

Withington Group Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 17th March 2016

Meeting started at 7.30

In attendance:, Paul Bainbridge(Chair), Kevin Hewison, Jackie Whibley, Tom Nellist, Steve Scotcher, Ed Simcock, Jonathan Beech, Sue Rudd, Rachael Leake, Simon Dent, Martin Kirk,; Also: Sophie Glover (Clerk) Cathy Gumbleton (pr Tree Warden) 7 members of the public.

1. **Apologies**

Alison Bainbridge, Ralph Barber (Vice Chair), Jim Callow, Bob Wood

Absent without apologies:

2. **Declarations of Interest**

None

Open Discussion/Public Forum

Report from local police Sent by e mail. Chair outlined the two incidents on the police brief sheet.

3. **Report from Ward Councillor –**

3.1 Not present

Public Comments /questions –

3.2 Member of the public: speed of the main road, he lives on the main road A465, and the speed of the cars and lorries in the area is lethal. PC to ask Highways if the signage could be improved to be more obvious.

Public: concerned about the number of application for planning in Preston Wynne. Addressed later.

3.3 Public: static caravans are appearing in the village, there seem to be an awful lot, is there is a restriction on how long people can stay in them. Chair: it depends on which site. Marsh Field Farm Nurseries, and land adjacent to the east.

Martin K : had comment from parishioner about litter in the copse. Also query about a litter pick in 'clean for the queen'. Chair: we got the 'community service volunteers' to clean it out in the past. Preston Wynne: we pick up in our parish.

Clerk to ask Highways to do speed checks or look at signage. Clerk to ask if we can get a temporary speed device on an A road. Clerk to ask planners if they are aware of them. Clerk to chase up.

4. **Acceptance of Minutes of parish Council Meeting on January 14th 2016.**

Proposed: Jackie W **Seconded :** Simon Dent

Agreed Unanimously. The Minutes were duly accepted.

5. **Action Points from last meeting:**

Clerk to contact BB ref the bins

Clerk to provide the parish maps for tree warden to mark any specific trees.

Clerk to add Withington Field to her duties.

Clerk to book inspection for playing fields

Clerk to ensure Mortimers (now Beaumonts) take up this problem with SE

Clerk to ask BB links person to talk to Martin K about bins. Clerk to chase up the bin on the bus stop. Clerk to thank BT for fixing the phone box.

Tree Warden:

6. Cathy gave some feedback about the training that she had received. She intends to go to lots of further training in the coming months. KH asked Cathy to put an article in the village magazine when she had a story to tell.

7. **Neighbourhood Plan - Update**

Not had a meeting yet. Chair said he'd had a response from Herefordshire Council about the outline policies that he had submitted. JB asked if they are still looking to take on consultants.

Clerk to look for the names of 3 or 4 consultants.

Clerk to get quotes for the work. Both for renewing what's there, behind the houses, also linking from Village Hall to the houses.

- 8. Update on Withington Fields –**
Health and safety check is booked for early April.
Chair said that the footpath improvements are going to happen over the summer.
There will be a new kit storage facility coming in the next month.

- 9. Lengthsman**
Sent a report for both January and February. Shared with the meeting.
Chair told the meeting about the delay in his work due to an admin glitch he is digging out ditches to use the money before the end of the financial year.

Chair has looked at some P3 jobs for him to undertake before the end of year. Lengthsman will also look at all footpaths where they join roads, all should have finger posts showing the path. He can then order any signs needed.

- 10. Clerks Pension**
Clerk was given a letter by the PC to let her know about her rights to a pension.

- 11. To note the contents of the information sheet.**
Memorial medals for the Queens Birthday – no the PC don't want to buy them.
Canal trust info sheets – given out at meeting.

12. Matters Financial

A Balances

Balances as at	End Sept : Yorkshire Bank – Reserve Acct:	£ 4400.00
	25.1.16: Lloyds Bank – Withington Field acct:	£ 3,602.50
	11.3.16 : Lloyds Bank – Parish Account:	£ 29,613.94

Confirmed by Chair

Payments to be agreed: Proposed: RAchel

Seconded: Kevin

b.

Parish Account	
Clerks Salary	£ 884.29
Clerks Expenses	£ 154.21
HMRC PAYE	£ 145.31
Lengthsman January	£ 330.00
February	£ 570.00
Hereford and Gloucester Canal Trust	£ 25.00
Halc Subs	£ 861.65
Halc Training	£ 15.00
Wiser hosting (Web site)	£ 66.00
SLCC Practitioners Conference	£ 106.00
Tree Warden Network Subs (as agreed at January meeting)	£ 25.00
Internal transfer to WF acct as per info sheet	£ 9,776.53
Election Expenses	£ 118.40
Phil Day Sports (worm suppressant)	£ 379.81
Wicksteed for Playground inspection	£ 103.20
Total Cheques this period	£ 13,560.40

Chair moved to make payments. All agreed. Clerk to make payments.

Cheques already paid:

None

c. Receipts

From: HMRC VAT reclaimed £ 14,357.97
Hereford council for period 1-3 of Lengthsman £ 3,602.50

Request for financial aid

d. Withington News: The Chair had raised a couple of questions on the finances that had been submitted for information. These have not been addressed as yet.

Planning -

13. 160514- Preston Wynne which also has 4 other applications outstanding. These 5 have 3 different planning officers dealing with them. Chair has e mailed the planning department asking for some co-ordination amongst the officers to ensure that there is joined up thinking. Chair told the meeting about the Core Strategy for Herefordshire had been adopted last October which said that the group of parishes had to have an 18% increase in the number of houses. 11 in PW, 7 in Westhild and 110 in Withington. Since then we've had 143 of applications approved.

Clerk to submit comments

He outlined what the NDP aimed to do, and explained that it was about to be restarted. He felt that with the number of planning applications already passed, the NDP might say no more building is needed.

In Preston Wynne, there are thought to be many more applications coming in. He said that the Planning Group feel that all applications on the C1118 should be objected to as they are building in open countryside. If however, applications are genuinely infill developments then they might be considered....like at the Dower House in Preston Wynne. Chair re emphasised that the PC are just consultees, they do not make the decisions.

Public: C1118 is absolutely not suitable for development. Regularly get flooding already, and concerns that further building will only make this worse.

Chair read out the planning group's comments on the PW applications and asked for agreement for these to be submitted. JW one of the properties did get grant aid for flood defences, so any building should be made to not have hard standing.

14. Receive Items for the next agenda:

Lengthsman work. Tree warden. Invite Canal Trust to come and speak

Future meetings

Future dates:		
Annual Meeting and Parish meetings	12 th May	7.00pm
	14 th July	7.30pm
Changed date	22 nd September	7.30pm
	10 th November	7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.52 pm

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....