

WHITESHILL & RUSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Julie Shirley, 60 Hawk Close, Abbeydale, Gloucester, GL4 4WE Tel: 07941 171805

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 11th June 2009 at 7.30pm at Whiteshill Village Hall**

Present: Councillors John Rogers (Chairman), Rebecca Charley (Vice-Chair), Louise Scott, Peter Hood, Julie Shirley (Parish Clerk), District Councillor Philip Booth.

Apologies: Councillor Gerri Kimber (family commitments)
Councillor Steve Tomkins (working away)
Councillor John Mutton (family commitments)
Councillor Greg Dance

Members of the Public Present: None

021/06/09 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda
None.

022/06/09 Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th May 2009
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th May were approved and signed by the Chairman.

023/06/09 Chair's announcements
Councillor Michael Lakin sadly died recently, the funeral was held on Monday. The parish council sent a wreath to the funeral. A minute's silence was held at the meeting in remembrance.
Clerk to contact SDC about the vacancy on the council.
Chairman will be on holiday for 3 weeks and won't be here for the planning meeting.

024/06/09 Parishioners' ten minutes
No parishioners present.

025/06/09 Report from County Councillor
County Councillor was unable to attend the meeting.

026/06/09 Report from District Councillor
Councillor Philip Booth

027/06/09 Receive and consider reports from the Officer of the Council
Report on important correspondence
Three temporary road closures noted.
Letter dated 22nd May from Severn Estuary Coastal Group – Severn Estuary events information. **No action.**
One emergency parish plan questionnaire returned. **Given to Councillor Scott for the Working Party.**
Renewal of Local Councils Update subscription (£65 for paper updates or £100 to access online library and paper updates). **Decided against renewing as NALC now send through very good legal updates.**
Email dated 29th May – BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine Show. **No action.**
Letter dated 8th June from Glos Highways reference Snow Warden details & grit bins. **Clerk to respond with updated details and grit bin locations.**

Highways passed on a request from Shiraz on Lower Street for a grit bin. **Councillor Hood will have a look to see if there is room for one of the round ones that could be moved to this location.**

Parochial Church Council has requested a representative from the parish council to liaise with the church. **Councillor Hood agreed to put his name forward.**

Request received from Guy Ellis for a bench or some other permanent feature within the parish. Councillor Charley suggested that the council needs to have a set list of items that can be chosen from. Councillor Scott suggested a criteria, ie that the person lives within the parish. Councillor Rogers proposed that the council agree in principle to a suitable piece of street furniture somewhere in the parish and Councillor Scott agreed to liaise with Guy Ellis and feedback to the council. All agreed.

The meeting discussed a memorial within the parish for Michael Lakin. Clerk suggested an annual cup and cheque could be awarded to a school pupil with a particular musical achievement or talent. The award could be presented at the end of the school year. Clerk to contact school to ask if this sort of thing is suitable before contact Michael's widow.

Councillor Rogers suggested writing to Highways about the gully clearance in Ruscombe and removal of stuff that is cleared from gully. Councillors Booth & Scott to let the Clerk know if the letter is needed pending an update later in the week.

028/06/09 Finance and formal notices

It was resolved to pay the following in accordance with the budget:

Cheques:

1.	Steve Marshall	Village Maintenance	£121.00
2.	GAPTC	Planning Training	£80.00
3.	Peter Hood	APM Expenses	£35.05

Direct Debit / Standing Order:

1.	Village Hall	Rent of venue	£24.00
2.	Inland Revenue	PAYE (May)	£72.52
3.	Julie Shirley	Clerk (June)	£290.08

Report on current financial position

The Clerk circulated prior to the meeting the balance sheet and bank reconciliation as at 31st May 2009. The Clerk was requested to bring printed copies to future meetings as well as email to councillors.

029/06/09 Ward Name Change

The ward name change from "Over Stroud" to "Randwick, Whiteshill & Ruscombe" was approved.

030/06/09 Crime and Disorder Report

Stuart Gregory contacted Cllr Rogers to advise that he was giving up as neighbourhood watch co-ordinator. Cllr Rogers has suggested Mr Gregory writes an article for the newsletter to generate interest in the neighbourhood watch. Councillor Booth suggested publicising the number for NW in the newsletter.

