WILPSHIRE PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: L LUND CHAIRMAN: CLLR CRAIG WARD

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WILPSHIRE

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Proceedings at a meeting held on 19 April 2017

Present: Cllrs C Ward (Chairman), D Bremner (Vice Chairman), D Briffett, James Foote, A Lund, A Gaffney, Julie Foote + 5 Members of the electorate

1/17 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2/17 To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday 20 April 2016 and any updates.

The minutes were approved as a true record and the following updates were given to issues brought up at the last Annual Meeting of Electors.

Play Area – a further trail has been ordered to extend the existing one

No Dogs Sign – dog sign erected by RVBC

New Parish Council sign needed at DRPA – ordered and will be installed when the new trail is.

Shropshire Drive – reported to LCC I went to look a couple of weeks ago still in a bad state – reported again to LCC (highways) 09/04/17 requesting date when it will be repaired.

3/17 Chairman’s annual report.

The Chairman said that Wilpshire Parish Council were more pro-active in recent years and were determined to improve the area.

Wilpshre PC had started a programme of footpath improvements and most recently the Snodworth path had been improved. The parish council hope to carry on with the improvements this year. Although it is a County Council function the parish council feel it is money well spent as the footpaths are well used by the Community and County funds are being spent elsewhere such as repairing potholes etc.

Improvements have also been made to the Play Area by adding a wooden trail, another trail has been ordered and will be installed shortly.

The parish council is also considering replacing a bus shelter which was removed from the Hollies Road bus stop which has been recently moved.

4/17 Business brought to the meeting by the Electors of Wilpshire.

DRPA – Referred to the WPC minutes of the meeting on 1 March 2017 which referred to the area of long grass ( which is left to grow as a buffer zone to the houses backing on to the area) from footballs etc. The minute referred to putting posts there to outline the area to be left. The resident felt that the erection of the posts would erode the buffer zone area.

The chairman said that this comment had been noted by members.

Cllr Bremner explained that she had been down to the area and had had another look – another area near to the entrance is in danger of being overrun by brambles. The post which had been erected was in the wrong place and she felt that a visit by WPC was needed to the area bearing in mind what had been said. Cllr Bremner had taken some photographs and the Chairman remarked that it was a balance between access to the play area and the barrier created for the residents between the area and residences.

Mr Oakley – required clarification on an article in the Newsletter 2017 – the article referred to the roll out of the 20mph zones for roads off Whalley Road and the proposed speed bumps on Knowsley Road.

The Chairman explained that this had been going on for years and LCC had now got fund available and as part of the overall safety initiative 20 mph limits in many streets around Ribble Valley were being rolled out.

Cllr Gaffney referred to a public consultation that had been carried out by LCC and Cllr James Foote referred to the scheme on Knowsley Road which by putting in speed cushions would stop traffic going through the road at high speeds and he felt that it was better to do this before an accident than after one.

Mr Oakley said that more that 10 years ago he had attended the Annual Meeting of Electors and raised the question of speed onWhalley Road A666 from the Bulls Head to the traffic lights and although the parish council pursued this it was to no avail. One of the letters from LCC referred to daily flow of traffic (over 13,000).

He referred to the sign at Revidge which actually flashed up what speed drivers were doing.

Cllr James Foote said that this wasn’t as effective as speed bumps. Cllr Gaffney agreed that he would love to speed traffic slowed down and Cllr Briffett said he agreed that he would support an application to Highways for 30mph signs along Whalley Road. Cllr Bremner added that the stretch near to the orphanage could do to be included in the request for 30mph repeater signs.

The Chairman asked for this to be put on the next agenda for discussion including previous concerns regarding the S bend request for a warning sign and request speed signs 30mph on Whalley Road.

Mr Baird Jones drew the Council’s attention to a pothole which was left on Whalley Road whilst other works near to it had been done. The Chairman explained that if it wasn’t 3.5 to 4cms then it wasn’t painted with a white line to be repaired and that there were two separate contracts for this work.

Mrs Rawlinson – her bungalow borders the DRPA. She was concerned about a large Sycamore tree at the corner which was 33ft from her property she was worried that it would cause subsidence to her property. She had written to the council 10 years ago and at that time it was £100 to cut it down. Would WPC consider cutting the tree down?

Cllr Briffett said that if the tree was 33ft away from the property he would doubt whether the tree would do damage and also, as a property valuer, would say that there would be no detriment to the value of the property. He further explained that Cllr James Foote and himself had visited the area recently in order to look at all of the trees and had identified that some needed attention. He added that it would be sad to see a mature tree removed.

The Chairman said that the DRPA tree issue was on the agenda for the WPC meeting which would follow the Annual Meeting of Electors this evening.

Mr Hill – Local Plan update – reassessment of settlement boundaries of settlement areas etc – newsletter article.

Vicarage Lane – would like to know if the Parish Council is aware of any strategy by RVBC to develop that piece of land?

Cllr Gaffney explained that the parishes of Wilpshire, Mellor and Chatburn had not fulfilled their quota for new housing. Wilpshire was 36 houses down and the quota was until 2028. RVBC did a call for sites and there are three:

1. Vicarage Lane
2. Private field Somerset Avenue
3. Land behind Wilpshire Banks

RVBC would assess the land suitability but no decisions have been made as far as Cllr Gaffney is aware.

Cllr Hill said that previous applications in 1975 and 2005 on the Vicarage Lane site had both been refused.

Cllr Bremner referred to a special Planning and Development Committee meeting held a couple of weeks earlier to discuss the local plan and said that the minutes of that meeting should be on the RVBC website.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.