

Whatton in the Vale Parish Council
Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday June 26, 2018, at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the Vale at 7.30pm

Coun. Chris Grocock (Chairman)
 Ray Evans Chris Edwardson (A) Georgia Elms
 Jane Morris Julia Faulconbridge Gregg Redford

Also present clerk Mike Elliott.

Casual vacancy

The chairman suggested item 15 be brought to item four and dealt with. The clerk explained if a new member was co-opted they could after signing the necessary forms, take part in the meeting. Georgia Elms of Wayside, Church Street was proposed and seconded unanimously and co-opted as a member and after signing the necessary form took part in the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, Coun. Chris Edwardson
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none
3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 4, 2018 were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman
4. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, LIMITED TO 15 MINUTES
Nothing was raised.
5. CLERK'S REPORT
The council accounts for 2017-8, signed off by the Internal Auditor, are now all on the website.
6. REPORT FROM THE BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER
There was no report.
7. CORRESPONDENCE
Seafarers UK, wrote in regard to flying a Red Ensign flag on Monday September 3 and it was agreed to purchase a flag. Coun. Redford was to check on the size to be ordered.
Rushcliffe Borough Council presented an updated register of members' interest form, change to be brought into line with the new Data Protection Act.
Robert Jenrick MP wrote in reply to changes by the government in relation to it no longer being the need for a parish council to appoint a Data Protection Officer under the new Data Protection Act. The council confirmed its previous decision to appoint Adrian Fretwell as the Data Protection Officer.
A letter to the chairman from Robert Jenrick MP seeking support for his suggestion the Vale of Belvoir should be declared a new Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was supported.
8. PLAYING FIELD
Coun. Redford presented a report from the meeting of the Playing Field Trustees.
He raised the matter of a possible Section 106 payment potential for the playing field. "The draft 'Unilateral Undertaking' which formed part of the documentation presented to the Inspector in the Appeal against the decision of Rushcliffe to refuse planning permission for the development of Land South of Abbey Lane, included the following (among other items):
'Play Area Contribution - a financial contribution of £558 (five hundred and fifty eight pounds) Index Linked per dwelling payable to the Council towards the provision of off site play areas and for no other purpose.'
This would have provided the potential (combined with the 'pavilion' provision which was included in the actual Deed) of approx. £73,000.
For some unexplained reason the undertaking was not included in the actual deed negotiated by Rushcliffe Borough Council, although those relating to Rushcliffe areas of interest (Bingham Sports Hall and Swimming Pool did). I commented that I felt that Rushcliffe should explain and justify why the draft undertaking did not 'make it' into the Deed and they should be pressed to fund the shortfall. The failure to include the original undertaking means that approximately £42,000 that would have been potentially available to the Playing Field for play equipment is now not available.
The council chairman updated members gave a report on the meeting of the Playing Field Committee.
9. PLANNING MATTERS
Rushcliffe Borough Council applications
There were none.
Rushcliffe Borough Council decisions

18/00312/ful. Louise Thompson, The Old Coach House, Grantham Road. Single storey rear elevation extension. Grant.

The council discussed the consultation exercise being undertaken by Rushcliffe Borough Council on its Local Plan Part Two. Coun. Redford said he did not think it necessary for the parish council to respond as content of the Plan did not directly affect Whatton,

10. FOOTPATHS

Coun. Redford said he was not happy with the condition of some of the parish footpaths. He would update his recent report in time for the next meeting and would outline his concerns.

It was agreed to ask Ulyetts to undertake some additional grass cutting work to the area both side of the bollard on the south side of Whatton Bridge.

11. FINANCE

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT were approved as per the circulated list

12. ENVIRONMENT

The condition of trees in the village was discussed and it was felt there was a need for a survey. The county council Forestry officer was to be contacted with a particular question being asked in regard to what was thought was a dead Ash tree in the area of the Old Smite.

It was agreed to call a meeting at 7pm on the night of the normal council meeting on September 25 and invite comments from residents on the condition of roadside verges, many being damaged by vehicles running on them, causing deep ruts to be formed. Coun. Faulconbridge expressed her strong concerns on the damage that was continually being caused to the verges and called on the council to see what action can be taken to tackle this.

The clerk said that the interest shown by residents to participate in the possible production of a Neighbourhood Plan had not improved and after discussion the meeting agreed that consideration of the item be suspended and that the clerk write to explain to the five residents who had shown interest further attempts to progress the matter at the current time would not be made.

13. QUEEN'S WOOD

The clerk was to write to Mr Gwyn Owen in respect of his work in progressing improvements to the Queens Wood and to thank him for it. The suggestion of provision of a pond there was to be raised with him. It was agreed there would be a special discussion on the matter at the next meeting. The chairman said he hoped the official opening for the Wood could take place next spring.

14. WW1 COMMEMORATION

The stone from British Gypsum to commemorate the centenary of the ending of WW1 is in place. A letter had been received with a complaint from a resident about it being there and asking when it would be removed. Coun. Edwardson had been to the complainant's house and seen the daughter and had explained the meaning behind the stone. He had left his contact details and invited her father to contact him, but he never has done so.

The clerk was asked to respond to the resident and outline what was planned. Coun. Edwardson had said there was a need for the stone to have a surround to it and for the erection of a flagpole. The meeting firmed up the ideas for the arrangements for November 11 when nationally the centenary of the ending of the War would be marked. Coun. Edwardson was to be asked for his opinion in regard to treatment of the stone and the provision of the plaque. The clerk was asked to investigate the type of material for the plaque and Coun. Redford was to suggest the wording for it.

The chairman suggested the launching ceremony for the Stone should be at 6-45 on November 11 and that a member of the Royal British Legion be invited to speak. A representative from British Gypsum would be invited as would Coun. Maureen Stockwood, the village representative on Rushcliffe Borough Council and currently its Mayor. It was hoped the ATC would also be represented. The beacon would be lit at 7pm and the church bells rung at 7-05pm in line with the national arrangement. The council would provide refreshments in the way of hot soup etc. in the Jubilee Hall at 7-15pm and it was suggested the bar be organised.

15 VACANCY had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

16. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING JULY 24 2018 to include the WW1 event, the Commemorative stone and Queen's Wood.