

WHITCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Whitchurch Parish Council held in The Church Hall,
Whitchurch on Monday 13th July 2009 at 7.30pm

Attendees: Cllr Pain (Chairman), Cllr Bond, Cllr Newman, Cllr Foot, Cllr Shepherd, Cllr Meijer, County Cllr Netta Glover, Sue Mordue – Clerk, 9 members of the public.

21. Receive Apologies: Cllr Bond had advised he may be late due to another meeting.

22. Open Forum for Parishioners:

- a. County Cllr Netta Glover was welcomed to the meeting as the new County Cllr and advised she would attend the meetings when she can and would be easily contactable when her assistance is required. She updated the Council on issues such as funding assistance for Businesses through the recession at belp.co.uk, free driving tests for the older people and a course for younger drivers.
- b. Representations were made against the planning application in 27a and b advising of the overwhelming opposition to this by Whitchurch residents with circa 100 people attending a public meeting about this. 146 letters of objection have already been sent to AVDC. A feasibility study had been undertaken showing that the continuation of a pub is commercially viable. The current owners had allowed the licence to lapse and the interior is in a bad state with ingress of water from the roof. Clerk was asked to investigate whether the owners could be made to keep the property in a better state and not just allow it to degrade like this.

23. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda: none at this point however see item 25.

24. The minutes of the last meeting the Meeting held on Monday 8th June 2009 were confirmed as a true record.

25. To discuss any matters arising from those minutes not covered by the agenda – none.

Cllr Bond joined the meeting and declared his interest in planning applications due to his role as District Cllr sitting on the AVDC Development Control Committee as he will review his decision at Committee based on the additional information available at the time.

26. Planning: To discuss planning applications and make recommendations:

- a. 09/00997/APP – The White Horse Ph – change of use of public house to residential dwelling including single storey rear extension, erection of one new detached dwelling and formation of new access off White Horse Lane – the Council unanimously resolved to strongly oppose this application on the same basis as the previous application emphasising the large support against this application from the village and advise the fact that the licence had been allowed to lapse.
- b. 09/01000/ACD – The White Horse Ph – partial demolition of single storey buildings to the rear of public house – the Council unanimously resolved to strongly oppose this application on the same basis as previous responses and above.
- c. 09/00407/APP - 18 Little London- Two storey side and first floor front extension – the Council resolved it had no objection to this application.
- d. 09/01104/ALB – 1 Oving Road – conversion of barn into ancillary living accommodation – the Council resolved it had no objection to this application.

27. Finance:

- a. The accounts for the year to date end May 2009 were agreed as reviewed.
- b. The Council asked Bernie Hyde and Charlotte Lincoln to decide on how the £50 donation for planting outside the White Horse Pub could be spent.
- c. The Council resolved to issue the following cheques:

Andrew Pain keys	£7.50
AVDC re football pitch	£69.00
A Radwell	£90.00
Geosynthetic Technology Ltd	£1,580.93

28. Highways:

- a. To report and update on issues and repairs – Potholes outside the school.
- b. To update on any further ideas for actions re Parking problems around the Legion Hall – members attending the Youth club had all been sent letters asking them to park considerately. The Council discussed the fact that even if lines were painted on the road it could not be Policed and people are still allowed to drop off on double yellow lines. There did not appear to be any other alternatives to progress at this stage and the matter would be left for now.

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- c. Bus Shelters
 - i. Swan Close the Clerk had written to BCC asking whether JC Decaux who own the shelter could replace the glass however no response had been received yet.
 - ii. Oving Road shelter – 2 bits of cosmetic decoration had ‘fallen off’. Clerk to write to company to ascertain whether these are covered under any guarantee of workmanship / can be replaced.

29. Footpaths & Footways: To report and update on issues and repairs – path through to the back of Church Hall (Hemp Plait) needs clearing and Sandpath – hedge needs cutting back as obstructing the footpath.

30. Street Lighting: To report and update on lighting issues and repairs – Sandpath hedge is obscuring the light.

31. Recreation Ground:

- a. The pond liner had been purchased and would be delivered to the Bonds farm. The location and access around the sides of the pond were queried by Cllr Bond however it was reiterated that advise had been taken from Paul Holton AVDC Biodiversity Officer on the location, size and all other aspects to ensure all safety advise had been given and it was recommended to have access from all sides and at this location. Cllr Newman advised he would need copies of the invoices for the liner and George Cheshire to claim the funding from VAHT and that he would keep the project officer updated on progress.
- b. Council to discuss impressions of the football area following its marking out and decide whether to install goals – pitch had been marked out and it was agreed to set the goals obtained from AVDC into the ground to ascertain whether they are used in addition to the pitch. Clerk to obtain a quotation for this and progress outside of a meeting. It was agreed that the usage of these goals would be assessed at the September meeting when they would consider again whether to purchase new goals.
- c. Trees – the Council resolved to ratify the strimming of around the trees by Reg Porter for £175 agreed outside the meeting and a quotation would be provided for putting roundup around the trees by the Bond brothers and Reg Porter.
- d. Seating – the Council resolved to accept the quotation from Roy Randles for treating the wood of the new seats for £110 in a natural wood colour.
- e. To discuss RoSPA report and to decide whether any actions are necessary – there were no High Risk issues requiring remedial action. There was a comment about signage on the Ball Court however Cllr Pain had contacted HSE and they have sent on an email from RoSPA advising this is not required. KOMPAN should be sent a copy of the RoSPA report and asked to realign some of the equipment and they should be advised that the poles from the top piece of equipment need tightening monthly and this should be examined by them as well.
- f. ASB – to discuss behaviour of youths aimed at other parishioners – youths had been rude to residents, under aged drinking, cars doing handbrake turns in the roads and car park and this ASB had been reported to the Police.
- g. Gate – due to the problems above a new key holder has had to be found and Tony Radwell has agreed to do this and close the gate daily at 8pm. Clerk to make a laminated notice for the gate. The gate was originally put in to stop travellers and people should be encouraged to use the field but it was agreed that this continual abuse of the facilities with the ASB, trees being wrecked and the noise disturbing adjacent residents must stop. Residents are encouraged to report incidents to the Police.
- h. September meeting it was agreed to discuss the cutting of the area behind the Meadows and to invite Rebecca Lemon to share her ideas on what can be done.
- i. It was agreed that the working party would look at the next phase of the project being an aerial slide.

32. To discuss any correspondence and other communications received since last meeting not covered by the agenda including:

- a. Best Kept Village – unfortunately Whitchurch was not placed in this competition. The Council would like to thank all those who helped tidy up for this competition.
- b. BCC Resilience Team letter re Emergency Planning – it was agreed that Ken Watson and Gavin Ewan would be asked if they would be the contact for this in the event of an emergency.

33. Communications: Web Site – Cllr Pain advised he had been contacted by the Royal Engineers as they wanted to visit the Firs.

34. Police:

- a. Complete Police Community Feedback Form – As detailed in 31 f and g above.
- b. Cllr Newman updated that the Speedwatch had been used twice successfully on the Oving Road.

35. The date of next meeting was agreed as Monday 14th September at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm. Signed.....Date.....