

Whittington Parish Council Project Plan

2021/22 Financial Year with medium and longer term, strategic projects identified

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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). **Reviewed:** 23.11.21

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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
ROADS, TRANSPORT & STREETLIGHTING							
1	Pedestrian Crossing – Pen-y-Bryn (Ellesmere Road)	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 CIL	Discussions to take place with SC Highways. Zebra crossing - £25,000-£35,000 Puffin signalised crossing - £50,000-£65,000	Yes added under Road Safety	SC have applied for CIL funding for a Feasibility Study but this was unsuccessful.
2	Vehicle Activated Signs	S-M	Continue to add to the 4 existing VAS. Addition of one at Park Hall. Next - Church Street after the extension of the 30ph	Precept Grants? Earmarked Reserves	Park Hall faces an increase in traffic with the new developments and problems with congested traffic on the A5.	N/A	VAS for Park Hall purchased using funds from the Precept.

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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	No progress. SC will not extend the 30mph zone on the approach to Whittington from Oswestry. But have agreed to an extension on the B5009 between Gobowen and Whittington (see 3b below)
3b	Village Entrances – B5009 From Gobowen into Whittington	M	Extension of the 30mph Zone	Neighbourhood Fund	£4k – Shropshire Council to carry out consultation, draw up plans etc and PC agreed to match fund the cost (minute 140.c.21 refers). Once the 30mph zone has been extended the PC will look to install a VAS.	TO BE ADDED	Added to the Plan Nov 2021.
4	Road Improvements	M	Improvements to Top Street	CIL Neighbourhood Fund	£40k of which £35k to be funded through CIL	Yes	CIL Funding Application for Top Street was not initially successful, however, still awaiting an update on further negotiations (minute 166.19 refers). No further update.
5	Traffic Speed Monitoring	S	Community Speed Watch Scheme	N/A	6 volunteers required to initiate the scheme which is run by the	N/A	Group now up and running and working

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					WMP Safer Roads Team Request for speed monitoring in Park Hall to assess eligibility for inclusion.		well. This can now be removed from the Project Plan as it is a stand alone group being managed by the Police.
6	Community Car Park	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	N/A – Funds already allocated direct at source	COMPLETE – taken from the PCs 2021-22 NF Allocation
7	Paths, Pavements and Highways (Responsibility of Shropshire Council)	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	CIL	Shropshire Council responsibility but the parish council to lobby SC as a priority	Yes	On-going

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			Whittington there are many obstacles for disabled people such as overgrown hedges bad kerbs. Look towards making Whittington all inclusive. Footpath from Gobowen to Whittington (Stanyards into Whittington) – serious H&S concern. – Can this now be removed as work was carried out last year?				
8	Streetlighting	0	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.	Yes	LED Conversions Complete Column replacements (project A – On-going – due to complete by March 2022).
COMMUNITY							
9	Youth Amenities	M-L	Mini Bike Park MUGA Play Area at Penybryn	Neighbourhood Fund Precept Grants(?) Community Led Funds from Community Led	A new play area with fence, wet pour and a range of equipment - £50k approx	Yes	On-going – no progress made. FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED - Requires further Community

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			Play Area in Park Hall More inclusive Play Area(s)	housing at Penybryn Precept Neighbourhood Fund Grants(?) Precept			Engagement to determine what exactly is required and what is wanted. Land will need to be sourced.
10	Parish Village Hall with Playing Fields	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.	Yes	FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED - Requires further Community Engagement to determine what exactly is required and what is wanted.
11	Festive Lighting and Displays	S	Enhance and build on the current display: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decorative displays on columns Lighting on trees around the Castle and Church Planting of a real Christmas tree and decorative lighting Include areas like Park Hall – possible Christmas Tree 	Precept		N/A	Completed for 2021 with a real tree next to the car park and lighting in Park Hall. Can be enhanced further in future years, including a real tree in Park Hall.
12	Defibrillators	S-M	Additional defibrillators throughout the Parish including Park Hall, Babbinswood and Hindford	Precept Grants		Added in (06.10.21) as ones in 2021 to be paid	Completed – funded through the precept. 3 new defibs added around the parish –

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			Also – Castle and Penybryn			for from NF.	Hindford, Park Hall and Babbinswood. Other areas to consider in the future – Castle and Penybryn.
13	Increase the amount of waste bins	S	Campaign to keep the Parish Tidy and also encourage people to keep cleaning up after their dogs. Dog Fouling Signage to be installed 'please respect our village' and also increase the number of bins.	Precept Neighbourhood Fund	£300 + VAT – cost per bin Plus £125 p/annum to empty All purchased through SC. Additional locations to be considered – including Park Green Close.	Yes – added April 2021 (minute 51.c.21 refers)	Completed - 2 new bins installed April 2021 – North Drive Park Hall and Castle Fields, opposite the play area. Dog fouling signage installed. Consulting with the community where ore could be located.
14a	Wildflower Meadow	S-M		Precept	Suitable location? Area by the Community Car Park Or near a Community Hall	N/A	Looking to incorporate this into the tree planting along the verges.
14b	Tree Planting	S-M	Added in Summer 2021, following the Tree Survey, when the proposal to plant more trees was put to the council. Agreed to plant a hedge mix, along with a few trees along the boundary of the area next to the play area.	Precept	Trees donated by Rotary Club and planted by school pupils as part of a Community Tree Planting Project. No cost to initiate this project. Trees to be registered with the Queen's Green Canopy.	N/A	Added to the Project Plan – Autumn 2021. Currently in progress.
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	N/A	Future Project - Should suitable land become available.

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					Hall site?		
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	Currently accruing funds for this project.
17	Garden of Remembrance	O	Closure order issued and request served on the Parish Council to take over maintenance. It was resolved by the PC not to take on the maint. And pass to Shropshire Council (minute 141.21 refer)	Precept	On a case by case, project basis, 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.	N/A	Closure order now issued.
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION							
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	
20	Broadband Access	A	Provide internet access to the Senior Citizen's Hall was use during meetings.	Precept	Added Nov 2021. £30 per month x 12 = £360.00. Options either purchase a 4G Mobile Router or provide the Senior Citiz with a Grant to cover the cost of Broadband.	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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