



Website: <http://whitwickpc.leicestershireparishcouncils.org>

To: The Chairman and Members of Whitwick Parish Council

11 October 2012

Dear Councillor

I hereby summon you to attend a meeting of the **Whitwick Parish Council** to be held at **7.00pm** on **Thursday, 18 October 2012** at the **St John the Baptist C of E School, Parsonwood Hill, Whitwick** for the purpose of transacting the following items of business.

Yours faithfully

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

Apologies for Absence

Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interests in respect of items on the agenda. Members are reminded that they must declare whether the interest is a '*disclosable pecuniary interest*' (in which case you must leave the meeting while that item is under discussion) or a '*disclosable non-pecuniary interest*' (where you may remain in the meeting, vote and speak on the matter unless to do so would compromise your impartiality or other obligations set out in the Code of Conduct).

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1. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

2. MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 30 August 2012 (copy attached)

3. COMMUNITY POLICING

This is an opportunity for your local beat PC/PCSOs to have a dialogue with the Parish Council.

Simon Cole, Chief Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary, has made the following statement regarding changes which are to be made to delivery of community policing:

“Leicestershire Police is committed to having the right people in the right place, at the right time so that our resources match the demands placed on us by the public of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. However, due to the unprecedented change to the economy and the ever-changing needs of a modern day police service, we also need to embrace the principles of cost and efficiency savings, whilst ensuring we maintain the highest standards of service delivery.

Our aim is to continue to provide a service embedded within our communities through neighbourhood management where resources are effectively deployed to meet threat and risk, targeting those who cause most harm, ensuring the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland are protected from crime and anti-social behaviour. January 2013 will see some changes to how we deliver Neighbourhood Policing.

We will be increasing the resources in Safer Neighbourhood Teams (previously Neighbourhood Policing Teams) and realigning our resources to meet demands, allowing Safer Neighbourhood Teams to investigate local crime, problem solve and manage offenders. Safer Neighbourhood Teams will predominantly deal with incidents, offenders and vulnerable people within their respective neighbourhood.

Each neighbourhood will have a named ‘Beacon Officer’. They will be the named point of contact for the community and partner agencies and will be constantly assigned to a particular neighbourhood. Police Community Support Officers will continue to be an integral part of Safer Neighbourhood Teams, being visible in and engaging with local communities.

Our duty is to protect our communities. This is at the heart of everything we do and regardless of the challenges we face in the future, we will deliver the level of service demanded by the diverse communities of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.”

4. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications

NWLDC has consulted the Parish Council on the following applications:

12/00749/FUL – Erection of rear single storey extension – 50 Hermitage Road, Whitwick

1200635/ADC – Display of replacement signs including 3 no internally illuminated fascia signs, 3 no internally illuminated letter signs, 2 no non-illuminated vigil graphic signs, 1 no internally illuminated box sign and 1 no internally illuminated totem sign and 4 no directional/parking signs – KFC Restaurant, Thornborough Road, Coalville

12/00636/FUL – Clad columns to entrance and remove decorative roof cupola - KFC Restaurant, Thornborough Road, Coalville

12/00738/FUL – Single storey side/rear extension – 73 Thomas Road, Whitwick

12/00753/TPO – Crown lifting of 4 no Oak trees (protected by TPO) – 19 Church Lane, Whitwick

12/00760/FUL – Single storey rear conservatory – 177 Hall Lane, Whitwick

(Previously notified by e.mail as closing date for objections passed)

12/00815/FUL – First floor rear extension with balcony – 116 Hall Lane, Whitwick

(b) Decisions

The following applications have now been **approved** by NWLDC:

12/00557/FUL - erection of 2m fence – 37 Coverdale, Whitwick

12/00585/FUL – erection of single storey rear extension – Waverley House, Church Lane, Whitwick

12/00611/FUL – erection of single storey rear extension replacing existing additions – 109 Hermitage Road, Whitwick

12/00616/FUL – External alterations re windows and doors – 5 Silver Street, Whitwick

12/00617/ADC – Display of internally illuminated fascia sign – 5 Silver Street, Whitwick

12/00641/FUL – Demolition of existing garage and erection of new detached garage – 35 Silver Street, Whitwick

12/00645/FUL – Erection of single storey rear extension – 24 School Lane, Whitwick

12/00708/FUL – Single storey rear extension – 92 St Bernards Road, Whitwick

12/00753/TPO – Crown lifting of 4 oak trees – 19 Church Lane, Whitwick

12/00823/FUL – Extend and convert existing garage into habitable accommodation – 34 Templars Way, Whitwick

(c) Planning Appeal – Stephenson Green

To note that the applicants have applied for a judicial review of the Secretary of State's decision to refuse this application.

5. RE-VISIONING EXERCISE

To consider recommendations made at the informal meeting held on 27 September 2012 (copy noted attached).

6. TRAFFIC MATTERS

(a) Loughborough Road and Hermitage Road/Grove Road, Whitwick

The Clerk to report the following response from Leicestershire County Council's Accident Investigation & Prevention Team:

“Unfortunately, as these types of request are now considered alongside all other requests to improve road safety on the highway, in deciding where to make improvements we have to be sure that what we do will make the most difference. Consequently we have to give priority to locations with the highest number of recent injury accidents which have been reported to us by the police.

Our records show that in the last five years there have been no such accidents at either of these locations, and as there are currently many other locations with accidents I am sorry but we are unable to justify any further action at this time.

