

WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 4 April 2012 in the Village Hall, WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH

PRESENT:

Mr Paul Ritchie (Chairman)
Mrs Christine Flemming (Vice-Chair)
Ms Caroline Ward
Mrs Emma Parker
Mr Richard Fry
Mrs Aideene Turley

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs P. Parker (Clerk), and 8 members of the general public.

32/12. Apologies for absence- Jane Somper

33/12. Declarations of Interest- None

34/12. Co-Option to PC and Election of Vice-Chair

CW proposed that Mrs Aideene Turley be co-opted to the Parish Council. This was seconded by CF and all were in agreement. PR welcomed AT to the PC and explained that, with the resignation of Bob Spray, another vacancy existed which was being advertised in the usual way.

EP proposed that CF be elected to the position of Vice-Chair. This was seconded by RF and all were in favour. PR thanked CF for agreeing to take the office.

35/12. Public Participation –

A member of the public mentioned that there were two cars on the verge near the bus shelter being offered for sale. The Clerk said a report had already been made to DCC.

36/12. Approval of Minutes- The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2012 had been previously circulated and were now approved and duly signed.

37/12. Matters Arising

Grasscutting at Fields Close – Mr Lovell had agreed to cut the grass on a two month trial. There had been positive feedback from a resident after the first cut.

Request to Bus Company – CW reported that a request concerning bus timetables and signs was still awaited.

Traffic Calming – CW had obtained the AONB toolkit, to be circulated amongst Councillors, which suggested ways of slowing down traffic by 'psychological means'.

In other words, attempts should be made to make it obvious to drivers that they were entering a village and should slow down. CF suggested that the village signs could be enhanced to help achieve this.

Following on from this, the Clerk was requested to contact the Speed Camera Safety Partnership to try again for a 'No Excuses' sign on the A354.

Litter Pick – PR expressed thanks to those who had helped in a successful event, but regretted the rapid reappearance of litter. The Clerk would enquire from NDDC whether it would be possible to have bags and picking sticks permanently for interim collections.

Planning permission for solar panels – NDDC had confirmed that no breach of planning control had occurred in Whitechurch with erection of solar panels.

38/12. PLANNING

Application for work to trees:

Milton House, Milton End – Line of lime trees-Prune to previous pruning points & raise lower limbs to 5.2m / Lime – Prune to previous pruning points

The PC had no objection to the above.

39/12. Correspondence

Mrs Marion Clemens, Fields Close- Mrs Clemens suggested that two benches on the green area would be well used, and was happy to help raise funds for them if necessary.

The Clerk would reply to Mrs Clemens, and would also check with NDDC as to whether an extra dog bin could be provided at the end of the track from La Lee farm.

Listing of Jubilee events on Dorsetforyou – RF felt that, as the summer celebrations were intended for the parish, an extended invitation may result in the events being swamped by visitors. Therefore, he would not be advertising on the website.

Regular emails- The Clerk would pass onto Councillors regular mails such as Rural Digest and funding information.

Good Councillors' Guide- This would be circulated.

40/12. REPORTS

- a) Playground- RF and the Clerk had reviewed the Playground Inspection record which RF would complete each week and then file. If any issues arose,

they would be reported to the PC. So far, the site was in good order, with little litter.

The emergency contact number at the Playground had been changed to RF's. PR thanked RF for taking on the responsibility.

b) Footpaths – Nothing to report.

41/12. Village Summer Celebrations –Update

Diamond Jubilee

RF reported that planning was going well, with a good turn out from people willing to help.

The plan was to hold the events on Monday 4 June, with free entry for villagers and guests. Tickets would be available on application and would have details of terms and the day's timetable. This would also be a way of indicating how many were likely to turn up.

People would be invited to either bring their own food and, if they wanted, to also provide something for a common table. There would be a barbecue for own use or with a 'chef' if wanted. The Village Hall bar would be open from 6.30pm and there would be a beer tent during the day. An application would be made for a drinks licence.

Arrangements for car parking were in progress.

A timetable of games and competitions was being planned, including a children's king or queen of the day, with a throne provided!

For insurance purposes a Risk Assessment would be written, with details of first-aiders and marshals. The Parish Council would be the sole organiser and therefore events would be covered by PC insurance.

