

# WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON 26TH JULY 2021 IN WHITSBURY VILLAGE HALL

### 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: Mr S Husher, Mr C Cobb Smith, Mrs J Kinsey, Mr R Rideout, Mr R Gray,  
Mr E Hale (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr E Heron (HCC and NFDC)

No Declarations of Interest

### 2. Minutes of Meeting on Monday 24th May 2021

Item 7. The Clerk had found an alternative policy with Zurich Insurance for £155.62 so had renewed with them instead of Came and Company

Item 9. Contact details for access to the defibrillator are now displayed on the Hall notice board

Item 10. Mr B Currie has said he does not support an application for The Cartwheel to be an Asset of Community Value, so the Chairman will not be continuing with this

Item 13. Mr P Manston will be asked to quote to replace the angled notice board at Lower Grove

### 3. Items Raised by Members of the Public

Mrs Kinsey asked for NFDC to remove the weeds growing in the beech hedge in Lower Grove

There was discussion about deliveries being unable to find 16 and 17 Lower Grove. It was agreed this was for the residents to resolve as these are no longer NFDC properties

### 4. Covid Response

All residents are now able to travel again. Item can be removed from agenda

### 5. Report by NFDC and HCC Cllr E Heron

Report by Cllr Heron will be issued separately

### 6. Financial Reports and Payments

The balances in the bank accounts are £10,129.84 and £2,489.89.

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Since the last meeting a payment of £155.62 has been made to Zurich for insurance. A payment of £240.00 has been made to S Colborne for grass cutting (not yet deducted). The Clerk asked for approval to pay the Auditor, J Bonello, £110.00 for auditing the 2020-21 accounts.

Cllr Harper had discussed the frequency of grass cutting with S Colborne and it had been agreed there would only be one cut per month now the fastest growing period was over

### **7. Grant Application from Citizens Advice New Forest**

The Parish Council have supported this group in the past. Councillors agreed to pay £50.00

### **8. Planning Applications 21/10999 and 21/11000 for Lower Farm**

The owner, Mr R Gray, said the application was to extend the kitchen and a bedroom at the back of the house. The first-floor extension would include an additional shower room to improve arrangements for his family. He had consulted NFDC previously and the size of the current proposals had been acceptable to them. Councillors agreed to recommend permission for the extension as it would be an enhancement of the property

### **9. Planning Applications 21/11024 and 21/11025 for Minors Cottage**

This is a replacement of the existing single storey side extension with a two-storey extension, and replacement of the garage with a new garage. Councillors thought this would be an improvement to the cottage and recommended permission

### **10. Whitsbury World**

Mr Husher said there would be another Newsletter by mid-August. The group had been working on the new wildflower area and had removed the grass cuttings to avoid fertilising that area. The Village Show had been cancelled as it seemed wrong to create a situation where many residents would be close together. The next show will be the first week in August 2022

Cllr Dominey reported he had been working on arranging for Openreach to improve broadband in the village but there still aren't enough households signed up to the scheme. At present there are grants of up to £80,000 available, but the upgrade could cost £140,000. It was agreed to include an article to encourage residents to join the scheme in the Newsletter. Upgrades are due to be complete by 2023, but it now seems many will only be completed in 2025

The Chairman said the village still hopes to put up '20 is Plenty' signs along the main street

### **11. The Cartwheel as an Asset of Community Value**

See item under Minutes of Last Meeting. Item to be removed from agenda in future

## **12. Update to 2006 Whitsbury Village Plan**

The Chairman reported he had met with Cllr Dominey and Mr Husher and agreed a programme to complete the document by September 2022. They had discussions with NFDC Cllr E Heron and decided a Neighbourhood plan would not be suitable, so better to update the Village Plan. It was felt the group needed more members and some names were suggested to be contacted

## **13. Correspondence**

The Clerk had received an email from Community First asking if their services could be advertised on the website or notice boards. Community First are a charity and offer help with household jobs

## **14. Any Other Business**

Cllr Sutton asked if a handrail could be installed at the bottom of the footpath at the back of 15 Lower Grove. The path can be slippery after rain. Cllr Harper said there is still a puddle in front of Manor Farm Cottages and the ditch needs clearing out. The Clerk will pass these to Cllr Heron

Councillors discussed arrangements for the Queen's Jubilee next year and agreed there should be a village party. Cllr Sutton suggested some Village Hall funds could be used for catering, to save residents having to give up their time for the cooking. This will be discussed separately

Cllr Harper said there would be a talk about the local cluster group of farms, and details will be given in the Newsletter. This group had been featured on CountryFile recently

Cllr Bellini said a car had been broken into on the gallops recently in the early evening

## **15. Date of Next Meeting**

7pm on Monday 25th October 2021 in the Village Hall

Edward Hale 28.07.21