We continue to monitor the frequency and severity of road traffic accidents across the whole of our road network, and should the numbers at these particular locations increase significantly we will of course reconsider our priorities.

At locations such as this, where we are currently unable to justify traffic calming, we can help local residents to take an active role in discouraging excess speed through the Community Speed Watch programme. Details of the initiative can be found at :<http://www.bealocalhero.com/>

The County Council is prepared to implement improvement schemes funded by individuals or Parish Councils providing that they meet the full cost of such schemes and that certain conditions are met. These improvements should not adversely affect the existing road network or community and should not cause delay to the Council's existing improvements programme. Further details can be obtained by contacting engineering.design@leics.gov.uk

Speed limit enforcement is the responsibility of the police.”

(b) Walking and Cycling Consultation - Stephenson Way, Coalville

Leicestershire County Council is putting forward proposals to get more people walking and cycling in the Coalville area. These include proposals for Stephenson Way and include:

- Widening the existing footway into the existing grass verge to create a shared use space for pedestrians and cyclists approximately 2.5-3.0 metres wide.
- Widening into carriageway to create a shared use space for pedestrians and cyclists approximately 2.5 metres wide in the vicinity of the railway bridge. The reduction in carriageway width will not compromise two way vehicle flow.
- Where necessary vegetation overhanging the footway would be cut back to the highway boundary.
- Any new street furniture such as signs and bollards would be kept to a minimum to reduce street clutter. Where appropriate existing signage and street lighting columns to be relocated in accordance with new footway and cycleway layout.

A Consultation Plan has been circulated by email and will be available for inspection at the meeting as the County Council say it must not be reproduced. This proposal forms part of a wider walking and cycling network that is being developed for this area. A plan of this wider network and further background can be viewed at: www.leics.gov.uk/proposed_coalville_cycle_network

Comments on this or the wider proposals must be submitted by 26 October 2012.

(c) Proposed Pedestrian Crossing – Market Place, Whitwick

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk attended a site meeting with representatives of Leicestershire County Council and Arriva on 4 October.

In response to numerous requests over a period of years, the County Council are drawing up proposals to introduce a pedestrian crossing in Market Place. This will involve relocation of the existing bus stops on both sides of the road and loss of some parking spaces fronting the old school.

A formal consultation including public advertisement will follow in due course. No budget has yet been allocated to undertake the works.

7. REVIEW OF NWLDC WARD BOUNDARIES

Councillor Straw, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended the presentation to town and parish councils by the Review Manager of the Local Government Boundary Commission on 25 September.

The key points were as follows:

- NWLDC have instigated the review and have requested a uniform pattern of single-member wards
- The review will make recommendations on the total number of councillors and the number, name and boundaries of wards
- The review will be based on the statutory criteria of electoral equality, community identity and effective and convenient local government
- If the review divides a parish between District Council wards, it must also create parish wards

- There will be a comprehensive consultation process starting next year with the revised wards being in place for the next NWLDC elections

In response to concerns that the NWLDC request for a pattern of single member wards had been made without any prior consultation with parishes, the Review Manager gave an assurance that the review would consider the retention of multi-member wards where compelling evidence was put forward in line with the statutory criteria.

8. WHITWICK WARD, COALVILLE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

The Chairman, Councillor Colledge and the Clerk attended a meeting on 26 September with Judith Smith (Head of Nursing), Sarah Grandy (Community Manager) and Lindsey Bond (Community Health Communications) when the 1159 signature 'Save Whitwick Ward' petition was handed over.

It was confirmed that the Intensive Community Support Scheme will be rolled out between October and December. Delivery of care at home or as close to home as possible was a matter of both Government policy and patient choice. The following assurances were given:

- Patients will only receive this service in their own homes where it is clinically safe for them to do so – no-one who needs 24 hour care will be sent home under this scheme even if they ask to go
- The focus will be on patients receiving intensive rehabilitation, not those with Alzheimer's.
- Sufficient community staff are already skilled-up and ready to provide this service
- There have been no redundancies though some staff have changed their roles – anyone who is not happy in their new role can ask to be redeployed.
- Whitwick Ward is not closing. It will be recommissioned by the West Leics. Clinical Commissioning Group to provide alternative services for the benefit of the local community.
- The new scheme is not about saving money – it is about doing more with more, not less.

Andrew Bridgen MP has also forwarded a response from Dr Chris Trzcinski regarding Community Hospital provision (copt attached). From his meeting and this letter, he says that *"it would appear that the ward at Coalville Hospital will be evolving rather than closing. Patient feedback is that people would rather be treated at home rather than in a hospital. There must obviously be safeguards so those who really need to be in hospital have a place."*

9. CLOSEKNIT WHITWICK COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

To consider purchasing space in the Winter edition of the magazine at a cost of £100 per page. This will be printed in November for delivery in December.

10. DRAFT SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2013/14

The Council's next Annual Meeting has already been fixed for 16 May 2013. The Clerk to suggest the following dates for the following year:

4 July, 29 August, 17 October, 5 December, 23 January, 21 March, 8 May (Annual)

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To authorise payment of the following:

Nicholas Hancox, Solicitors – legal services re land transfers - £554.40

P J Ellis – petty cash (postage etc) - £65.87

12. FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2012

To receive a Bank Reconciliation Statement for the second quarter to 30 September 2012 (copy attached). To note that the Receipts and Payments Summary has been scrutinised and approved by the Chairman in accordance with the Council's internal financial control procedures.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 6 December