

WHITLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 19th May 2008 in the Village Hall at 8pm

Present: C. Straw (Chairman)
J Cooper (Vice Chairman)
C Ure
J Shaw (Clerk)
County Councillor M Byram

2 Members of the public.

1. Apologies: T Moore, T Pitchford, S Tolson and J Critchley

2. To elect a Chairman:

A proposal that Cllr. Straw should be re-elected was put by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Ure and was carried unanimously. A declaration of Acceptance of Office was made later and witnessed by the Clerk.

3. To elect a Vice-Chairman

Cllr Cooper indicated that she would not stand for election and the matter was held over for the next meeting.

4. The Chairman adjourned the meeting in order to hold the Parish Assembly

Questions were raised about the poor condition of the tarmac surface and verges in Grimsditch Lane and the condition of the road sign. After some discussion it appeared that there were problems with a number of roads and signs in Whitley. It was suggested that the residents could possibly renovate the signs. The Clerk would undertake a survey of the signs in order to assess the size of the problem. It was reported that scheduled road surfacing work had not been carried out on time.

5. The meeting is reconvened

The Chairman reopened the Annual General Meeting at 8.20pm

6. To Confirm Reps. for Cheshire Association of Town & Parish Councils:

This item was held over for the next meeting

7: To Elect a Village Hall Representative

Cllr. Tolson was appointed to act in this capacity.

8. To elect Burleymen:

Cllrs. Moore and Pitchford had agreed to stand and were elected unanimously.

9. To receive the Chairman's Report for the Year to 31.03.2008:

The Chairman read his report, which was accepted, and the Clerk was given a copy for the Minute Book.

10. Approval of the Minutes of 14th April 2008:

These had been circulated and were approved and signed by the Chairman.

11. Matters arising from the Minutes:

The blocks of sandstone on the corner of Pillmoss Lane and the A49 have been removed and replaced by posts.

Cllr Critchley was unable to attend the meeting so there was no report on the Whitley School/Village Hall signs.

The request for help in keeping the village tidy had been placed in the Village News and the first inspection had taken place in the Best Kept Village competition.

12. General Correspondence to hand since 14th April 2008:

Confirmation received that an order will be made to confirm the addition of a bridleway between Old Mill Lane and Scotch Hall lane in the Parish of Whitley. A request for a donation from Vitalise was refused, as it is not the policy of the Parish Council to make donations.

A list of Area Meetings received from Vale Royal will be circulated.

Vale Royal Budget 2008/9 and Financial Outlook 2008/13 received.

Request for volunteers to help at the RHS Flower Show on the 23rd to 27th July received from the CPRE.

Details of a security system called Smart Water to safeguard all sorts of items have been received. The Clerk to obtain further information.

13. Planning Correspondence to hand since 14th April 2008:

Applications received:

08-0754-FUL Field House, Greenhill Lane. Mr M Simpson. Alterations to porch roof, new dormer and bay window. No objection

14.CALPC:

No report

15. No 2 Pit-Update

Mr Evans of Cheshire County Council has advised the Chairman that we will be receiving a letter, in the next few days, outlining the terms of transfer of the land. It was stressed that the Parish Council would not accept any responsibility for the possibility of damage to the A49 by slippage of the embankment.

Lymm Anglers are interested in the fishing but are aware of the protected Newts.

16. Lower Whitley Copse Project

A chipper is still required to clean up the area. WMT Outdoor Services have carried out the spraying.

17. Affordable Housing

The Chairman presented a draft of the proposed letter to be sent to all households in the Village. In view of the fact that there were only 3 Councilors present, approval of the draft was held over to the next meeting. A slightly amended version of Vale Royals questionnaire would be sent with the letter.

18. Finance:

Bank statements had been circulated.

The un-audited 2007/8 accounts that had been circulated were approved and will be passed to the internal auditor Mr Frank Haslam.

In order to pay bills for work on the Village Hall it was agreed to withdraw the money in the Halifax and close that account

It will be necessary to apply for the Public Works Board loan of £40,000 in the near future.

Bills Paid:

Copy Centre. Village News Printing (2 Editions)	£102.00
WMT Outdoor Services. Grass cutting	£150.00
CALC. Subscription	£198.14
Footpath Society. Subscription	£ 8.00
Playing Fields association. Subscription	£12.00
Copy Centre. Village News Printing	£51.00

Bills to be Paid:

Allianz. Insurance	£707.17
WMT Outdoor Services. Spraying Copse	£ 50.00
Whitley School. Garden Grant	£150.00

Received: Vale Royal 50% Precept £4650.00

Balance of Current Account at 19 th May 2008	£ 100.00
Balance of Reserve Account at 19 th May 2008	£ 7852.62
Balance of Halifax Account at 19 th May 2008	£ 4246.61

19. Business for Next Meeting

Election of Vice Chairman, Representatives to CALC, Audited Accounts and Affordable Housing

20. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 23rd June 2008 at 8.pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....