

WHITMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2nd February 2011.

A Regular Meeting of Whitmore Parish Council was held on Wednesday 2nd February 2011 at 7.15 pm in the Whitmore and District Village Hall.

PRESENT

Councillors A.J. Wilkinson (Chairman), I.D. Webb (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. A. Pedley, N.D.K. Hopper, W.P. Murray plus Mrs. Wendy Kinson, Clerk, County Councillor F. Chapman by invitation and Mrs. Chapman.
There were no Parishioners present.

25: 2/11 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for Absence were received and accepted from Borough Councillors Ashley Howells and Brian Tomkins, Cllr G.R. Corbett, Cllr. A. Booth and Cllr. P. Maskery, and Mrs. Debbie Burns, Village Agent (illness).

26:2/11 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

None were declared.

27:2/11 TO HOLD THE INFORMAL OPEN FORUM

No parishioners were present and the Chairman moved on to the next item of business.

28:2/11 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 5.1.11.

8:1/11.1. Cllr Hopper asked that this be changed to 'monitor the situation', as he had not called on the residents of Lymes Cottage.

20:1/11.5. Mrs. Burns had asked that this be changed to 'applying for funding from the Well Being Fund for the 'Trim Trail.'

After these amendments, Mr. Wilkinson proposed, Cllr Pedley seconded and it was resolved that the minutes of the Regular meeting held in January be approved and signed as a true record. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

29:2/11 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR MEETING NOT INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA.

Several Councillors felt it would be useful to have points for Action highlighted in the Minutes. The Clerk would produce an 'Action Sheet' to accompany the next Minutes.

30: 2/11 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS.

This item was taken next, as County Councillor F. Chapman was present. County Cllr. Chapman reported on Policing matters, on Day Care services and he also commented on the flooding situation at Station Stores, Whitmore. Following his report, Councillors asked questions, thanked Mr. Chapman for attending and he and Mrs. Chapman left after this item.

31:2/11 TO CONSIDER HIGHWAY MATTERS.

Cllr Webb circulated a report and update from CLARENCE. The following were discussed:

1. Flooding in Station Stores, Whitmore. Borough Cllr Ashley Howells had been instrumental in trying to sort out this ongoing problem and had sent a report explaining his efforts. United Utilities had attended a meeting on site and agreed that it was their responsibility.
2. Cllr Murray would continue to monitor the gullies in Snape Hall Rd ; he and Cllr Webb arranged to go and inspect these following the meeting.
3. 1187038 and 1187217. Subsidence above bridge in Baldwins Gate. There was concern expressed about this.

32:2/11 TO CONSIDER THE PARISH APPEARANCE, PARISH HANDYPERSON AND COMMUNITY WARDEN TASKS.

The annual quotation from MC Landscaping would be arriving shortly and Cllr Hopper reported that the Company regretted the need to increase its charges.

Cllr Pedley enquired if there might be the possibility of the parish Handyman helping to keep the churchyard at Whitmore Church tidy. It was agreed that some Councillors would meet with John Inchley, one of the Whitmore Churchwardens, to look at this further.

33:2/11 TO CONSIDER ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS.

There was nothing to report .

34:2/11 TO REVIEW THE PARISH ACTION PLAN

An updated version of the Parish Action Plan had been issued to Councillors. The Village Agent and Cllr Webb had worked together concerning the Youth Council and posters had been put up; so far there had been no response. It was agreed that this could be an item to put in the next Newsletter.

35:2/11 TO RECEIVE THE VILLAGE AGENT'S REPORT.

A report from Mrs. Burns was received. The form applying for funding for the Trim Trail had been completed , except that endorsements were needed. Mrs. Burns suggested that the Parish Clerk write to Cllr Ashley Howells and Dr Oleshko (Madeley Practice) to see if they would endorse the Project.

Funding for the Village Agent runs out in March, and Councillors felt that a letter should be written by the Clerk expressing concern that the post would be lost and also expressing how helpful Mrs. Burns had been to the Council and the community.

