

Whitley Parish Council – Ref 5/2014

(Minute numbers should be preceded by the above reference prefix)

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 27th May 2014 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.25 p.m. by the Chairman.
2. Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman for 2014/15 – For the position of Chairman, Cllr Watson proposed Cllr Humphrey and seconded by Cllr Davie. All present voted in favour and Cllr Humphrey was elected. Cllr Humphrey proposed Cllr Walton for position of Vice Chairman and was seconded by Cllr Watson. Following a vote, Cllr Walton was elected as vice chairman for 2014/15.
3. **Acceptance of Office** - Cllrs Humphrey and Walton signed the acceptance of office forms and these were witnessed and signed by the clerk.
4. **Present.** Cllr S Humphrey– Chair, Cllrs. F Blackburn, K Walton, J Davie, P Gerrard & J Watson. Also in attendance for part of the meeting was D Cllr G Ivey
5. **Apologies:** – Cllr White - This was approved.
- 6 **Declaration of Interests** – None
- 7 **Minutes of the last meeting**
 - 7.1 The minutes of the meeting on 22nd April 2014 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record.
- 8 **Matters Arising**
 - 8.1 **Bus Shelter on the A19** – The clerk produced the Queensbury Shelters latest quote and design information to inform the members. Cllr Davie read-out a short statement about the lack of commitment by NYCC to the provision of public transport. John White has agreed to submit a funding request application to the next CEF meeting with the closing date for applications is on 12th June 2014. It is likely that parish council fund matching will be required. Short discussion followed about the persons most likely to use and benefit from a bus shelter and the decision to proceed with purchase was postponed until the funding sources are identified.
 - 8.2 **Information Board.** Cllr Watson has looked at the options and the cost of the graphics/design will be at least £250 +VAT. A draft has already been circulated to members. Other work and narrative will be required and this will cost in the region of £600 plus further costs for the notice board itself. Cllr Watson went on further to explain the work he is doing and the people who will be involved.
 - 8.3 **Planters.** John White was requested to inform the meeting about his enquiries about costs, locations and consultations with residents. He stated that he is still awaiting information on most of this and information will be made available to the councillors at a later date.

Open Public Forum. The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public to give their views and ask questions.

- ◆ Bryan Crossdale attended the meeting to inform members about the Speedwath Project which is fully funded from the NY police budget. He went on to explain the details of the scheme and what is required in terms of volunteers, vetting and training. The local area of Whitley and Eggborough is the trial area for the project. Short discussion followed and information to be made available on the website.
- ◆ Jim Taylor – Cllr Watson asked him if the Daffodil Park would be cut by this weekend. Cllr Walton said that garden waste/cuttings are being dumped near the gas tanks in the Daffodil Park and Jim Taylor confirmed this.
- ◆ John Watson – John White spoke about the completion of the 95 Alive forms. He also said that 14 other areas are ahead of us in the priority areas for speed camera van deployment. He feels let down by NY police for withdrawing camera vans without consultation. He thinks that the parish council should write once more to the P& CC about this. He went on to state that our VAS units are capable of having upgraded software installed at a cost of £425. The upgrade will allow information to be collected about vehicle speeds, number of vehicles, dates and times. This data could be downloaded and interpreted by the parish council. A short discussion followed and it was agreed that this would be considered as an agenda item for a later meeting. He also mentioned the lack of waste bins in Cathcart Close.

9. Correspondence received. (Items for comment/information.)

All items received recently have been circulated by email.

10. Finance & Administration

10.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 27/5/2014 as being:

Current Accounts. – Santander PLC £12,310.29, Co-op Bank - £5,337.82. **Total Current Accounts is £17,648.17**

Deposit Accounts – Santander PLC £33,765.70, Co-op Bank Deposit Account £50,000 - **Total Deposit Accounts £83,765.70.** Total cash held in bank accounts is £101,413.87 less funds held in reserve for future playarea maintenance and other ring fenced and reserve funds = £90,522.23. **Free Funds = £10,891.64.**

10.2 The following payments were approved and cheques signed: Petty Cash Imprest £108.96, Cllr Allowances for 2013/14 - 4 x £53.72 to Cllrs Walton Davie, Humphrey and Watson, JR & L Taylor – Repair & Paint Seat near Silver St. £96.00, Bryan Crossdale – Printing £50. D Cllr Gillian Ivey left the meeting at 8.30.p.m.

11 Recreational Open Space in Whitley

11.1 All areas seem to be in order and there are no problems to report. Inspection logs are now being kept. Cllr White's work on the scheduling of the playarea maintenance funds was postponed until a later meeting.

- 11.2 The clerk reported that all the items listed in David Bracey's report have now been dealt with. Ownership signs have been ordered from Arc Signs and repairs to the wet-pour surface are included in the quotes for the equipment upgrade at the Lee View site.
- 11.3 The clerk has received three quotes for new equipment and repairs at the Lee View site. These were received just a few days before this meeting and the clerk will now assess and compare the quotes and produce costs and specification details for the next meeting.

12 Grass Verges in Whitley

- 12.1 NYCC have announced that the cutting of the grass verges will be scaled-back in 2015/16 because of funding cuts. The grass will only be cut where there is a road safety/driver visibility issue. There was a short discussion concerning the impact that the uncut verges will have on the appearance of the village.
- 12.2 Cllr Watson volunteered to do an assessment of the area of verges likely to remain uncut and also check with NYCC to see if they can inform us where the verges will continue to be cut. For discussion at a later meeting.

13. Insurance Renewal

- 13.1 The initial Aon renewal premium was £1048.62 but Zurich, seeking new business, offered the same cover for £819.62. The clerk said that after discussions with Aon they offered a three-year agreement at the much lower premium of £629.17, a saving of £419.45. After a short discussion it was resolved to renew the policy with Aon and the clerk will arrange for the premium cheque to be sent by the due date of 1st June 2014.

14 Dates for Council Meeting in 2014/2015.

- 14.1 The clerk presented the meeting with the suggested dates, which take into account the school timetable for 2014/15. There was a short discussion, councillors approved the suggested dates, and these will be posted on the notice boards and website with a copy to the school.

15 Chairman's & Members Reports. –

- 15.1 Cllr Watson said that footpath No.1 is waterlogged so that the route of the Whitley Walk may be altered. Raymond Wood has been approached about decking for the flooded part of the path.
- 15.2 Cllr Blackburn said that OF has purchased a Bouncy Castle which available for hire.
- 15.3 Cllr Watson reported that he has drafted documents for submission to the Lottery Funding Organisation to apply for funding.

- 16 **AOB.** No items raised

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.