

MINUTES of the MEETING of WHITWICK PARISH COUNCIL held VIRTUALLY ONLINE (via Zoom) on THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 2020 at 7 pm under Local Authorities (Coronavirus) Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings (England) Regulation effective 04.04.2020

Present: Councillor L Collins (Chairman)

Cllrs A Barker [Item 2281 - end], L Gillard [Items 2280-2289 only], S Gillard, T Gillard [Item 2281 - end], P Moulton, T Oldham, L Spence, J Straw, R Woodward and M Wyatt

In Attendance:

Mrs C Tibbles PSLCC, Parish Manager/Responsible Finance Officer

2 members of the public

The Chairman reminded members to mute their connection if they were not in a quiet location.

2280. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2281. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Collins declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest as a member of Whitwick Historical Group.

Cllr Moulton declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest as a Link Councillor and member of Belton and Whitwick Royal British Legion, as a Link Councillor and member of Whitwick Historical Group, as a Link Councillor and member of Whitwick Bowls Club, Link Councillor for Thornborough Road Allotment Society and a member of Leisure Centre Steering Group.

Cllr J Straw declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in all planning matters regarding the Green Wedge as a member of Whitwick Action Group and a disclosable non-pecuniary interest as a member of Whitwick Historical Group.

Cllr Barker declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest as a signatory at Walkers Flats Allotment Group and as a member of Whitwick Historical Group.

See also Item 2282.

[Cllr Barker joined the meeting at 7.02 pm]

[Cllr T Gillard joined the meeting at 7.05 pm]

2282. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2020 be approved as a correct record. The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2020 had not yet been circulated and were deferred.

Following a question, discussion and on the instruction of Cllr T Gillard, Cllr S Gillard declared a non-pecuniary interest in all planning matters.
Cllr T Gillard declared a non-pecuniary interest in all planning matters.
Cllr Wyatt declared a non-pecuniary interest in all planning matters.

2283. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

A member of the public asked for a statement of thanks from the Woodstock in Whitwick Committee to be given to JR Landscaping contractors for fixing the Wheelchair Roundabout in Whitwick Park at no cost. This gesture of repairing the latest vandalism to the item was appreciated by the local community.

A member of the public asked Cllr T Gillard for an update on a previous question regarding getting a replacement post box at the end of St. Bernards Road. Cllr T Gillard replied he had emailed Royal Mail about this and in anticipation of a question had tried to call them – however it would cost £3.45 per minute to speak to them so he had not been able to do so.

2284. PARISH MANAGER'S DELEGATED DECISIONS

Delegated decisions had been taken on planning matters and detailed later under that item. The Parish Manager anticipated taking a delegated decision regarding the operation of Park Hall and council buildings if the anticipated change to coronavirus guidance was introduced.

2285. PARISH PROJECTS – WORKING PARTY/LINK COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Resolved/noted:

- a) Project Working Party – VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs) – Cllr Barker reported this was not happening very quickly and 3 posts were still awaiting installation. A resident had emailed his utter disappointment with the County Council's lack of enthusiasm to address speeding in the village as he felt the project that started in May 2019 should have been finished a year ago. Cllr T Gillard agreed to chase this matter;
- b) Christmas Lights – the Parish Manager said she would need to submit the Licence Application for this;
- c) Standing Orders Review meeting – the Parish Manager to set a meeting date for November;
- d) Finance Working Party–meeting held on 8/10/20, notes circulated and recommendations considered later in the meeting;
- e) Civic Protocols Link Councillor – the Chairman was still revising the draft;
- f) Defibrillator Link Councillors – Cllr Barker had received an interesting email from a company;
- g) Flood Action Plan Link Councillor – Cllr Woodward reported that water courses seemed to be running well;
- h) Quarry Link Councillor – no meeting had been held;
- i) Website Link Councillors – the Parish Manager said the new company had been communicating regularly with Ms Mabey;
- j) Whitwick Historical Group Link Councillor(s) – Cllr Moulton reported the building would open to the public soon and an AGM booked for 5

November; repairs were in progress this week and the boiler being replaced on 27 October; the Group Chairman's report had thanked Cllr Moulton, as Link Councillor, for his assistance and the Parish Manager for her help and advice to the Historical Group;

- k) Hermitage Leisure Centre Steering Group Link Councillor – Cllr Moulton had not received any information but Cllr S Gillard said a meeting had been held; the Parish Manager undertook to check if details of Cllr Moulton's appointment had been passed on;

Comments were made by members and the Chairman called the meeting to order;

- l) Royal British Legion Link Councillor – see item 2288

2286. CONSULTATIONS

Resolved/noted:

- a) **having considered the consultation carried out by the Department for Transport (DfT) on Pavement parking that legislative change to introduce a London-style pavement parking prohibition throughout England was the preferred option;**
- b) **that the parish response to the government's new white paper 'Planning for the Future' should be based on the draft provided by NWLDC, providing there was no detriment to the parish of Whitwick, with the Parish Manager liaising with the Chairman and Cllr Woodward;**

2287. BYELAWS

The Parish Manager had no update on this matter from NWLDC Legal Services.

