

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Whitchurch Parish Council held in The Church Hall,
Whitchurch on Monday 11th May 2009 at 7.30pm**

Attendees: Cllr Pain (Chairman), Cllr Bond, Cllr Newman, Cllr Foot, Cllr Shepherd, Cllr Meijer, Sue Mordue – Clerk, 4 members of the public attended.

1. **Election of the Chairman of the Council:** Cllr Pain was unanimously elected to the position of Chair and signed his declaration of acceptance of office.
2. **Receive Apologies:** none. Cllr Pain announced that sadly Cllr Leggett had resigned due to personal commitments so the vacant position would be discussed at the next meeting.
3. **Election of the Vice-Chairman of the Council:** Cllr Bond was elected to the position of Vice-Chairman and signed his declaration of acceptance of office.
4. **To appoint representatives to outside bodies:**
 - a. Cllr Newman was elected to continue to represent the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Action Group.
 - b. Cllr Bond was elected to represent the Parish Council on the Local Area Forum.
 - c. It was decided if other representatives were required they would be appointed at the time for the meeting.
5. **To appoint committees /working groups:** The Recreation Field Working Group would continue with members from the Parish Council to be Cllr Newman, Foot, Bond, Pain, Shepherd and Mathew Smethurst from the parish.
6. **Standing orders:** these were reviewed and accepted with no changes made.
7. **Open Forum for Parishioners:** Residents commented:
 - d. Middle Ashgrove Gardens – dog fouling continues to be a problem. NAG is currently looking into a dog watch scheme which would allow dog owners to be reported to the police and fined.
 - e. Parking in Mount Pleasant continues to be a problem and people are asked to park considerately, however it was emphasised that this was not a private road but a public highway therefore residents should not cause an obstruction either by double parking – vehicles causing an obstruction can be reported to the Police non emergency number.
8. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda:** Cllr Bond 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.
9. **The minutes of the last meetings** held on Monday 6th April 2009 were confirmed as a true record.
10. **To discuss any matters arising** from those minutes not covered by the agenda:
 - f. Still no response to second letter to Mr Chaudery re the garage forecourt.
 - g. A new bin had been purchased for Play Area and to be installed shortly.
11. **Planning: To discuss planning applications and make recommendations:**
 - h. 09/00593/ALB – Kempson House 76 High Street – internal works to upgrade kitchen and bathrooms – the Council resolved it had no objections to this application.
Due to timescale for response this item had to be discussed at this meeting rather than waiting to be added to the agenda of the June meeting:
 - i. 09/00797/ATC Fell one Eucalyptus tree the Council resolved it had no objections to this application.
12. **Finance:**
 - j. It was agreed to circulate the account for audit in paper form and then agree the accounts for the audit at the next meeting.
 - k. Insurance – the Council decided to remove the insurance for the 40 bracket lamps and the litter bins as the excess for any claim is £125, therefore it was unlikely a claim would ever be made and the premium would be saved to offset this.
 - l. The Council resolved to issue the following cheques:

AVDC	£7.60
Whitchurch PCC	£120.00
Allianz Insurance	£877.80
13. **Highways:**
 - m. To report and update on issues and repairs: Pot holes were reported 8 Market Hill, 4 Castle Lane, entrance to Firs Close. Clerk to request a site visit with BCC to review the condition of the road from the High Street to Firs Close. Graffiti needs removing off sign on entrance from Oving/North Marston.
 - n. To update on meeting with BCC re Parking problems around the Legion Hall and agree whether any action should be taken: Meeting held with David Hedley BCC, the Clerk and Cllr Pain and were advised that nothing could be done about Mount Pleasant and people parking there. They would look into possible line markings on the Oving Road but would be unenforceable. Looked at the old road and it is visible where it was dug out before however would be a huge cost to do again with little real benefit. Discussions took place about potential parking on the greens on the entrance to Mount Pleasant from the main road. Awaiting BCC response.
14. **Footpaths & Footways:** To report and update on issues and repairs:
 - o. Church Headlands footpath 41 still has signs removed and the gate closed. Clerk had contacted BCC on numerous occasions about this and would ask what enforcement they could take regarding the constant removal on any signage put up.
 - p. Overhanging Yew Tree outside the Old House adjacent to High Street just above the bus stop needs cutting back.

- q. Footpath across Paddock House and House – all forms lodged at BCC and evidence is more than sufficient. The papers will probably go to committee later in the year however this may take a while due to elections in June and the need to train up the new County Councillors before action can be taken on this. However the break in use of the footpath does not matter with respect to the claim as it was walked for a period of over 20 years.

15. **Street Lighting:** To report and update on lighting issues and repairs: nothing to report.

16. Recreation Ground:

- r. To update on recreation ground working group project:
 - i. Pond - meeting held with Paul Holton and George Cheshire and a quote had been received from George for £900 to dig pond. The Council resolved to accept this quotation.
 - ii. Cllr Pain would get would get quotations for liners.
 - iii. 300 trees planted and 4 had died.
 - iv. Cllr Bond to obtain a quote from Andrew Bond to spray roundup around bases of the trees as last year.
- s. Request for football goals and the marking out of a pitch: The Councillors resolved to ask AVDC Green Spaces (through Sue Ford being present at the meeting) to mark up a pitch and see if area is used. Then they would make a decision as to whether to apply for a grant to purchase goal posts.
- t. New seating – WCCA had agreed to donate £1000 for seating. The Council resolved that the Parish Council would purchase the timber and Jimmy Watts would provide the labour to erect 6 seats. Any extra costs would be covered by the Council over and above the £1000 donated.
- u. Concern expressed as dogs are being allowed to roam in the play area.

17. To discuss any correspondence and other communications:

- v. Best Kept Village Competition: judging would be in June. Cllr Pain would contact owner of the White Horse to see if it could be tidied up. Villagers should be encouraged to keep their own area tidy. Also would ask for a litter pick to be done by AVDC.
- w. SAVI communication received regarding proposed incinerator at Calvert: Cllr Meijer would attend open meeting to find out more information.
- x. Letter received from BCC advising that we were not successful in gaining funds from the BCC delegated budget for the school crossing warning lights

18. **Communications:** Web Site - To update on site – nothing to report.

19. Police:

- y. Complete Police Community Feedback Form - graffiti on sign, 2 lots of broken glass on the old road and pavement. Dog fouling continues to be a problem and children with dogs in the play area.
- z. Cllr Newman update from the NAGs meeting and Speedwatch: Monthly meetings are now being held but it is a closed committee of members and confidential so if a representative cannot attend the NAG then they can be replaced with a substitute member but they would not have any voting rights. Speedwatch – need more volunteers.

20. **The date of next meeting** was agreed as Monday 8th June at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm. Signed.....Date.....