

Whittington Parish Council Action Plan

2020/21 Financial Year with medium and longer term, strategic projects identified

Whittington Parish Council aims to:

- Constantly strive to work on behalf of parishioners on the issues that matter to the community and be a strong voice for residents and local businesses.
- Provide effective, efficient and accountable local government for the parish, enabling residents to be involved in the life of the community and its future development

The Parish Council's objectives are:

- To support local businesses and economic activity in the parish
- To support the work of parish voluntary organisations through grants and practical support
- To work with organisations to support the provision of youth activities in the parish
- To work with the Local Authority and the Police to improve road safety in the parish
- To understand, communicate and support the views, needs and aspirations of residents and businesses
- To increase public involvement in the community by ensuring the parish council is open, transparent and accountable to residents
- Ensure that councillors and staff have access to high quality training and development opportunities so that they can meet the required standards including working towards the Local Council Award.

This action plan was informed by the:

- 2016 Parish Plan
- The Place Plan
- Community representation at meetings
- Community engagement on Social Media

This action plan is a 'live' document and is updated on a regular basis, enabling the council to track and monitor progress against objectives and timescales.

The document is published on the Parish Council website so that residents can monitor progress.

Adopted: 26.03.2019

Reviewed: 21.01.2020 with no amends

Next Review: January 2021

S – Short Term (12 months), M – Medium Term (1-2 years), L – Long Term (3-5 years), O – Ongoing,

Title	Timescales	Details	Funding Source(s)	Update on progress
COMMUNICATION				
Parish Council Website	S	Ensure that the website is kept up to date and has all the information to meet the Transparency Code requirements Ensure that the Website meets the new Accessibility Regulations from September 2020.	Precept	On-going
Communication Strategy	O	Consider ways to improve communication to the wider community to improve engagement and the sharing of information.	Precept	On-going Facebook is being used more widely to engage with the online community.
LEISURE AND COMMUNITY				
Grants	S	To promote the Parish Council Grant Scheme to obtain wider interest and more applications	Precept	Councillors have attended presentations from local organisations regarding funding for future projects. An increased number of grants are being considered by the council

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Events	O	Support and have a presence at community events such as the Community Carol Service, Village Fete etc	Precept	Christmas Lights and donations
Play Area	O	Ensure that the equipment is well-maintained and remedial work carried out, as required, to maximise the equipment lifespan	Precept / Earmarked Reserves	Cradle Swing replaced as considered High Risk in 2019 ROSPA. Regular checks to ensure the condition of the play equipment is monitored and documented.
Heritage Sites in the Parish	M	Preservation of the old Castle Wall on the Three Trees Green Whittington Castle – provide support (and grant funding) for development plans to maximise tourism opportunities and income generation.	Precept / possibility of external grants / joint funding with SC Precept	On-going
Bus Shelters and Benches	O	Ensure they are well maintained	Precept	Maintenance work and painting carried out in 2019
Youth Provision	S	Work with relevant organisations to establish what Youth provision is required in the Parish and support delivery (through grant funding)	Precept / possibility of external grants	On-going – Youth Club now established and well attended. Future funding of the project to be discussed
Garden of Remembrance and Cemetery	O	Consider ways the Council can support the church to maintain these areas	Precept	The Council cannot provide financial support in relation to the matters or affairs of the church. Friends of the Cemetery were given a grant in 2019 to support with grass cutting. The Garden of Remembrance has not formally been closed so is still the

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				responsibility of the Church. The Parish Council have money in reserves should they consider taking on the maintenance if/when the Church serve a closure order.
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ROADS, TRANSPORT & STREETLIGHTING

Road Safety	M, O	Identified in the Place Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeding Traffic • New pedestrian crossings • VAS Top Street – road safety improvement s	CIL NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND Precept (to generate match funding for CIL) Earmarked Reserves	VAS – Funding obtained to purchase two new VAS in early 2020. CIL Funding Application for Top Street was not initially successful, however, awaiting an update on further negotiations (minute 166.19 refers)
Entrance to the Village / Welcome Gates	L	Identified in the 2016 Parish Plan. Improve the approach to Whittington and the Hamlets	Precept / possibility of external grants	Funds are being built in Earmarked Reserves to hopefully progress with this project in 2020/21.
Pavements	M	Identified in the Parish Plan, Action Plan Summary To lobby the Highways Department Burma Road – need for pavement between The Venue and Park Hall Farm To be put into the Place Plan at next review	CIL	No progress.
Streetlights	M	Included in the Place Plan Annual Survey carried out to assess condition of	NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND	Substantial progress in 2019 – All lights to be converted to LED by

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		the lights. SOX lamps no longer available from 2020. Ongoing project to convert to LED's and replace old concrete columns.	Precept / Earmarked Reserves	31st March 2020. Excluding around 20 lights on grade '5' columns / brackets which will be replaced in Spring / Summer 2020, along with the column / bracket. Improvements to grade '4' and '3' columns will then be on-going.
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PLANNING

Planning Policy	S	Development of a Planning Committee To develop parish council policies including a Pre-application engagement protocol		Planning Committee set up Pre-application engagement Protocol adopted
Neighbourhood Plan	O	Consider whether this is required or a Community Led Plan	Precept / Grants	Funds being held in reserves should the parish council wish to proceed in the future with a new plan or to update the current Parish Plan. The council agreed with S&G PC and Oswestry TC to establish a working group to discuss cross-parish matters arising from the Local Plan (Minute 145.19 refers)

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THE COUNCIL

Raise the profile of the Parish Council	O	Ongoing. Online, in the Ripple, in press.		
Actively promote the need for younger members of the community to stand for election in 2021	M	Council to explore use of advertising on social media to communicate with young people.		
Achieve the Local Council Award (Foundation Level).	S	Once obtained, the award lasts for 4 years.		Application not yet made. Consider applying in 2020
Councillors and Staff to be actively committed to training.	S	Ongoing. Training Policy to be adopted.		Training Policy adopted 18.12.2018 and reviewed annually since.

FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

New Services / Developments identified in the 2016 Parish Plan

(PLEASE NOTE: The following items not currently adopted as part of the Parish Council Action Plan and no funding is currently allocated in the budget)

Parish Hall		Identified in the Parish Plan 2016		
Highways		Identified in the Parish Plan 2016 - Re-routing of HGV traffic and a by pass New pedestrian crossings		
Parking		Identified in the Parish Plan 2016 - School and general parking		
Shop in Park Hall		Identified in the Parish Plan 2016		
Allotments		Identified in the Parish Plan 2016		

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