

WHITLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 2nd March 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

C Straw Chairman
T Pitchford
C Ure
J Cooper
J Shaw (Clerk)
District/County Councillor M Byram

1. Apologies: Cllr T Moore and Cllr S Tolson

2. Minutes of Meeting of 19th January 2009:

Were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising:

Smartwarter: Homewatch Co-ordinators and assistants have been invited to a meeting to be held in the Village Hall on Monday 16th March 2009 at 8pm. It is hoped to discuss the viability of introducing Smartwater to the villagers and also consider ways of making Homewatch more effective.

The Hall/School signs have still not been fitted but have been promised before the end of March.

The Chairman and Councillors attended the Mayors Ball.

The Chairman and Cllr Ure attended local Government Re-organisation for Cheshire West and Chester meeting.

4: General correspondence to hand since 19th January 2009

Grant Funding course at Winsford on the 17th March, Cllr Ure will attend. Confirmation and Notice received for addition of Bridleway No 20 in Higher Whitley.

Information from the Boundary Commission advising that a review of the Electoral boundaries would be made following the creation of the Cheshire West and Chester unitary authority.

Dates of the Cheshire Police Authority 'Have Your Say' meetings programme 2009/10 has been received.

The Clerk will attend a meeting advising on Participatory Budgeting to be held on 23rd March. He will also attend the Audit Commission meeting on the 26th March.

Information from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service about their work in the community and offering to make a presentation to our villagers. It was suggested that this could take place at the annual Parish meeting.

5.Planning correspondence to hand since 19th January 2009:

Applications

- 09-00063-COU Hatton View Farm, Tarporley Road. Change of use from vacant/agricultural building to veterinary therapy clinic.
Objection. The building has not been constructed as per plans and has not been used for agricultural purposes.
- 09-00121-FUL Old Mill Farm, Old Mill Lane. Portal framed livestock building.
No objection, enquire about boarding
- 09-00127-FUL 3 Grimsditch Barn, Grimsditch Lane. Conservatory to side elevation.
No objection.
- 09-00345-FUL 2 Village Barns, Street Lane. Glass Veranda to rear.
Object. Unhappy with design and materials used

Planning Applications approved by Vale Royal

- 08-2748-FUL Yew Tree Cottage, Greenhills Lane. Amended Plans. Ground floor rear extension and new access.
- 08-2865-FUL Holmside, Street Lane. Two storey extension to side.

6. CALC Report:

No report

7. Affordable Housing

The final report has been received and circulated to all Councillors. The outcome appears to show a need for one or two house now and a further one or two in the next five years. Questions were asked about the number of houses needed before a scheme could be put in place and the possibility of joining with nearby Parishes. What is the next step to support those in need?

Place a notice in the Village News showing the outcome of the survey.

8. No.2 Pit - Update:

The terms of the lease, a copy attached to these minutes, were agreed subject to any amendments at the discretion of the Chairman.

The Council acknowledge that this is not a protected lease.

Any two members are authorised to sign the lease on behalf of the Council.

No business rates are payable on the property.

Lymm Anglers are very interested in the fishing at the Pitt and the Council may have to consider them if security is found to be a problem.

9. Lower Whitley Copse Project

More work has been carried out and there are trees to be planted.

10. Community Pride Competition

Cllr Critchley was not at the meeting so this item has held over.

11. Finance including:

Bank statements to the end of February 2009 will be circulated to all Councillors.

The External auditor has approved the Annual return for the year ending 31st March 2008 and the necessary public notice has been displayed.

The Clerk was given approval to pay the second half of his salary, being the sum of £530, before the end of March.

The Audit Commission, who act as external Auditor, have advised that the Annual Return has to be completed by the middle of May. The Internal Auditor Mr Frank Haslam, who had previously indicated that he would like to retire from the position, would not be able to conform to this time scale. Chalc advised that JDH Business Services, who already act for a number of local Parish Councils, were able to carry out the work. JDH said that the cost would be approximately £70 plus Vat. The approval of the appointment of JDH was held over to the next meeting.

The Clerk will write to Mr Haslam, on behalf of the Council, to thank him for the many years he has meticulously carried out the audit at no cost to the Council.

Bills Approved and Paid:

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| Campaign to Protect Rural England. Subscription | £ 29.00 |
| Copse Project. Chipper | £50.00 |

Bills Approved and to be Paid:

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|------------------------------------|---------|
| Copy Centre. Village News printing | £ 49.90 |
| Copse Project. Chipper | £40.00 |

Received

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| VAT reclaimed to the end December 2008 | £2279.86 |
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| Balance of Current Account at 27 th February 2009 | £100.00 |
| Balance of Reserve Account at 27 th February 2009 | £19582.28.39 |

12. Business for next meeting

Affordable Housing and Community Pride Competition.

13. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 20th April 2009 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....