Bunting was being made in large quantities by a group of ladies at Lady Bailey. So far, expenses amounted to £134 and it was anticipated that about £200 would be spent in all. Fund raising activities, including the 'Royal Quiz' and various coffee mornings, would reduce the final spend. The majority of items purchased would be re-usable at the Olympic Torch day

AT suggested that flower boxes planned for display near the village entry signs could be used on Jubilee day and then re-vamped in different colours for the Torch.

PR thanked RF for his comprehensive report.

Olympic Torch event - 12 July

CF reported that notices had gone out asking residents on the main road if they would decorate their houses.

Parking would not be possible on the school field since it would be their sports day.

Mr Tory had therefore been asked and agreed to the use of his field off Rook Lane or the one next to it. Rupert Tory had said that he may do a pre-Torch run.

Evening events were still under discussion as the Village Hall had a regular booking and would not be available.

EP had attended the recent NDDC meeting on planning for the Torch where the need for insurance and health and safety had been stressed. Signs for toilets and car parking could be obtained from ND, as well as jackets for marshals.

All events connected with the Torch would be organised by the PC and therefore covered by its insurance.

As a lasting memorial, it was proposed that the suggested bench at Fields Close could be dedicated to the Queens' Diamond Jubilee. The Clerk would find out prices of benches.

42/12.FINANCE

Current Account at 7 March	£5,552.70
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- The following cheques were authorised and duly signed:

DAPTC – Training (1 March 2012)	£30.00
Clerk's Expenses	£2.50

Clerk's Salary SO 7 March 2012- £254.58

- The Clerk would complete the requisite bank form to remove Mr Couldwell and Mr Spray from the list of signatories, and add RF and CW. This would be authorised at the next meeting.
- Request for funding from The Wednesday Club – Mr Don Byrom from Chescombe Court was present at the meeting, and, as a committee member of the newly formed 'Bus2Go', he explained its financial position. At the moment it was in funds from POPPS, Spectrum Housing and PC donations, and take-up of its first outing was excellent. Therefore, the PC offered to give a donation as it became necessary. For the present, PR pledged full PC support and encouragement to an initiative which seemed very promising.

- Fence repair on land between PC's and The Village Hall- A quote from Mr Crabbe had been obtained for £190 plus VAT. The Clerk would ask the Village Hall Chairman if his committee would be willing to share the cost.
- New PC email address – The Clerk confirmed that the new address was free of charge from DAPTC and that a refund was due from TalkTalk.

43/12. Other Information for Report Only

DCC proposals for winter snow clearing – The Clerk had replied to say that the PC broadly supported the proposals but was concerned about insurance cover for participating farmers.

Thanks to Mr Couldwell – PR asked Councillors to sign a card for the Clerk to deliver. A card would also be sent to Mr Spray and signed at the next meeting.

CF reported the poor state of the bench at the junction of Fields Close and Whatcombe Lane. Mr Flemming would carry out an emergency repair but Mr Adams would be asked for a quote to repair.

CW offered to remove ivy from the bus shelter.

The Clerk would report that cuttings still had not been removed from the pavement on Dorchester Hill, below the passageway to St Mary's Close.

EP would find out from NDDC what progress had been made on the introduction of on-line planning consultation.

PR reported that a Facebook page had been established for Whitechurch.

44/12. Public Participation

A request was made that the Chairman read out the amount in the PC's Current Account at each meeting. The Clerk pointed out that this was made public each month on the public notice.

The Clerk confirmed that the budget was set each year in November and, in the usual way, would form part of the annual AGM Financial Report.

CF added that, at present, the grant from NDDC for Fields Close maintenance was swelling the amount in the PC's bank account.

It was suggested that a bin be provided near the bus stop at the kitchen shop. The Clerk would ask NDDC about the possibility of an extra bin after checking with the land owner, Mr Chichester, that this would be acceptable.

It was pointed out that toilet facilities were limited at the Village Hall and would not be sufficient to serve at the summer events. RF said that the school would be asked for permission to use the porta cabin toilets on the field. There were also toilets at the Parish Rooms and the pub.

Agreement was expressed with Mrs Clemens's suggestion for benches at Fields Close. Mr Pitman suggested that the grassed area would make a better playground

site than the present one from the safety point of view. He also kindly offered to carry out the fence repair near the Village Hall for only the cost of the materials.

The Clerk would keep a list of suggestions made by residents for enhancements at Fields Close.

45/12. Date of Next Meeting & AGM –

7.30pm on Wednesday 2 May 2012

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.