

WHITESHILL & RUSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Email: clerk@wrpc.org.uk

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 12th November 2009 at 7.30pm at Whiteshill Village Hall**

Present: Councillors John Rogers (Chairman), Gerri Kimber, Peter Hood, John Mutton, Greg Dance, Julie Shirley (Parish Clerk), County Councillor Tony Blackburn.

Apologies: Councillor Louise Scott (family commitments)
Councillor Steve Tomkins (work commitments)
Councillor Rebecca Charley (work commitments)

Members of the Public Present: One person

102/11/09 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

None.

103/11/09 Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th October 2009

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th October were approved and signed by the Chairman.

104/11/09 Chair's announcements

None.

105/11/09 Report from County Councillor

Councillor Tony Blackburn has been in contact with GCC concerning street lights not working on Ruscombe Road; these should now be working. Cllr Blackburn has also been in contact with the Public Rights of Way division concerning 3 styles that are in disrepair in the parish.

Cllr Blackburn has written to the Road Safety Partnership concerning the 20mph limit, a road crossing and the recent road crash. John Kay responded to the letter stating that the road was unsuitable for a 20mph limit without additional traffic calming features. Cllr Blackburn is pursuing this matter and will raise at the next Scrutiny meeting.

106/11/09 Report from District Councillor

Councillor Philip Booth was unable to attend the meeting.

107/11/09 Receive and consider reports from the Officer of the Council

Report on important correspondence

None.

108/11/09 Finance and formal notices

The meeting noted the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held on 22nd October 2009.

Review of Clerk's Salary

The Clerk left the room whilst the meeting discussed the salary. The meeting reviewed the salary and agreed that the hourly rate will increase to £10.84 with effect from 1st April 2010. The Clerk rejoined the meeting. Staff appraisal needs to be completed, Clerk to email the Finance Committee to arrange a date.

Budget and Precept 2010/11

The meeting discussed the budget for 2010/11 and considered the options that the Chairman put forward. Councillor Mutton proposed Option 2 (use excess reserve and phase parish plan expense over two years and take street furniture and play area improvements from any unspent election money and set the precept at £15,800). Councillor Kimber seconded the proposal. The vote was four in favour and one against (Cllr Hood). The Motion was carried.

Budget	2010/11 Proposed Budget
Playing field maintenance	£2,000
Caretaker Salary & Village maintenance	£2,000
Footpaths & Highways	£500
Clerk's salary	£4,800
Expenses	£100
Office costs	£150
Insurance	£1,350
Professional fees	£400
Rent of venues	£300
Training	£200
Subscriptions	£350
Donations	£1,200
Election	£1,800
Publicity	£700
Total Revenue Expend.	£15,850
Village Improvements - one off investments	£1,800
Total	£17,650

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

Cheques:

1.	Steve Marshall	Village Maintenance	£143.00
2.	Steve Marshall	Footpath Clearance	£160.00
2.	Steve Tomkins	Warbler Delivery	£65.00
3.	TW Hawkins	Playing Field Mowing	£519.92
4.	Stroud Signs	Sign for playing field	£25.30

Direct Debit / Standing Order:

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

Total: £1299.82

It was also agreed to transfer £1000 immediately from the savings account to the current account and £3000 in 33 days time.

Report on current financial position

The Clerk circulated the balance sheet and bank reconciliation as at 30th October 2009.

109/11/09 Crime and Disorder Report

Councillor Hood attended the recent KINS meeting. Cashes Green and surrounding areas are receiving the most police focus at the moment.

110/11/09 Playing Field Working Party

The Working Party worked on 30th October. The shrubs were trimmed back in the play area and the bike ramps were strimmed. The ramps need remedial work before the spring. Clerk to contact Hawkins to see if they carry out this kind of work.

The Council requested that the handyman corrects any hazards straight away, Clerk to let Mr Marshall know.

A street light is needed mid-way along the footpath from the school to the playing field car park. Clerk to email GCC Highways to request a new light.

The meeting discussed painting the railings around the War Memorial. Cllr Rogers will pass onto the Clerk details of probation work contact. Clerk to find out about grants to refurbish the War Memorial plaques.

111/11/09 Public Rights of Way Working Party - footpaths and highways

Councillor Rogers suggested a PROW meeting be arranged when Councillors Tomkins and Charley are available with their diaries. Clerk to put on as an agenda item for December.

A report of a blocked footpath had been received. The meeting believe the footpath to now be clear. It was suggested that the reporter be asked to join the PROW Working Party. Action Clerk.

112/11/09 Planning and Environment Committee

Planning Applications for review:

1. S.09/1712/HHOLD – 6 Ashgrove Cottages, The Throat, Ruscombe – replacement and enlargement of downstairs conservatory and loft conversion including raising of ridge. Comments only: Wood should be coloured the same as the roof.
2. S.09/1558/HHOLD – Ael Y Bryn, Upper Kitesnest Road – revised plans. Original comments remain in place.

Planning Applications approved by SDC:

1. S.09/1502/FUL - Star Inn, Main Road – alterations and extensions, improvements to facilities and B&B accommodation.
2. S.09/1503/LBC – Star Inn, Main Road – as above.

Parish Plan

The meeting discussed producing a parish plan in light of the presentation received from GRCC on 22nd October. The meeting agreed to arrange a meeting of the councillors after Christmas to discuss the parish plan in detail and to invite Angela Burlow from GRCC to the meeting.

113/11/09 Allotments

Draft Land Lease

The meeting discussed the draft land lease. Councillor Rogers will circulate his amended version to all councillors for comment. Clerk to forward the consolidated comments to the landowner.

Funding Application

It was agreed to discuss the funding application in detail once the lease was in place.

114/11/09 Report from the Whiteshill School Governor

There was good attendance from the school for the Remembrance Day service at the War Memorial. The school are doing a visit to the steam museum in Swindon during the first week of December. The pupils have been learning about the Wellington Bomber that ditched in Ruscombe. Councillor Rogers suggested the school may like to write an article on the topic for the Warbler. Councillor Mutton will mention this idea to the school.

115/11/09 Consider attendance at forthcoming external meetings for which the clerk has received details

Meeting dates circulated on the Clerk report.

101/11/09 Dates of next meetings

Thursday 26th November, 8pm Planning Committee meeting.

Thursday 10th December, **7.00pm** Full Council meeting. Three organisations are being invited to the December meeting to receive donations. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Clerk to invite the people who support the parish council during the year.

The meeting considered the list of meeting dates for 2010. The May meeting dates are dependant on when the elections take place.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.