2288. COMMUNITY EVENTS

Resolved/noted

- a) Remembrance Parade and service (organised by Royal British Legion) – Cllr Moulton reported that the Whitwick Parade and Service would not be going ahead. On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman welcomed Rev. Joanne Dyer to the village and confirmed that she would privately lay a poppy wreath at the Whitwick memorial. Cllr Moulton reported the Legion branch had discussed handing over ownership of the event due to insurance and road closure responsibility. He felt the parish council would have to consider costs and implications before making a decision.
- b) **Poppies on Lampposts (parish organised event) – resolved that members who could safely do this within social distancing guidelines would start putting them up on 25 October;**
- c) to encourage residents to put a coloured picture of a poppy in their windows to show their support for Remembrance Sunday and/or 11 November;
- d) **to set the provisional date, subject to the coronavirus restrictions next year, of Sunday 23 May 2021 for Picnic in the Park to celebrate the 10th birthday of the Parish Council;**

- e) **as requested by the Finance Working Party, the Chairman and Cllr Woodward agreed to form an Event Working Party for the Picnic In The Park;** the Chairman invited Cllr Wyatt, with his experience of Coalville's Party In The Park, to attend a meeting when one was arranged; Cllr Wyatt replied he would speak to the Parish Manager; the Chairman would also contact Ms. Colledge for ideas from her experiences with Woodstock in Whitwick;

2289. BUDGET PLANNING - 2021/2022 AND BEYOND

Resolved/noted

- a) **the Parish Manager to canvass members for their written improvements/suggestions of what they wished to see in the parish as a tool for budget planning (e.g. playground refurbishment, biodiversity compliance, memorial garden and parish anniversary event);**
- b) **on the recommendation of the Finance Working Party meeting (as reported earlier), resolved to establish a new earmarked reserve of £10,000 towards unknown cost of riparian ownership and liabilities;**
- c) there were no suggested refinements to the budget structure.

[Cllr L Gillard left the meeting at 7.52 pm]

2290. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2020 had not yet been circulated and were deferred.

2291. STAFFING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2020 had not yet been circulated and were deferred.

Following annual review of the Terms of Reference at July Council meeting, no requests were made by the Committee for any amendments.

2292. PLANNING MATTERS

a) Applications

The Council had been consulted by NWLDC on the following applications and the recommendations resolved:

REF 20/01378/FUL - 188 Thornborough Road - Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of two storey dwelling – **no objection**

REF 20/01354/FUL – 7 Clarke Close - Erection of a two-storey side and single-storey rear extension (Re-consultation) – **no objection**

REF 20/01312/FUL – 18 Stinson Way - Demolition of existing side extension and erection of replacement single storey side extension – **no objection**

Applications received and delegated decisions taken by Parish Manager after consultation with parish councillors:

REF 19/02486/FUL - 52 - 66 Silver Street - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 8 dwellings and 1 no. flat over garaging, to include the creation of a vehicular access, parking provision and landscaping
Delegated decision made by Parish Manager – no objections raised

b) Decisions

NWLDC had approved the following applications:

REF 20/01304/FUL – 47 Barr Crescent - Erection of a single-storey rear extension

REF 20/01256/FUL - 10 Torrington Avenue - Erection of a single-storey side extension to provide for a garage

REF 20/01179/TPO – 11 Hervey Woods - Works to 1no. Oak tree (Protected by Tree Preservation Order)

REF 20/01012/FUL – 53 Bonchurch Road - Erection of a single storey rear extension

REF 20/01031/PNH – 118 Talbot Street - Erection of a single storey rear extension measuring 3.6m in length, 2.95m in height to the eaves and 3.95m in height to the ridge

REF 20/01104/VCI - Land To The Rear Of 74 And 76 North Street - Variation of conditions 2,4,5 and 8 of planning permission 17/00775/FUL to reposition the dwelling and garaging

2293. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr T Gillard reported that District Council matters continued to be mainly dealing with Covid.

Cllr Barker had wished to ask a question to Cllr L Gillard but, in her absence, it was responded to by Cllr T Gillard, who confirmed the broken glass on the bus shelter at Howe Road had been reported by Cllr L Gillard the previous day.

2294. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr T Gillard reported that County Council matters continued to be mainly dealing with Covid and gave an update on figures and support material.

2295. PARISH MANAGER'S REPORT AND MATTERS PENDING

Noted.

2296. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved/noted that:

a) following a request by the Responsible Financial Officer, an allocation had been made by NWLDC from the Business Support Grant received from central government of £10,000 for Park Hall. It was noted that this allocation did not cover loss of income and costs incurred by staff

managing and responding to the many coronavirus issues being experienced.

- b)** income received of £152,405.32 for the latest period, including the second instalment of the precept of £140,176.00 (as circulated);
- c) to approve the payments of £6,878.58, including salaries of £4,616.40 for the latest period (as circulated);**
- d)** the latest income and expenditure account for 2020/21 (as circulated);
- e)** the quarterly financial checks by the Chairman as part of the system of internal control had taken place;
- f)** the latest bank balances at the last month end as Unity current a/c £319,655.82; Unity Deposit a/c £12,214.94 and CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund £145,000;

Members wished to return to earlier discussions as the Chairman was closing the meeting. The Chairman said that the agenda had been completed and with no more decisions to be made the meeting was duly closed. The virtual meeting was ended by the Parish Manager.

Full signature of Chairman: Date:

The meeting terminated at 8.06 pm

Cllr Barker joined the meeting at 7.02 pm
Cllr T Gillard joined the meeting at 7.05 pm
Cllr L Gillard left the meeting at 7.52 pm

Date of next council meeting: Thursday 19 November 2020 at 7 pm