

# Whitley Parish Council – Ref 4/2013

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

## Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 p.m. by the Chairman.
2. **Present.** Cllr S Humphrey– Chair, Cllrs. F Blackburn, K Walton, J Davie & J Watson.
3. **Apologies:** – Cllr Gerrard-and Cllr White - Approved. D Cllr G Ivey also sent her apologies.
- 4 **Declaration of Interests** – Cllr Blackburn for agenda item - Allotments
- 5 **Minutes of the last meeting**
  - 5.1 The minutes of the meeting on 19th March 2013 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record.

### 6 **Matters Arising**

- 6.1 Overgrown footpath – The clerk reported that NYCC area will carry out the clearance of the footpath within the next few weeks.
- 6.2 Common Land Boundary – A meeting is planned with Monaghan Mushrooms for further discussions on the boundary. A date has yet to be fixed.
- 6.3 Commemorative Bench – It was reported that the bench is now in place in the Daffodil Park. Thanks to be conveyed to Richard Puttrell and his son-in-law for carrying out the work of fixing the bench in place.
- 6.4 Harron Homes Footpath – The footpath work has now been completed and D Cllr Gillian Ivey has been in contact with a director of Harron Homes about this matter.
- 6.5 Monaghan Mushrooms – Complaint by resident. The clerk reported that a response has not yet been received from David Walker.

**Open PublicForum.** The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public to give their views and ask questions. There were no items raised.

### 7 **Correspondence received. (Items for comment/information.)**

- 7.1 There were no items for consideration at this meeting.

### 8. **Finance & Administration**

- 8.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 23/4/2013 as being **Current Accounts.** - A & L £16,674.90, Co-op Bank - £4,085.95. **Total Current Accounts is £20,760.85**

(Approx. £16,109 of this is now earmarked for the final payment on Daffodil Park work, Bovis Playarea and other ring fenced funds).

**Deposit Accounts** - Ringfenced for play-area maintenance – A & L £33,731.79, Co-op Bank Deposit Account £50,000 - **Total Deposit Accounts £83,731.79.**

- i) The following accounts were approved for payment: - Retrospective approval – HMRC PAYE to 31/3/2013 £134.20. Jim Taylor Grass Cutting £192. Others: Groundwork NY – Contract settlement re daffodil field. £8,212.51, Clerk’s Salary & Expenses half year to 31/3/2013 net of tax. £1,543.73, Chairman’s Annual Allowance £300, OF Printing £45, W & E School – Room Hire £52.25, YLCA Subscription 2013/14 £268.
- ii) The contract for maintenance of the Daffodil Field already awarded to Jim Taylor and councillors confirmed that payment will be made quarterly.

## **9 Groundwork NY & Daffodil Park**

- 9.1 Groundwork NY – The clerk & Cllr Watson gave a summarised report on the last meeting between the parish council and Groundwork. The report highlighted further contact cost reduction achieved on some items and both parties agreed both the final contract value and the settlement figure. These figures were: Contract value £72,684 (excl. VAT), final payment £8,212.51, and the refund of unused contingency fund to the PC of £3,207.73
- 9.2 Councillors approved the report and agreed the financial aspects of the report. Councillors then discussed the management of the project by Groundwork and the consensus was that the project management had been poor. The clerk was instructed to write to Peter Murphy at Groundwork expressing the council view and their disappointment in the way that the project had been managed. The letter should point out that it was felt that the manager had not acted in the best interests of the parish council in achieving value for money and timely response to problems that were highlighted by councillors. The fee for the project management was £8,150.
- 9.3 Further discussions took place on the poor condition of the football pitch area and it was resolved that Jim Taylor be asked to provide estimates for levelling the playing area and move the goal posts. Funding for this could be provided from the unused contingency fund,

## **10 Speed Awareness Scheme**

- 10.1 The recent newsletter contained information about the speed awareness scheme with a request for volunteers to take part in the scheme.
- 10.2 Gravelhill is still being used by HGVs despite the 7.5 ton vehicle weight limit. It was felt that clarification on this is required and it was resolved that PC should write to NYCC highways section for clarification.
- 10.3 The Speed Awareness group will continue to monitor commercial vehicles passing through the village and where applicable, contact those firms whose vehicles are speeding.

## **11. Allotments**

- 11.1 The clerk produced a letter from the WVAA requesting financial assistance toward the construction of a central pathway on the allotments. After a short discussion it was resolved that the parish council could not provide any financial assistance on this occasion. Councillors agreed to provide help and sponsorship to WVAA in their future applications for grants from other funding bodies.

## **12. War Memorial**

- 12.1 Cllr Watson reported that Darrington Quarries will provide the stone and Jim Taylor will move and install this on the Daffodil Park for £160. It was resolved that this quote be accepted and that the stone should be installed.
- 12.2 Cllr Watson then said that he would get estimates for an engraved plaque to be attached to the war memorial.

## **13. Chairman's and Members' Reports.**

- 13.1 Cllr Blackburn reported on his attendance at a UK Coal meeting and a meeting of OF when the discussions were about the community garden scheme.
- 13.2 Cllr Walton said that the Youth Club scheme is operating well.

## **14. Agree the date of the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting**

- 14.1 Following a short discussion it was agreed that the meetings would be on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013. Appropriate notices will be posted.

## **15.A.O.B.**

- 15.1 Cllr Blackburn noted that the pavement at the southern end of Templar Close is still obstructed by brambles. NYCC highways to be informed. He also noted that the hedge at the Poplar Farm site has been removed. This hedge defined the boundary line between the development site and the greenfield site beyond.
- 15.2 Dog Bins – Cllr Watson said the dog bins for the Daffodil Park would be put in place. Also the replacement Jubilee Oak needs planting with Cllrs Humphrey and Walton to be in attendance.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 p.m.

**Chairman of the Parish Council**

**Date.**