & Company – Insurance Renewal              | 400 | £583.15 |
| DAPTC – Subscription                            | 401 | £204.71 |
| WW Village Hall- Rent Dec-Apr                   | 402 | £35.00  |
| Mr Ian Pitman - materials for post & rail fence | 403 | £82.06  |

Clerk's Salary SO 8 May - £254.58

Mr Pitman had kindly put up the fencing, between the Village Hall and PC land, with no charge for his time. The cost of materials included £13.67 VAT which the PC would claim back. Therefore, the Village Hall committee would be asked to pay £34.

Budget 2012-13 – Review.

(See copy of budget attached to minutes)

The following points were made:

- The cost of the insurance premium was £69 cheaper than in the previous year owing to a favourable quote from Came & Co for a 3 year commitment.
- The DAPTC subscription cost was within budget
- There would be no cost for external audit from 2013
- There was now no cost for email address rental as DAPTC had provided a free one. A refund was therefore due from TalkTalk.
- The mild winter had meant that, although grit bins had been filled, none had been used. This would provide a buffer for next winter when the PC would probably have to purchase grit.
- The £50 budget for Councillor training was already spent

### **81/12. Other information for report only**

CW updated the PC on the Localism Act after her attendance at a recent training session. One of the most contentious things to come out of it seemed to be the new demands which would be made upon Councillors to disclose not only their own but their spouses'/partners' pecuniary interests.

The Clerk passed on a message from DAPTC relating to the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, the implementation of which seemed to be delayed. Until NDDC had made available its new code, the PC could do nothing even though the original date had been 1 July. DAPTC anticipated that the government would announce some transitional arrangements.

Mr Luke had forwarded emails from DCC after he had complained about the lack of grass cutting in the parish. It seemed that future cutting should be more regular and Whitechurch could also expect an extra tidying up before the torch relay.

The Clerk had received a timely free gift of two litter pickers from a firm involved with village tidy-ups. These would be most useful, especially before the summer celebrations.

Digital planning consultation was still likely, with a pilot scheme due to begin in June.

The Clerk would check with NDDC that -  
Conditions regarding the replacement wall at Church Cottage had been adhered to.  
Riparian land owners had been contacted regarding the clearing of the Winterborne.

A ridge tile was missing on the roof of the parish rooms, but, being church property, there was nothing the PC could do. There was a great need for volunteers on the church fund raising committee.

A reminder was given that, once out of date, posters put up around the village should be removed. The Clerk would contact the Clerk at Milborne PC regarding this.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Clerk had given three months notice of her resignation. In response to PR's kind words, Mrs Parker said she would be

happy to offer training to the new Clerk when appointed. Mrs Flemming would take charge of recruitment of a new Clerk.

**82/12.Public Participation - None**

**83/12. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 4 July at 7.30pm.**