

WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY 29TH MARCH 2021 USING ZOOM

1. Attendance Register, Apologies, and Declarations of Interest

Present: Cllr G Thompson (Chairman), Cllr C Harper, Cllr D Bellini, Cllr H Sutton,
Cllr G Dominey

In Attendance: Cllr E Heron (HCC and NFDC), Mrs C Thompson, Mr S Husher,
Mr E Hale (Clerk)

Apologies: None

No declarations of interest in any of the Agenda items

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11th January 2021

These were accepted as a true record and will be signed as such by the Chairman

3. Items raised by Members of the Public – not on the Agenda

No items raised

4. Covid Response

The Chairman said he was aware village residents have lost relatives, or have relatives in hospital or care homes. Mr Husher said there had been less calls for help from residents but still some shopping and prescription collections being done. The current rules allow one person to visit each care home resident. The Chairman thanked Whitsbury Helpers for the work they are doing

5. Report by County and District Councillor E. Heron

Cllr Heron attended the meeting but did not present a report

Cllr Dominey reported on broadband to say he had collected data from many properties to submit to Openreach to try to arrange for the service to be brought up to the required speed. Openreach had failed to respond in the required time and Cllr Dominey had contacted the Openreach CEO. It seems many other communities are also waiting for responses

6. Financial reports – approval of Accounts, Payments and change to Internet banking

The Clerk said the current total across the two bank accounts is £11,675.27. He had prepared draft end-of-year accounts showing income of £1,952.65, and expenditure of £1,799.81, which makes an increase in balance of £152.84

The Clerk had investigated changing the Council's accounts to internet accounts to avoid the need to use cheques for all payments. Lloyds Bank had recommending setting up one person as a Delegate, with internet access to the accounts. This arrangement was already in place for many Parish Councils. Councillors agreed to change the Whitsbury accounts with the requirement the Clerk must have approval by email from the Chairman before making any payments

7. Planning – Buildings and Trees

The Clerk reported the only recent Planning notification had been that the application to extend Lushers Cottage had been 'granted subject to conditions'

8. Whitsbury World including Newsletter, Verges, Speeding and Broadband

The Chairman said there had been good feedback on the village Newsletter and thanked Mr and Mrs Husher for their work on it, and Whitsbury Farm for printing it. Mr Husher said there would be a spring edition and had found most residents liked to receive a paper copy. Cllr Harper asked if it could include details on racehorse training as this is a significant part of village life

Cllr Sutton asked about the Share-Box. Mr Husher said details of items available are on WhatsApp

An area has been marked out as a wildlife verge which will be cut by the group early and late each year so the cuttings can be removed. This makes the area more suitable for wild flowers. The area needs to be registered with HCC to stop their cutting. This year will be a trial period

The Chairman thanked Mr Husher for arranging wi-fi in the Village Hall. There are signs on how to connect into it and the Hall now has a phone line

Councillors have concerns that speeding in the village will increase as it is used as a short-cut by residents of new developments in neighbouring areas. HCC is reluctant to set up '20 is Plenty' signs but other villages have arranged this themselves. It was agreed to buy signs and put these up on private land along the roadside

9. Application for the Cartwheel to be an Asset of Community Value

The Chairman is investigating this and intends to contact Brian Currie

10. Update to 2006 Whitsbury Village Plan

The Chairman and Cllr Dominey will work on this. It will be a long task involving NFDC

11. Community Orchard on Woodside Close Open Space

Mr Foreman had suggested a grove of apple trees. Cllr Sutton asked if there are fruit trees already at the back of Woodside Close. It was agreed to discuss this with Mrs Locock who will know what was agreed for the site. Councillors supported the idea if there is no cost to the Parish Council

12. Correspondence

None

13. Any Other Business

None

14. Meeting Dates

The next meetings will be at 7pm on 24th May, 26th July, and 25th October. Currently face-to-face meetings are allowed, so the next meeting will be in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.05pm