

# Whittington Parish Council Project Plan

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

**S – Short Term (within 12 months)    M – Medium Term (within 1 - 2 years)    L – Long Term (within 3 – 5 years)    0 – Ongoing (no end date)**

## **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 project plan is informed by the:**

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

This project plan is a 'live' document and is updated on a regular basis (at least annually), 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.

**Appendices** – The Parish Council's Communication and Engagement Strategy is a supplementary document.

**Adopted:** 26.03.2019

**Reviewed:** 17.11.2020 and updated with new projects. **Approved** 15.12.2020 (minute 191.a.20 refers)

**Next Review:** November 2021

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## Background

- The Project Plan has been adopted by the Council and is to be reviewed annually as part of the budget planning process.
- The Project Plan informs the Place Plan (A Shropshire Council Document that’s purpose is to provide an evidence base to assist with delivery of local community priorities) and this document determines how the Parish Council can spend Neighbourhood Fund money and the application of CIL Local (please see below)
- **PLEASE NOTE** – The Parish Council’s Project Plan should detail projects that the Parish Council Plans to fund, either through the Precept, Reserves, Neighbourhood Fund or applying for CIL Funding. **IT IS NOT** a list of issues that are the responsibility of other organisations such as Shropshire Council (i.e. pot holes, the condition of road surfaces, condition of footpaths etc). The Parish Council will lobby the relevant organisations as and when required, as matters arise. This is a Project Plan, detailing the Parish Councils Short, Medium and Long Term Plans and informs the budget.

## WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL PROJECT PLAN

	Title	Timescales	Details	Funding Source(s)	Approx Project Cost Things to consider / research	If funded by CIL/NF added to Place Plan?	Update on Progress
<b>ROADS, TRANSPORT &amp; STREETLIGHTING</b>							
1	<b>Pedestrian Crossing – Pen-y-Bryn (Ellesmere Road)</b>	M-L	To provide safe, pedestrian access across the main road, the Church side of Top Street.	Community Led Funds from Community Led Housing Scheme at Penybryn	Discussions to take place with SC Highways. Zebra crossing - £25,000-£35,000 Puffin signalised crossing - £50,000-£65,000	<b>N/A – but added under Road Safety</b>	<b>Added to plan November 2020</b>
2	<b>Vehicle Activated Signs</b>	S-M	Continue to add to the 4 existing VAS.  Addition of one at Park Hall (Solar Powered VAS on road between the Orthopaedic and The Venue)	Precept Grants? Earmarked Reserves	Park Hall faces an increase in traffic with the new developments and problems with congested traffic on the A5. Costs of a Solar Powered VAS and a column to mount this on (may	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

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					be supplied by SC FOC) – approx. £3,000 + VAT Funding likely to be all precept because we cannot apply again for a WMP Grant.		
3	Village Entrances	M-L	Identified in the 2016 Parish Plan. Improve the approach to Whittington and the Hamlets	Precept Grants? Earmarked Reserves Neighbourhood Fund	Funds are being built in Earmarked Reserves but it was agreed by the council (Minute 133.20 refers) that as a stand alone project, there is no evidence that these are effective so it was agreed to purchase additional VAS and discuss the SC enhancing the village entrances as part of a larger scale project to reduce speeds into the village. In the budget, it is to be included under one heading – Road Safety which includes VAS, Welcome Gates etc	Yes	
4	Road Improvements	M	Improvements to Top Street	CIL Neighbourhood Fund	£40k of which £35k to be funded through CIL	Yes	<b>CIL Funding Application for Top Street was not initially successful, however, still awaiting an update on further negotiations (minute 166.19 refers)</b>
5	Traffic Speed Monitoring	S	Community Speed Watch Scheme	N/A	6 volunteers required to initiate the scheme which is run by the WMP Safer Roads Team  Request for speed monitoring in	N/A	<b>Group now set up and will carry out speed monitoring at agreed locations</b>

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					Park Hall to assess eligibility for inclusion.		
<b>6</b>	<b>Community Car Park</b>	S	Identified in 2016 Parish Plan. As part of the new development behind the school in Whittington, a Community Car Park has been built, part funded by the Parish Council through Neighbourhood Fund	Neighbourhood Fund	The Parish Council is not responsible for or owners of the Car Park	<b>N/A – Funds already allocated direct at source</b>	<b>COMPLETE – taken from the PCs 2021-22 NF Allocation</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Paths, Pavements and Highways</b>  <b>(Responsibility of Shropshire Council)</b>	M to L	Lobby Shropshire Council to improve the paths.  Extension of the Footpath from Penybryn down to the Church.  Footpath along Burma Road (between Venue and Park Hall Farm) – Already included in the Project Plan. Lobby SC Highways.  Flooding on the Road between the Venue and Park Hall Farm and on other parts of North Drive.  Congestion on Station Road at school drop off and pick up times.  Inclusivity - As you walk around Whittington there are many obstacles for disabled people such as overgrown hedges bad kerbs. Look towards making Whittington all inclusive.	CIL	Shropshire Council responsibility but the parish council to lobby SC as a priority	<b>Yes</b>	

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			Footpath from Gobowen to Whittington (Stanyards into Whittington) – serious H&S concern.				
<b>8</b>	<b>Streetlighting</b>	O	Conversion of lanterns to LED Replacement of Columns and Brackets (annual condition survey)	Precept Neighbourhood Fund	The final lights are now being converted along with the poor condition columns. All lights are now LED. The on-going project then will be to improve the condition / replace columns as they deteriorate further and money should be retained in reserves for this.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>LED Conversions Complete</b>  <b>Column replacements – On-going</b>
<b>COMMUNITY</b>							
<b>9</b>	<b>Youth Amenities</b>	M-L	Mini Bike Park MUGA  Play Area at Penybryn  Play Area in Park Hall  More inclusive Play Area(s)	Neighbourhood Fund Precept Grants(?)  Community Led Funds from Community Led housing at Penybryn  Precept Neighbourhood Fund Grants(?)  Precept	A new play area with fence, wet pour and a range of equipment - £50k approx	<b>Yes</b>	<b>FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED</b> - Requires further Community Engagement to determine what exactly is required and what is wanted.

