

Withington Group Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 23rd March 2017

Meeting started at 7.30

In attendance:, Ralph Barber (In the Chair), Alison Bainbridge, Martin Kirk, Bob Wood, Jim Callow, Steve Scotcher (From 7.55), Kevin Hewison, Ed Simcock, Dave Greenow (Ward Councillor

Also: Sophie Glover (Clerk): Sarah Winwood (prospective Cllr)

7.30pm meeting started

Apologies

1. Paul Bainbridge, Simon Dent, Sue Rudd, Tom Nellist, Cathy Gumbleton (Tree Warden) also absent Jonathan Beech and Rachael Leake

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Open Discussion/Public Forum

- 3.1 **Report from local police** Sent by e mail.

3.2 Report from Ward Councillor –

Ward Councillor Dave Greenow explained that he had had a site visit with Manny from BB this week. It was identified that the biggest problem was pot holes, but BB will only fill ones of a certain size which doesn't seem to be very efficient. Manny says that they are only tasked to do pot holes of a certain size and they have to leave others. The also looked at the water on Lock Road – BB will try and clear out the grips and ditches.

Chair asked DG if he has heard anything about the chip shop, seemingly the Planning Office want to refuse it on both highways and environmental issues. DG is pushing to get this into committee, which may happen in May.

The chair also said that the PC were being pushed to have public planning discussions, so this might lead to the PC having monthly meetings, although this would be discussed at the Annual Meeting in May. The chair outlined the frustration that although there were 16 people on the council, they only had one voice. Even if the planning group met in public, there would be a cost implication in booking the hall. AB added that the PC point of view is rarely listened to, and never given any feedback. DG said he thought that the PC was taken seriously when they made a comment.

DG offered to bring Kevin Bishop (2nd in charge in the planning office) to the next pc meeting, the July meeting was suggested. It was resolved that DG would offer the invitation to Mr Bishop.

BW asked DG about a hedge that was blocking the view lines – this has this has been passed on to BB.

JC said that the whole time he had been on the PC the planning office had never listened to the PC. AB mentioned a letter that had been passed to the chair copying him in on a complaint to the chief exec of the planning office about the Land North of Sonas House, Nunnington – DG said that this was being looked into, but he asked for a copy of the letter so that he could take it forward himself.

3.3 Public Comments /questions –

None

Actions

Clerk to draw up table of attendance for annual meeting.

DG to invite him along to July meeting

Clerk to copy the letter to DG

Acceptance of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting (January 2017).

AB said item 6. The whole council held the public meeting, not the planning group.
Item 12. AB added 'as it was particularly tricky road to park the police vehicles on, not to stop the vehicles.'
The minutes were accepted as being a true record of the meeting.

Proposed: BW **Seconded :** AB

4.

And of the Extraordinary PC meeting (February 2017)

Second para of page 2, 'a good thing for the village but not perhaps in the right location' as quoted by PB.
The minutes were accepted as being a true record of the meeting.

Proposed: BW **Seconded:** AB

Clerk to make these changes.

Agreed Unanimously. The Minutes were duly accepted.

Action Points from last meeting:

- SID data has been circulated to all cllrs. Data showed 5% were going at 40 – 50 miles an hour at the Withies Rd site. Cllrs asked for it to be reinstated in Withies Rd, they also decided to approach Tarrington about hiring their SID for Duke ST. SS suggested looking into the realities of purchasing our own along the Tarrington lines. It was thought that this might be an idea for the future.
- Speeding in the parishes. ES reminded the meeting about the discussion ref installing 'village' gates at the car sales, and at the caravan site, showing that a settlement was there. The gates would go by the 40MPH. on the A465. BW suggested other signs that might work could be a possibility.

Clerk to approach Tarrington ref this.

Clerk to look at the legalities of these gates.

Planning

Will go at the end of the agenda in the future.

170411: Suite D, Whitestone Business Park – change of use from office to hairdressers; Support proposed; BW Seconded; AB

170636: Land adjacent to Ramblers Court, Withington – Proposed dwelling;

Support Proposed; MK Seconded; KH

170748: Bramble Oak, Whitestone – proposed garage and storage;

Support Proposed: AB Seconded: KH

170944: Lower Farm Westhidge – replace existing extension with new extending by 3.5 and 7 meters). JC said he would see it, and he was happy with the replacement suggested.

Support: JC Seconded: AB

Clerk to put planning at the end of the agenda in future.

