

The Community Action: Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) committee met online (Zoom) at 7:00pm

1. Welcome / Present/Apologies:

- a. Welcome: Pippa welcomed everyone to the online meeting and explained that there had been an unprecedented level of activity and correspondence requiring CAWS attention over recent months leading to the need for this extraordinary meeting.
- b. Present: Pippa Richardson; Lesley Sibbald; Joan Boorer; Mary Pile; Mike Booth; Elizabeth and Richard Bean; Maureen Hibbert; Nick Adsett; Angela Ferris; Peter Henderson; Rev Jane Palmer; Phil Alford; Peter Richardson (Guest)
- c. Apologies: None

2. Wiltshire Local Development Plan: Pippa and Peter (R) provided an overview of the process that had been involved in understanding what was required to respond to the Plan and outlined the main objections that had been identified. An extension in the 8 March deadline had been requested but not yet agreed. Peter explained that he now sought the committee's approval on three key issues:

- a. *That we agree that the maximum number of houses proposed for the two villages be 30 houses (to include the 18 already agreed) rather than the 90 currently included in the plan. **Issue agreed.***
- b. *That we should limit affordable housing to 30% (rather than 40%). **Issue agreed.***
- c. *That the changes to bus services are relevant to the debate.* The committee concluded that this was not a major issue but also noted the inequity between the two villages where pupils from Shaw attending Corsham school had to pay for their school transport (circa £280 per term) whereas those from Whitley did not. **Issue not agreed.**

Action: Peter (R) to prepare final submission.

Mary provided feedback from the Parish Council Meeting on 1 March and the Committee noted the importance for individuals to submit their individual comments on the plan before the current closing date of 8 March 2021.

Action: All

The committee wholeheartedly thanked Peter (R) for undertaking this piece of work.

3. Village Shop proposals: Peter (R) explained that he had undertaken an exercise on behalf of the Whitley Community Hub Group to identify all possible locations to site a community shop. Following visits to 15 locations, one represented a strong option. He then outlined the proposal from the owners of Middle Farm Whitley to invest in a shop and other potential facilities as part of the proposed development at Westlands Lane/Corsham Road as set out in the Neighbourhood Plan. (Note – further information on this proposal was circulated to the committee on 28th Feb 2021). Following discussion, the committee agreed that the proposer (Abi Dicks) should be invited to present her thoughts at the forthcoming CAWS AGM and that the same opportunity should be given to the Community Group to provide an update on their plans.

The Committee again thanked Peter (R) for undertaking this research and for bringing it to the CAWS committee.

Action: Lesley to invite Abi Dicks and a representative from the Community Hub Group to attend the CAWS AGM to provide an update on their proposals.

4. Committee Membership issues: Pippa repeated that the level of CAWS engagement with the Council and the community had been excessive over recent months and that there was an urgent

need to increase the engagement of other members of the committee in responding to requests for comment/ opinions / action. This should be addressed prior to the AGM but in the meantime Lesley proposed that Peter (R) be formally elected to join the committee. This was unanimously agreed.

5. **Best Kept Village Competition 2021:** As a consequence of the Covid19 pandemic, this competition had been cancelled in 2020 (when Shaw was to be entered) but the competition would run in 2021. Pippa asked the committee for their opinion on whether this should happen and, if so, sought someone to take on the submission preparation. After discussion, the committee concluded that it would be prudent to miss this year and concentrate on entering Shaw in 2022 when it is hoped that the second phone box (information hub) and the Shaw playground refurbishment had been completed. This was agreed.

Action: Lesley to notify the Parish Council that CAWS would not be entering the competition in 2021.

Jane suggested that Margaret Beament (a member of the church) may be willing to help as she had a strong interest in the history of the villages. Mike noted that she may also be able to help with the Information hub project.

Action: Jane to invite Margaret to assist the committee with the Best Kept Village competition submission and the information hub – when required.

6. **Updates on CAWS Activities / Community**

- a. Top Lane Phone Box / Library: Lesley reported that there appeared to have been some improvement in the condition of stacking of books in the library. Mike reported that he planned to undertake some necessary maintenance during the school holidays.
- b. Corsham Road box / Information Hub: nothing further to report.
- c. Finance: Joan updated the committee on the problems that she (and Brian) had had in changing the CAWS accounts details. The decision had therefore been made to close the account with NatWest and to open a new account with Lloyds. This is now in progress. Joan has also arranged for the accounts to be audited when the full details have been received.
- d. Speedwatch: Richard was pleased to report that two new 'speedwatchers' were now trained and ready to assist whenever the programme could re-start.
- e. MWPC News: Mary advised that the Parish Council had approved a quotation of £20,500 plus VAT for the new equipment, the joint project of CAWS, the Village Hall Committee and MWPC. Teresa Strange was keen to arrange a site visit at some point with all 3 organisations and the supplier to agree where the bits will be installed on the Playing Field. Lesley confirmed that Teresa had forwarded the relevant information and that she would pass it to everyone and ask Mary, Mike and Richard (in the first instance) to liaise with Teresa about the site meeting.

Action: Lesley to forward the information to the committee. Mike / Richard/ Mary to liaise with Teresa to arrange the site meeting.

- f. CEG: Nothing to report
- g. Community Hub: Nothing further to report.

7. **AGM:** The committee agreed to hold the deferred 2021 AGM on Tuesday 18 May at Shaw Playing Fields, commencing at 1900, Covid19 restrictions permitting.
8. **AOB**
- a. **Dog Mess:** Lesley advised that Teresa Strong was looking into obtaining ‘we are watching you’ signs for Littleworth Lane and Shaw Hill and was also exploring replacing the Littleworth Lane bin with a larger one. Angie reported on the increased problem around Shaw Hill and asked whether another bin could be located there. There was further discussion on if / where additional bins and /or duplication of poo and normal rubbish bins could help alleviate the problem.
Action: Lesley to discuss with Teresa Strange
- b. **Litter Pick:** The committee noted that several villagers had taken it upon themselves to pick litter and discussed whether the next CAWS litter pick should be brought forward. Mike expressed concern that any official litter pick take place before Covid restrictions are lifted. This was agreed.
- c. **Parish Elections:** Mary reminded the committee that the Parish Council Elections would take place on 6th May and that at least one councillor would be standing down. She asked the committee to encourage anyone who may be interested to stand for election.
Action: All
- d. **Church representative:** Jane explained that she would have to step down from the committee due to other commitments but hoped to persuade someone to take her place and to represent the church. Pippa thanked Jane for her contribution and support.
Action: Jane
9. **Date of next meeting:** AGM 18 May 2021 @ 1900
10. **Closure:** Pippa thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 20:35.

Lesley Sibbald
7 March 2021