36:2/11 TO CONSIDER VILLAGE HALL, RECREATION FIELD and PLAY AREA MATTERS.

With the changes in personnel on the Council, it was necessary to change the Trustees for the Charity that runs the Recreation Field. It was suggested that a note about this could be put in the next newsletter. The Village Handyperson's monthly report on the Recreation field had highlighted the need for a second litter bin . Following the annual inspection of play equipment by Playdale, a report had been received which the Parish Clerk and the Village Handyperson would be meeting to discuss.

37:2/11 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2011.

Material concerning the Best Kept Village had been passed to Cllr. Booth and Cllr Pedley had mentioned the Competition at Church.

38:2/11 TO CONSIDER LOCAL ACTION PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

The previous LAP meeting had seen a presentation from the local Befrienders Group – posters were distributed for the Noticeboards. Cllr

Webb reported that Maer and Aston Parish Council had recently bought a Gritting Machine; he wished to bring Council's attention to this.

39:2/11 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE INFORMATION CENTRE

There would be a discussion on this at the next meeting.

40:2/11 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON ANY RESPONSIBILITIES NOT ON THE AGENDA

Whitmore Village Hall Committee had received an estimate for the cost of moving the CCTV camera, and it was agreed that Whitmore parish Council would meet half the cost of this. The Clerk would speak to Don Lawton, Village Hall Committee about this.

Cllr Webb would attend the next Whitmore Village Hall meeting.

The next Newsletter would soon need to be compiled ; all Councillors were asked to consider items that might be appropriate and let Cllr Hopper have them before the next meeting.

41:2/11 TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE PLANNING

3 new Planning Applications were in progress.

10/00589/FUL. Wildacre Heath Rd. – 2 storey side and rear extension and single storey rear extension with garage and gym.

Councillors had no specific objections but raised concerns about the increased floor area and about removal of trees.

10/00780/FUL Old School House, Butterton – this was subsequently declared an 'Invalid Application'.

Another Planning Application, just received, had yet to be processed by Councillors.

An Appeal against Enforcement Notice had been received in respect of Lymes Cottage, Whitmore Rd, Seabridge. Councillors happy with action being taken by Newcastle Borough Council.

42:2/11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk tabled documents and spoke on this item, with the Chairman's approval.

1. **To consider Donations and Purchases.** There had been no requests for donations and purchases.
2. **Precept.** The forms relating to the 2011/2012 Precept had been completed and sent to the Borough Council.

3. **Community Chest.** A completed form had been received from Baldwins Gate School PTA; this was authorised by the Council and it was hoped that another application would shortly be received in respect of the Trim Trail.
4. **To authorise the payment of Accounts.** The Clerk tabled and explained the accounts for payment which had been previously circulated. Cllr Webb proposed , Cllr Wilkinson seconded and it was agreed that the following accounts be paid.
(Cheque number precedes the Payee. DD indicates Direct Debit)

855 Whitmore Village Hall (hire of Hall)	£112
856 MC Landscaping (planting bulbs)	73.44 (10.94 VAT)
857 Nigel Alldritt (Village Handyperson - work completed Oct 10 – Jan 11)	229.50
DD Plus Net	6.49 (0.97 VAT)

A total of £421.43 including £11.91 VAT.

43:2/11 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on a number of topics already mentioned in the circulated Clerk's Report.

44:2/11 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FORA

Cllr Webb informed Council that the Standards Committee was likely to be abolished and the Borough Council's Ethics Committee was likely to be changed. He also reported that Conservation Areas were being reviewed and updated; Whitmore was likely to be reviewed in 2018.

45:2/11 TO NOTE PLANNED ABSENCE

Councillors informed the Meeting of their planned absence. The actual dates were advised to the Clerk.

46: 2/11 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AS 2nd MARCH 2011.

It was agreed that the next Regular Meeting of the Council would take place on **Wednesday 2nd March in the Whitmore and District Village Hall.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and, as there was no further business, he closed the Meeting at 10 pm.