

WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at 7.20pm on Monday 24th May 2021 in Whitsbury Village Hall

1. Attendance Register, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Present. Cllr G Thompson (Chairman), Cllr D Bellini, Cllr H Sutton, Cllr G Dominey

In attendance. Mrs C Thompson, Mr S Husher, Mr C Cobb-Smith, Mr E Hale (Clerk)

Apologies. Cllr C Harper, HCC and NFDC Cllr E Heron

Declarations of Interest. None

2. Election of Chairman

Cllr Dominey proposed Cllr Thompson as Chairman, and this was seconded by Cllr Sutton. There were no other nominations. Cllr Thomson said he would be honoured to continue as Chairman

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of 29th March 2021 were accepted as a true record and signed as such by the Chairman

4. Items raised by Members of the Public

No items

5. Covid Response

Mr Husher reported that Whitsbury Helpers are still helping a few residents with prescriptions or shopping, but most are now able to look after themselves again

6. Report by HCC and NFDC Cllr E Heron

Cllr Heron had emailed a report which will be sent out with these minutes

7. Financial Reports

The Clerk asked for the Accounts for 2020-21 to be approved and the Audit Forms to be signed so these can be submitted. These were accepted by Councillors and signed by the Chairman

The Clerk had received an invoice from Came and Company Insurance for £364 for renewal, which has increased from £218 last year. Councillors were concerned at this increase and the Clerk is working to find an alternative insurer, or to reduce the premium with Came and Company

There was also an invoice of £158 from Hampshire Association of Local Councils. The Clerk had concerns if this is required and Councillors agreed to cancel this membership at present

8. Planning. Buildings and Trees

There had been applications for replacement render at Minors Cottage, and for a small extension at 1 Well House Close. Councillors had recommended Approval for both of these, and the work at Minors Cottage had now received NFDC approval. No current new applications

9. Whitsbury World

Mr Husher said the Newsletter would now be produced quarterly with the next edition due just before the Village Show. Mrs Thompson said the wildflower verge is developing but it would be a while before it is established. Cllr Harper had offered to arrange a talk about the local cluster of farms which are working to improve environmental issues. This has recently been featured on BBC Countryfile. Mr Mather had written to the Chairman about speeding in the village and had proposals for '20 is Plenty' signage to be put up on verges in the village

Cllr Dominey spoke about Broadband and said the current grants would not be enough to pay for a full upgrade for the village, as only around 30 out of 110 houses had signed up. Once the application is submitted it can take a year for Openreach to carry out the work. Houses with poor reception are encouraged to complain as there is compensation available. Mr Husher will include an item in the Newsletter to encourage residents to sign up.

Mr Cobb-Smith will display the names of local houses with access to the defibrillator code on the Village Hall notice board. Those with wi-fi phones can access it using the Hall wi-fi

10. Cartwheel as Asset of Community Value

The Chairman intends to contact Mr Currie but has not made any progress on this recently

11. Update to Village Plan

There is a small team reviewing the document but the Chairman hopes other villagers will get involved

12. Correspondence

The Clerk had received an invitation for the village to join the Great British Spring Clean. Councillors were unsure what benefits this would give. The Clerk will forward the details to Mrs Thompson and Mr Husher

Victim Support had asked for a grant to help those affected by crime in Hampshire. Councillors agreed they could only support certain charities, and Citizens Advice was more relevant to Whitsbury

13. Any Other Business

Cllr Sutton asked about replacing the angled notice board. Cllr Thompson will contact Cllr Harper

The Village Show is still planned for 2021. Mr Husher hopes this can go ahead, even though many other shows have cancelled. There are no big outlays to cover if it has to be cancelled later

Cllr Dominey asked what would happen to the phone box if BT de-commission it. There was discussion about replacing it with a traditional red box

14. Dates of next Meetings

Mondays 26th July and 25th October at 7pm in the Village Hall
The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Edward Hale 27.05.21