Clerk to submit comments.

Neighbourhood Plan – Update from RB

RB and the clerk went to a finance meeting about funding for the NDP. He will work on applying for this once a consultant has been engaged. This is taking a little time as WGPC doesn't want to start again at the beginning of a Neighbourhood Plan, but to utilise the data that has already been created.

Update on Withington Fields –

Lighting to the gazebo: The lengthsmen missed the last window of dry weather to dig the trench to put the ducting in, he is waiting for the ground to dry enough to undertake this work.

We have had a valuation of the land at Withington Field, which is given as £75,000 or at agricultural land value due to the Fields in Trust tie on the land.

We have our annual playing field inspection on the 4th April.

9. **Lengthsman and P3 scheme**
We have spent the whole budget, and have had the monies repaid by Balfour Beatty.

10. **Tree Warden –Cathy not present but submitted a short report.**

Withington Village Hall

11. KH told the meeting about the parking problems when the hall was full and football was in progress. The VHC were asking for suggestions as to how the car park could grow. KH suggested that it was not just a problem for the village hall, it was in part an issue with the Withington Field users. DG suggested bringing in a civil engineer to get their feedback. RB suggested looking in the future to the football club paying a % share of the cost for the parking development. *Clerk/KH to contact PC and DG and Ian O'Brian about a meeting.*

To note the contents of the information sheet.

12. Code of conduct changes. Papers circulated to all cllrs. It was resolved that WGPC would adhere to the new 2017 code of conduct once the Herefordshire council have agreed to it. *Clerk to add to Code of Conduct file.*

**2016-17
Current Financial Position
For March meeting 2017**

13. A

Yorkshire Bank	Reserve account	6281.60	
As at Jan 2017			6

Lloyds TSB	Parish Account	22,788.40	
As at 1.3.17	Withington Field Account	4503.89	
24.2.17			27

Cheques received

2.3.17	HMRC tax return	£ 1,773.81	
21.2.17	Herefordshire Council (Lengthsman and P3)	£ 6,547.46	This includes £2,076.46 This has been inform overpayment of which BB have been informed

Cheques to be authorised at this meeting

From Parish Account	Clerks Salary	£ 963.20
	PAYE	£ 100.41
	Clerks Expenses (including HMRC payment for last period of £69.89 paid by clerk)	£ 153.59
	Wiser Hosting (website)	£ 66.00
	HALC subs	£ 899.03
	HALC training	£ 84.00
	T Griffiths (Roads acct Feb)	£ 458.40
	T Griffiths (Roads acct March 1)	£ 458.40
	T Griffiths (Roads acct March 2)	£ 458.40

Internal transfer From Withington Field acct	T Griffiths (P3 acct March)	£ 300.00	£ 4,121.43
	Balfour Beatty (SID deployment)	£ 180.00	
	Payment of VAT refund to WF acct	£ 1,654.37	
	Shelly O'Sullivan- litter picking on WF Feb/March	£ 80.00	£ 892.98
	T Griffiths (WF acct - Jan)	£ 72.00	
	T Griffiths (WF acct - Feb)	£ 30.00	
	T Griffiths (WF acct - Mar)	£ 507.48	
	Hereford Council - Bins	£ 118.30	
	Wicksteed - playground inspection	£ 85.20	

Applications for financial aid

None

RB is now a signatory for the cheques.

*Clerk to make
payments.*

**The Chair moved to make all payments, this was seconded by: KH
All cllrs were in agreement.**

Purchase of Parish Council notice boards -

- 14.** The Clerk has been pricing new composite notice boards to replace the old ones, particularly the two in Withington , but possibly also in Preston Wynne and Westhide. Details have been circulated around the cllrs. There is now an option to use the skills of a carpenter to rejuvenate the boards rather than replacing them.
Proposal to get the carpenter in, spending up to £200 for renovating the boards.
Seconded by KH Agreed by whole meeting.

15. Receive Items for the next agenda:

Sarah said that she agreed to join the PC and filled in the necessary paper work.

PC goes into Session – This didn't happen, see below.

Clerks Appraisal:

16

Including discussing the clerks incremental progression from 1.1.17.
Postponed until next meeting in May.

Future meetings

Annual Meeting	18 th May	7pm Start
	13 th July	7.30 pm start
	14 th September	7.30 pm start
	16 th November	7.30 pm start
	18 th January 2018	7.30 pm start

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.48 pm

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....