

LITTLE WITLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 5th September 2016 in Little Witley Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Councillors Present

Mr P Cumming (Chairman)
Mr D Buggins
Mr D Lowe
Mr P Owen
Miss F Sinclair
Mrs K Wilson

In Attendance

Mrs A Watson (Clerk), County Councillor Dr K Pollock and 2 members of the public.

1. Public Participation

The problem of overgrown footpaths in the village was raised, particularly those in Well Lane and Church Lane. The brambles are covering the speed restriction sign on the Great Witley side of the village and Councillors agreed to raise the matter of cutting hedges back with landowners and County Councillor Pollock. Litter picking was also discussed and the Chairman agreed to put a notice in the parish newsletter about volunteer litter pickers.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Mrs P Cumming.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Mr P Cumming; Standing Declaration of Interest relating to all planning matters.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on the 11/07/16.

The minutes were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Presentation on home security – Business and Rural Crime Co-ordinator

The Chairman, who gave a brief update on Neighbourhood Watch reports, was disappointed that the co-ordinator had once again not attended a council meeting and will enquire as to the reason.

6. Progress reports

There were no progress reports.

7. Finance

7.1 Update on current financial position

The Chairman reported on bank balances of just over £15,000 with a surplus of £3200.

7.2 To ratify accounts for payment made between meetings:

7.2.1 Clerks Salary July 2016	£173.34
7.2.2 Clerks Office Expenses July 2016	£20.00
7.2.3 Lengthsman for work during July 2016 £72 and £24 Strimming	£96.00

7.3 The following accounts were approved for payment:

7.3.1 Clerks Salary August 2016	£173.34
7.3.2 Clerks Office Expenses August 2016	£20.00
7.3.3 Mr R Jose – reimbursement of Website address	£8.39

Proposed Cllr. Sinclair, seconded Cllr. Wilson.

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8. Highways and Speeding.

The Clerk is to enquire when the speed survey on the A443, requested for the beginning of September, is likely to start. Following a short discussion regarding speeding drivers in the village, the Chairman agreed to put a note in the parish newsletter regarding the dangers of excessive speed in the village, particularly in Church Lane.

9. Parish Council Assets

The Chairman reported that he was obtaining professional quotations for painting/staining the bus stop and also a quote from the District Council for a litter bin by the bus stop.

10. Broadband

Cllr. Lowe had very kindly emailed all Councillors a report on broadband prior to the meeting and is planning to do a flyer to parishioners to gauge signal strength throughout the village. Cllr. Lowe reported on the lack of response from Airband following the last meeting and confirmed that he was happy to log complaints with Airband on behalf of users in the village. The Chairman stated that the centre of the village was still on track for British Telecom to provide broadband, whether that is 'fibre to the cabinet' or 'fibre to the premises' was difficult to determine at this stage. It was agreed that this matter would be raised with County Cllr. Pollock.

11. Correspondence for information and agreement of 'Welcome Letter' for Website.

11.1 The 'Welcome Letter' was discussed and Councillors are to consider ideas and information to bring to the next meeting.

11.2 The following meetings were noted;

- Teme Valley Neighbourhood Watch Meeting in Abberley Village Hall on the 12/09/16 at 7pm.
Planning training sessions in the Council Chamber adjacent to the Council House, Malvern - starting at 6:30pm.
- 12/09/16 Affordable Housing - CANCELLED
- 17/11/16 S106 and CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)
- 23/02/17 Flood Risk

The Chairman, at 8.30pm, suspended standing orders for a member of the public to address the Council regarding the retirement of Mr John Lakeman, Teme Valley Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. It was unanimously agreed that the tremendous efforts Mr Lakeman has put into building relationships with the police and residents over the years was to be applauded.

12. Reports of meetings attended and items for future agenda

There were no reports.

13. District and County Councillors' reports

Cllr. Cumming gave a short report on the District Council offices, the poor state of repair of Priory Lodge and plans to upgrade the building and include a reception area. Rationalising office space is being looked at with the possibility that the planning building could be sold or rented out.

County Cllr. Pollock, who arrived at 8.50pm, gave a brief summary of the report that had been emailed to Councillors earlier that evening. The Tesco contribution to transport would be £95,000 over 5 years which would hopefully see many works in Tenbury completed. The collapse of Eastham Bridge should never have happened as it was last inspected in the summer of 2015 and despite a diving inspection every year, clearly something had gone wrong. A permanent replacement is more likely to be built due to the environmental impact of trying to build a temporary bridge.

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14. Planning

Application Number: 16/00910/HOU
Applicant: Mr O Ridgway Proposal: Single storey rear extension. Location: The Laurels, Church Lane, Little Witley. WR6 6LP
Parish Council Comment: Recommend Approval with conditions.

Application Number: 16/01018/FUL
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Hall Proposal: Proposed change of use of land for the stationing of two shepherds huts and one log chalet for holiday use. Location: Land at (OS 7848 6240) Ockeridge, Wichenford.
Parish Council Comment: Recommend Refusal with additional comments.

15. Any other business and consideration of items for the next meeting (14th November 2016).

County Cllr. Pollock was informed of the defaced Little Witley sign at the Holt end of the village. The Chairman asked if he could chase up broadband arrangements for the village and Cllr. Lowe reported on the lack of response from Airband following the last meeting and gave an overview of discussions that had taken place at Item 10.

Comments regarding a Renault vehicle parked on the triangle by the telephone box were raised and the Chairman agreed to find out further information regarding the owner.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.06pm.