

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 13th August 2009 at 7.30pm at Whiteshill Village Hall**

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

Apologies: Councillor Gerri Kimber (family commitments)

Members of the Public Present: None

054/08/09 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

None.

055/08/09 Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th July 2009

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th July were approved and signed by the Chairman.

056/08/09 Chair's announcements

The "20 is plenty" signs are now up, and the old '30 kill your speed' signs need to come down. Councillors Rogers and Hood made arrangements to remove the old campaign signs. The next step will be to arrange for another speed survey to see if the new signs are making a difference.

057/08/09 Parishioners' ten minutes

No parishioners present.

058/08/09 Report from County Councillor

County Councillor Tony Blackburn was unable to attend the meeting, but passed on the message that he would be formally raising the question of reducing the speed limit in Whiteshill & Ruscombe parish.

059/08/09 Report from District Councillor

Councillor Philip Booth updated the meeting on the progress with Tesco's and the bus shelter. Councillor Booth noted that he was pleased to see the 20 is plenty signs were installed and offered assistance with village gateways.

060/08/09 Receive and consider reports from the Officer of the Council

Report on important correspondence

Stratford Park Leisure Centre – request for comments on new contractor for the leisure centre. Comments were: centre should open on bank holidays, decoration and facilities need updating, particularly the squash courts especially court 6 which is considered in a dangerous condition. Action CLERK to email the comments as requested and copy to Councillor Booth.

Stroud District Council has requested photos of the parish. Suitable photographs to be sent to the Clerk who will submit to SDC.

Copy letter from Ian Austin MP to David Drew MP regarding the role of parish and town councils in the

planning process. Noted.

Freedom of Information Act request regarding the lady who fell in the play area and broke her ankle. The information has been provided as requested.

Gloucestershire Homeseeker request for us to display a weekly Property Newsletter. Action CLERK to contact the shop & pub to see if they would be willing to display the newsletter.

061/08/09 Finance and formal notices

Receive an update from the Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting were noted.

It was resolved to make the following donations:

- £500 to Whiteshill Parochial Church Council
- £100 to the Stroud branch of Citizens Advice Bureau
- £125 to Whiteshill Youth Football Club

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

Cheques:

1. Steve Marshall	Village Maintenance	£121.00
2. TW Hawkins	Mowing	£250.70
3. Steve Tomkins	Warbler Delivery	£65.00
4. Stroud Sign Centre	20 is plenty signage	£983.25
5. Eon	Phone Box electricity	£19.64
6. Village & Urban	Notice Board	£928.05
7. Whiteshill Youth Football Club	Donation	£125.00

Direct Debit / Standing Order:

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

It was resolved to approve Down to Earth as the contractor to fill the village green planter. Action CLERK to request the list of plants that will be used.

Banking Arrangements

A comparison of banks was read out to the meeting, emphasis on bank charges, number of signatories and locality of branches. It was agreed that the Clerk should get the application pack for HSBC or Lloyds TSB providing the banks have branches in Gloucester, Stroud and Stonehouse.

Report on current financial position

The Clerk circulated the balance sheet and bank reconciliation as at 31st July 2009. There was one error on the Financial Summary which will be corrected by the Clerk.

062/08/09 Crime and Disorder Report

Councillor Hood attended the recent KINS meeting; the next meeting is on 21st October at 4pm. Councillor Charley reported an incident where a group of boys tried to steal from the village shop and asked if there was any alarm system that allowed the volunteers to request help in an emergency.

Clerk to contact the Village Shop and also PCSO White to see if there is a support system in place for volunteers.

063/08/09 Playing Field Working Party

The Working Party arranged the next meeting for 7th September.

Councillor Charley left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Hood reported that there were several vehicles in the car park that appear to be abandoned. A notice has been placed on one and the Clerk will report as an abandoned vehicle. Councillor Hood will put a notice on the other untaxed vehicle.

064/08/09 Public Rights of Way Working Party - footpaths and highways

The overhanging vegetation at The Throat has been trimmed back. There is still one section that needs trimming but the ownership of the land is unknown. Clerk to request the caretaker to do the work.

There is a temporary one-day road closure of Bell Pitch on 18th August.

065/08/09 Planning and Environment Committee

Planning Applications for review:

S.09/1351/HHOLD – Glenville, Ludlow Green, Ruscombe Road, Ruscombe

Erection of a two storey extension to side of house.

NO OBSERVATIONS.

S.09/1345/VAR – Sunnyside, Lower Street, Whiteshill

Variation of condition 7 of permission S.96/1253 (to reflect the proposed change in ownership).

OBJECT – this is a large family house with insufficient parking without the garage.

Re-painting of the bus shelters

The exterior of the bus shelter at Victory Road needs repainting. The meeting discussed the repainting of the interior of the bus shelters. Councillor Mutton to enquire if the school would like to paint a new design on the shelters.

Councillor Tomkins offered to paint the exterior of the Victory Road bus shelter and also change the grit bin for one of the new wooden ones.

066/08/09 Report from the Whiteshill School Governor

There was no update.

067/08/09 Discuss the Swine Flu Pandemic

The meeting discussed whether the parish council needed to have a plan of action regarding the pandemic. Councillor Scott reported that the under-16s will start to receive their immunisations in September. The meeting concluded that the parish council did not need to have a plan regarding the pandemic.

068/08/09 Discuss the Parish Plan and Community Planning Grant Scheme

The meeting discussed putting together a Parish Plan. It was agreed that the funding application would be completed and if funding granted then the Parish Plan project would be undertaken. Action Clerk to partially complete the funding application and forward onto Councillor Rogers for completion.

069/08/09 Discuss the Casual Vacancy on the Parish Council

SDC has confirmed that we can co-opt to fill the vacancy on the council. Action Clerk to advertise the vacancy in the autumn edition of the newsletter.

070/08/09 Consider attendance at forthcoming external meetings for which the clerk has received details

Meeting dates circulated on the Clerk report.

071/08/09 Dates of next meetings

Thursday 27th August, 8pm at Whiteshill Village Hall – Planning Meeting

Thursday 10th September, 7.30pm at Whiteshill Village Hall – Full Council Meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm.