

Minute 226

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th November 2018 - 7:30pm

Attendance: Parish Councillors – A Gilbert, J Hanslip, K Hiscock, A Lee, J Melling, R Smith (Chairman), M Thomas, Clerk- Sue Porter and 1 member of the public

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 APOLOGIES – District Councillor J Amos

1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – Personal or Prejudicial – Nil

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on **Wednesday 12th September 2018**, these were approved by R Smith as an accurate record, seconded by J Melling and all voted in favour and the **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** held on **Thursday 4th October 2018** were approved by R Smith as an accurate record, seconded by M Thomas and all voted in favour. The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Litter Picking – A village litter pick will be arranged for Sunday 1st December at 10am, an e-mail will be circulated to all on the distribution list. The Clerk will arrange for DDC to undertake the litter picking on the main road.

3.2 DACT Bus – DDC Grant Application – The grant application was turned down for the provision of the DACT bus for the parishes of Whilton, Norton and Brington. The main reasons given by DDC were no long term planning for the facility to continue and that the PC has not explored other avenues of grant funding. The option of linking with other villages to provide a service will now be explored, as further bus service cuts have recently been announced, involving Long Buckby. Providing the DACT bus for the parishioners of Whilton is a large cost with low demand.

3.3 Coffee Morning with MP – Chris Heaton Harris – 11th January 2019 at 9am in the Reading Rooms in Brington. The PC will provide tea, coffee and biscuits. This will be detailed in the next newsletter, via the e-mail distribution list and the MP's office will send invitations to all the constituents in Whilton, Norton and Brington.

4. PUBLIC TIME – Reports that the light in the Telephone Box is not working. The street light just past the Village Hall (No 15) is also out. These will be reported to BT and Aylesbury Mains respectively.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS – No reports provided. The Chairman will contact Councillor Amos to ask for support with the transport grant application to DDC.

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Broadband in the Village – Gigaclear have announced the delays to the upgrade programme for Whilton and this will now be rolled out in 2019 Q1, deliverable by Q4. Whilton Locks will be 2020. As Whilton is already on a fibre enabled network the parish is not considered as an urgent requirement. There are acceptable speeds at the top of the village but these decrease as you head further down into the village. The public need to register their interest on the website to gain more urgency. Gigaclear will visit the Reading Rooms in Brington on Wednesday 21st November at 7:15pm. Parish Councillors were advised to attend.

6.2 The Spinney – Update on walkway extension project and working party updates – The Management Group will start to send the monthly reports to the Clerk. Working party dates have been arranged and the maintenance work is underway; there is good progress on the pond and the stream is being cleared. The noticeboard is being sorted and trees are being cut back. Water hazard notices are now in place. Simons and Sons have submitted a quote for a new walkway for the sum of £3,728.86 plus VAT. An application will be submitted to DDC by the Management Group for grant funding. Other funding opportunities will also be explored. M Thomas proposed that £1,500 be made available towards the project from the PC. The Management Committee already has £1,200. These details will be provided on the grant application.

6.3 Community Speedwatch Campaign – The PC has participated in the Scheme for the past 2 years so will take the next year off, as the lowering of speed has been achieved. There is not enough evidence to apply to NCC for a 20mph speed limit through the village, or to have traffic calming or a vehicle activated speed sign. M Thomas and R Smith will erect the “Twenty is Plenty” signs around the village for a couple of months. The vehicle speed will be monitored and reviewed next year when bin stickers will be considered, along with the need for another Community Speedwatch programme.

6.4 Budget Preparation 2019/20 – There is currently no precept capping in place. Council tax bills will inevitably increase with the unitary councils. M Thomas proposed that the Parish precept increases by a minimum of 10% for 2019/20, based on the requirement for additional funds with the amount of services being cut by County Council. The final figure will be agreed at the January meeting.

6.5 Village Noticeboard Refurbishment – The perspex of the noticeboard is very scratched and in need of replacement. This noticeboard was a gift from Mr Clements many years ago and built by Roy Haynes. The refurbishment needs to be costed, and Roy Haynes will be asked to provide a quote. The Parish Council all agreed that if the costs are under £200.00 then the work can be instructed. K Hiscock will contact Roy Haynes.

6.6 Allotments – Update from the WAG following the recent land ownership change to the PC. It was proposed by M Thomas, seconded by J Hanslip, and all voted in favour that the rents remain at £12,00 per plot, with no charge for the bonfire plot. The tenancy review agreements will be reviewed by A Lee and Brian Melling. The PC will continue to pay for the water bills. The PC will pay for the maintenance of boundary costs. Any financial support required from the Allotment Group will need to be applied for to the PC. The Chairman will check who is responsible for the boundary wall; is it NCC Highways or the PC?

7. FINANCE

7.1 Income/Expenditure Update & Bank Reconciliation from September & October 2018 – All approved.

7.2 Accounts Paid (September to October 2018):

It was approved by all that the following accounts are correct:

Online	S Porter – Clerk’s Salary September 18	£	242.24	LGA 1972 s112
	S Porter – Clerk’s Expenses September 18	£	18.00	
Online	HMRC – PAYE 2018/19 Q2	£	181.60	LGA 1972 s112
Online	M Clements – Peppercorn Rent	£	0.05	LGA 1972 s111
Online	R Haynes – Mowing Costs Reimbursement	£	61.81	HA 1980 s96
Online	PC – Clerk E-Mail renewal	£	43.06	LGA 1972 s111

7.3 Payments Received

Nat West	Interest	£	0.34
DDC	½ Year Precept	£	4,952.50