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<b>10</b>	<b>Parish Village Hall with Playing Fields</b>	L	As the village is growing at a fast rate there is a need for a playing field and village hall. Possible Site – Cricket Ground?  (links to item above – increased play facilities)	Neighbourhood Fund Grants	Could be managed by an independent voluntary management committee, totally separate to the Parish Council but project coordinated by the PC and funding provided.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED</b> - Requires further Community Engagement to determine what exactly is required and what is wanted.
<b>11</b>	<b>Festive Lighting and Displays</b>	S	Enhance and build on the current display: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decorative displays on columns</li> <li>Lighting on trees around the Castle and Church</li> <li>Planting of a real Christmas tree and decorative lighting</li> <li>Include areas like Park Hall – possible Christmas Tree</li> </ul>	Precept	Where could a tree be planted?  Could the green space at the end of the Community Car Park (owned by Shropshire Council) be utilized.  The Church are putting lights on the trees in their grounds this year (2020) and a few other decorative features.	<b>N/A</b>	
<b>12</b>	<b>Defibrillators</b>	S-M	Additional defibrillators throughout the Parish including Park Hall, Babbinswood and Hindford  Also – Castle and Penybryn	Precept Grants	If a suitable location does not have easy access to a power supply, an alternative cabinet may be required.  Defib & Cabinet – Approx £1700	<b>N/A</b>	
<b>13</b>	<b>Increase the amount of waste bins at Park Green Close</b>	S	Signage saying ‘please respect our village’ and ‘take you litter home’ and also increase the number of bins.	Precept	Shropshire Council Responsibility?	<b>N/A</b>	
<b>14</b>	<b>Wildflower Meadow</b>	S-M		Precept	Suitable location? Area by the Community Car Park Or near a Community Hall	<b>N/A</b>	

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15	Community Garden / Allotments	L	Mental health being a strong benefit, as highlighted during the C19 lockdowns. Is there a small pocket of land somewhere that can be utilized?	Precept	Suitable location? Cost to purchase / lease land and set up but the plot rental would generate an income Could it form part of a Village Hall site?	N/A	Future Project - Should suitable land become available
16	Parish / Tourist Noticeboard	S	Lots of tourists visit the village – it would be good to have an information point	Precept Grants	Location? Previously discussed by Whittington Together. Could be done in conjunction with them.	N/A	
17	Garden of Remembrance	O	The Church have applied for a burial closure order. Once formally closed, the Church will no longer be responsible for its maintenance. The council agreed that they would not want to take on the maintenance (minute 61.20 refers). Through the Summer of 2020, the PC have supported with a grant of £50 a month to the friends to assist with grass cutting.		On a case by case, project basic, Council to consider supporting Shropshire Council with the upkeep of the Garden to ensure it remains in good order as a focal point in the centre of the village. Historically, £1000 has been included in each budget to support with maintenance and if not spent, this is transferred to reserves.	N/A	
<b>COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION</b>							
18	Parish Plan / Neighbourhood Plan	M	Future Parish Plan Refresh Planning Community to monitor guidance regarding Neighbourhood Plans Joined up thinking across neighbouring parishes	Precept Grants	£500 included in each budget to be transferred to Earmarked reserves	N/A	
19	Local Council Award (Foundation Level)	S		Precept	Application process and costs. Once obtained, the award is valid for 4 years	N/A	

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**Please see below for more information on the spending of Neighbourhood Fund and CIL. This information should be considered when planning future projects that involve spending NF / or applying for CIL Funding:**

If projects are included in the Place Plan under NF projects then they will be suitable projects.

CIL regulations state that with reference to CIL Local:

*A local council must use CIL receipts passed to it in accordance with regulation 59A or 59B to **support the development** of the local council's area, or any part of that area, by funding—*

*(a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or*

*(b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. infrastructure" includes—*

*(a) roads and other transport facilities,*

*(b) flood defences,*

*(c) schools and other educational facilities,*

*(d) medical facilities,*

*(e) sporting and recreational facilities,*

*(f) open spaces*

Use of the word "includes" means this list is not a closed list but other items should be equivalent.

*This definition allows the levy to be used to fund a very broad range of facilities such as play areas, open spaces, parks and green spaces, cultural and sports facilities, healthcare facilities, academies and free schools, district heating schemes and police stations and other community safety facilities.*

**Neighbourhood Fund** can be spent on a wider range of things than the rest of the levy, provided that it meets the requirement to 'support the development of the area. The wider definition means that the neighbourhood portion can be spent on things other than infrastructure (as defined in the Community Infrastructure Levy regulations) provided it is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the parish's area

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