

Withington Group Parish Council
Meeting Held on
Thursday 19th September 2013 at 7.30pm
Withington Village Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors Paul Bainbridge (Chairman); Ralph Barber (Vice Chair); Alison Bainbridge; Kevin Hewison; Steve Scotcher; Tom Nellist; Simon Dent; Rachel Leake;
ALSO: Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk);

Meeting started at 7.34pm

1. Apologies
Jim Callow; Rob Soutar; Colin Stone-Fewings; Jonathan Beech; Helen Jones; Wallace Brown; Shelly Ford; Cllr Dave Greenow

2. Declarations of Interest
None.

3. Open Discussion/Public Forum

3.1 Report from local police – sent by e mail, the Chair also mentioned the contents of a letter from a parishioner, where the deterioration of the wall outside the village shop was mentioned as a problem as the loose material was being used as missiles. The Chair has talked with the shop owner who is currently waiting for quotes to rebuild the wall.

3.2 Report from Ward Councillor – Not present.

3.3 Public Comments /questions – none present, and letters addressed later.

4. WGPC Parish Council minutes:

Proposed: Kevin Hewison, Seconded: Alison Bainbridge: Agreed Unanimously.

Neighbourhood Plan

Ralph Barber gave an update from the Neighbourhood Planning group; Firstly, the steering group has increased by one. Sue Patmore has joined.

5. A meeting with Gemma Webster, Senior Planning Officer from Herefordshire was held. Very useful session and next steering meeting is planned for the 26th Sept. The aim of this meeting is to further update the project plan, get the budget document complete and discuss ideas collection (questionnaires/open days.

Neighbourhood Planning Group to look at proposed budget for producing the Plan.

The Chair explained that the Planning Group would look at the map on the LDF site showing land put forward for consideration for planning, and would feed the information to Ralph.

Update on Withington Fields

Rob Soutar sent a brief up date: There have been no real problems and some progress. See Appendix 1.

6.

The Chair added that retrospective planning might need to be sought for the lights on the playing field.

Kevin Hewison informed the council that hedge cutting around the site would commence once the farmer had finished harvesting.

Withies Rd Bus Shelter

7.

Due to changes with Amey and Balfour Beatty, the site visit to discuss the location of the bus stop has been delayed until early October. This item was then deferred to the next meeting.

Clerk to follow up on finalising the meeting.

WW1 Commemorative suggestions as per Cllr Bill Wiggins and Parishoners Letters

8.

The Chair reviewed the letters , and a discussion followed about who should look after the War Memorial. Whilst it was thought that the PC has previously paid for work to be done on it, there was a feeling the The Royal British Legion might be responsible. If the PC takes on the care, the Lengthsman will be asked to add it to his duties.

Clerk to check with Royal British Legion.

Consultation Paper – Police Commissioner Community Engagement Strategy

9.

The Chair suggested that if people wanted to comment, they should do so as individuals.

Balfour Beatty

10.

The Clerk gave a report from the introduction meeting. Including: Balfour Beatty have taken on 90% of Amey staff, they have a 10 year contract with two possible extensions for a further 5 years.

Neighbourhood Watch – Letter from Parishoner

11.

Following a discussion about Neighbourhood Watch, it was decided to put a note in the village magazine asking interested people to contact the Clerk.

Clerk to put note in the magazine.

To note comments from the information sheets:

12.

There was a discussion about the letter from the PCC asking for signs to the Village church.

Clerk to approach Balfour Beatty to find out the cost.

Matters Financial

13.

Balances as at 14th August : Yorkshire Bank: £13,048.10

a.

22nd August : Lloyds Bank : £ 8,725.49

Confirmed by Paul Bainbridge.

Payments to be agreed:

b.

Clerks salary	£ 618.80
Clerks expenses	£ 37.20
Wicksteed Accompanied Inspection	£ 85.20
Grant Thornton (Audit)	£ 480.00
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance(August)	£ 193.20
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance(September)	£ 193.20
PCC (grass cutting) July	£ 157.20
PCC (grass cutting) August	£ 157.20
Wicksteed Rubber Seat	£ 100.20
John Watkins – JCB work	£ 600.00
Proposed: Kevin Hewison Seconded: Simon Dent	

Clerk to make payments

Payments Already Made

CF Roberts (payment delayed from last meeting)	£ 6,939.60
--	------------

c. Receipts

None

d. Request for financial aid

The Haven – all agreed that PC should not support The Haven but considered that individuals could decide themselves

Planning - as per the information sheet.

14. The development at The Mintons was discussed as the PC had voiced strong opposition, but permission was granted. The PC were disappointed that Cllr Greenow had supported the application without consulting them.

Clerk to write to Cllr Greenow voicing PC's concerns.

15. Received items for the next agenda:

Withies Rd bus shelter, Neighbourhood Plan, Precept.

Future meetings

Future dates:	14 November	7.30 pm start
	16 January 2014	7.30 pm start
	20 th March	7.30 pm start
	22 nd May	7.00 pm start
	10 th July	7.30 pm start
Added Date:	18 th September	7.30 pm start

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.28 pm

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Appendix 1.

Report from Rob Soutar: The MUGA people were supposed to come on Monday but cried off because of weather. They should come in next week to paint the lines and sort out the weak concrete around the uprights. We plan to align the lights on my return and set the time switch.

The drainage work on the Withies road boundary has been completed and looks good.

The seats have been replaced on the swings.

The lengthsman assures me he will soon deal with the steps coming out of the coppice. A list of minor maintenance jobs has been given to the lengthsman.

The football club have continued working on the pitches. We have agreed further drainage work so that the far ditch drains properly as do the drains around the MUGA.