031/06/09 Playing Field Working Party

The working party recently met and discussed the siting of the basketball hoop. The working party

recommends that the hoop is fitted between the two benches, which will need to be moved to make room. Councillor Tomkins has approached a local contractor for a quote to level the ground and resize the boules area.

Councillor Hood asked for the car park notice to be updated slightly. Clerk to update the wording and email to Councillor Hood.

The village shop has requested a new bin. Clerk to contact Hailey Wood Sawmills for a price for a square wooden bin.

032/06/09 Allotments Working Party

Receive an update from the Allotments Working Party

Councillor Scott gave the meeting an update on the progress to date with allotments. It was agreed to hold a meeting on 25th June with all the people on the allotments waiting list. Action: Clerk to organise the meeting. Clerk also to write to the landowner with an update.

Approve costs for the allotments

The meeting considered a list of estimated costs for the allotments which included the lease, land clearance, repair to the wall and entranceway, security and water supplies. The council agreed that the lease and land clearance were the essential items and the other items could be done as the need arises in a year or two. The council wish to see the level of commitment from the potential plot holders before committing any monies.

033/06/09 Public Rights of Way Working Party - footpaths and highways

A meeting date for the PROW Working Party will be set at the July full council meeting.

The meeting discussed the 20 is plenty stickers for recycling bins and agreed to purchase the stickers at a cost of £350 + VAT for 540 stickers. Action: Clerk to order.

There are overhanging branches near the notice board at Ruscombe Chapel. It was agreed to write to the householders to ask them to clear the branches. Action: Clerk.

To consider the traffic problem at Middle Spring, Ruscombe

This item was raised by a resident at the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting gave the matter due consideration and feel that at the current time there are no viable options. Action: Clerk to write to the resident who raised the issue.

034/06/09 Planning and Environment Committee

Planning Applications for Review

S.09/0887/HHOLD – Yew Tree Cottage, Upper Kitesnest Road (Erection of shed on existing hard standing). No Observations.

Planning Permission granted by SDC:

S.09/0579/HHOLD – Merriott, Bread Street, Ruscombe

Two storey side extension, porch and steps.

S.09/0556/FUL – Under Lightwood, Ludlow Green, Ruscombe

Single storey extension, dormer window extension and relocation of existing entrance.

S.09/0379/FUL – 1 Spring Bank, Ruscombe Road, Ruscombe

Two storey rear extension.

S.08/0810/FUL – Land adjacent to Jasmine Cottage, Lower Street, Ruscombe.
Planning permission granted with conditions.

Planning Process

The council discussed the planning process and agreed to send a letter to raise the concerns of the parish council. Action: Clerk.

Re-painting of the bus shelters

Councillor Tomkins requested this item be considered. It was agreed to defer the matter to the next full council meeting when hopefully Councillor Tomkins will be present.

Maintenance of Hanley's Corner

It was agreed to ask the handyperson to tidy up the vegetation and re-stain the bench if required.
Action: Clerk.

"Save our green spaces" Manifesto

The council considered the "Save our green spaces" manifesto and agreed to join the coalition.
Action: Clerk.

AONB Covenant on ex-Local Authority Houses

The council agreed that it would like the AONB to continue to enforce the covenant. Action: Clerk to respond.

035/06/09 Report from the Whiteshill School Governor

Councillor Mutton was not present at the meeting but requested that the council be reminded about the Sports Day on Friday 19th June, 1pm on the playing field, and the school play "Joseph & His Technicolour Dream Coat" on at the Playhouse on 7 & 8th July.

The school are coming to give a presentation at the 9th July council meeting, which will start at 7pm.

036/06/09 Consider attendance at forthcoming external meetings for which the clerk has received details

Meeting dates circulated on the Clerk report.

037/06/09 Dates of next meetings

Thursday 25th June, 8pm at Whiteshill Village Hall – Allotments Public Meeting

Thursday 9th July, 7pm at Whiteshill Village Hall – Full Council Meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.05pm.