

Whitstone Parish Council

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 9th October 2013

All meetings are open to the press and public unless the Council decides otherwise

1. The Opening, Councillors present

The Meeting was opened by Chairman Cllr Furse, with 4 Councillors present; Cllrs Sutton, Adamson, Horn, Collins. Esther Grieg – Clerk

2. Apologies for absence with reasons

Cllr Medland – Holiday

Cllr Parker – Resigned. Clerk to inform CC and arrange for election/co-option as appropriate.

Proposed: Cllr Furse Seconded: Cllr Adamson unan 13/026

3. Declarations of interest

Cllr Horn 7 Planning

4. Public question time

Mike Sutton spoke regarding the security system that will be installed at the Parish Hall for the defibrillator. He has purchased an all in one security camera with lighting and audio, memory card with automatic time and date settings. Positioning of camera angle and best way to connect to mains electricity was discussed. He has also purchased the projector and screen for installation.

5. To put for confirmation the:

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It was resolved the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record

Proposed: Cllr Furse Seconded: Cllr Horn 4-0 (1 abstention) 13/027

6. Matters Arising for report only:

Hilton Woods. Clerk has contacted their head office and sent a photo and links to maps as requested. It seems that they already had this information earlier in the year from Cllr Sutton. CC do have the gate on their list – but as a low priority. Clerk will continue to liaise with both parties. Cllr Sutton asked that CC write a letter to Hilton Woods to state that they are aware of the problem.

7. Planning

7a. Applications

PA13/08734. The Barton, Whitstone. Mr J Medland. Construction of a garage, covered walkway and extension of existing utility area. No issues. Cllr Horn declared interest so abstained from vote. It was resolved to support this application.

Proposed: Cllr Furse Seconded: Cllr Adamson 4-0 (1 abstention) 13/028

PA13/08026. Higher Wadfast, Whitstone. Mr and Mrs Stanbury. Extension of time of 2007/01263 for the conversion of barn to a dwelling including demolition of existing lean-to agricultural building. PC would like to reiterate the access issues to this road from the B3254 – it is narrow with both poor visibility and parking issues.

It was resolved to support this application.

Proposed: Cllr Horn Seconded: Cllr Collins unan 13/029

Wind Turbine Policy. The policy fits the decisions already made by the PC and tries to balance the domestic and commercial, opinion and potential income issues facing the Parish.

Planning Guidelines for wind turbines:

As Whitstone Parish now has over 1 Megawatt of installed wind power approved by the planning process; the Parish is now an exporter of electricity. The Parish Council has created some guidelines to apply to future applications:

Turbines with a tip height <60m or installed wind power of <100KW. In line with the Parish Plan – No Objection. These turbines are generally considered to be self-sufficiency purposes to support a property or micro-business with their energy needs.

Turbines with a tip height >60m or installed wind power of >100KW. WPC will consider these as large scale turbines being installed for exporting power and as such will seek a community benefit from the owner based on a minimum of £8000 per MegaWatt of installed power.

Public Opinion. With any turbine planning application; public comments will be closely monitored. If, on the day of the WPC meeting, CC website shows support or objection from at least 15 separate households within the Parish - then WPC will reflect that in its comments and decision making process.

Proposed: Cllr Horn

Seconded: Cllr Sutton

unan

13/030

8. Portfolio Reports:

Footpaths – none. Clerk to Contact Steve Woods for the verge contract and the map – Cllr Furse is suggesting that the PC takes over the last remaining area (around the bus shelter) so that CC Contractors do not need to come to Whitstone. Clerk to contact Mr Humber to thank him for his good work this year; asking for his invoice and to tender for next year.

Localism/Parish Plan – postponed the questionnaire review until the November meeting. Cllr Horn attended the CC budget meeting in Bude. He found it very frustrating – he heard examples of how Cormac Ltd had been chosen as preferred contactors over local builders who had quoted significantly less. CC reported significant savings; which is not surprising as he felt there were lots to be made. Clerk to put Neighbourhood plans on the agenda for early in the new year and to liaise with Nicky Chopak regarding available funding and potentially working with surrounding Parishes.

Parish Hall – none.

9. Correspondence

1. CC – Community Network Panels – how to improve influence and connection between Communities and Council. WPC has found it to be a talking shop with no teeth. It was felt that there is a gap left by the lack of a ‘North Cornwall District’ Council to air local views. Clerk to reply for options a or d: Give it teeth or close it down.
2. Superfast Cornwall – funding from the Cornwall development Company. Info taken by Cllr Horn.
3. Exeter University – Community Energy Workshop. Info taken by Cllr Horn
4. Whitstone Village Stores – Parking on Balsdon Road. Clerk to reply.

10. Policy and Proposals

Clerk Employment Contract. Discussed and signed. Clerk to ensure holiday pay is budgeted accordingly.

War Memorial. Plan & Budget. Clerk has identified up to £3000 to spend on the war memorial. Cllr Furse to contact local stone masons for quotes in the region of £2000; for something simple yet substantial. Clerk to cost 4 posts and connecting chains. Cllr Sutton to include in the Parish Plan questionnaire. Cllr Collins has a short list of 9 names to be included. WPC noted that it is a shame that Whitstone has not had a memorial previously. Clerk to approach highways regarding any permission required.

11. Accounts

Budget 13-14 discussed. Ring fence reserves. In light of Cllr Parkers’ resignation – Clerk to redo figures to include election costs. Clerk suggested that the budget be itemised more closely to reflect the true cost of running WPC – for example – Cllrs claiming mileage for attending training and meetings.

Budget 14-15 initial discussion; WPC felt that 10% could be added to the precept – towards the war memorial – approx £500.

Nat West – Additional Party forms still required. Clerk to post to Cllr Adamson
N,S&I paperwork to complete. Cllr Furse has taken documents to complete
HMRC – Whitstone PC now set up for payroll

11.a Balances 30th September 2013

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|-----------------|------------|
| Current Account | £ 7,316.92 |
| NS&I | £ 761.00 |

11b. Accounts for Payment

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|-----------------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Esther Greig | Clerk Wages | 000423 | £103 |
| Esther Greig | Mileage | 000423 | £8.00 |
| St.Anne's Parish Hall | Hall Hire | 000424 | £32 |

12. Items for November Agenda

Review of Standing Orders
Review of Financial Regulations
Review of Complaints Procedure
Freedom of Information Act/Data Protection
Defibrillator event
War Memorial
Parish Plan Questionnaire
Archives
Budget 13-14 & 14-15
N,S&I paperwork

Later

Neighbourhood Plans

Meeting closed at 2145hrs