

Whitley Parish Council – Ref 6/2014

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

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 24th June 2014 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.35 p.m. by the Chairman.
2. **Present.** Cllr S Humphrey – Chair, Cllrs. S. White, J Davie, & K Walton.
3. **Apologies:** – Cllr Watson - Approved
- 4 **Declaration of Interests** – None
- 5 **Minutes of the last meeting**
 - 5.1 The minutes of the meeting on 27th May 2014 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record and were then signed by the chairman.
- 6 **Matters Arising**
 - 6.1 Bus Shelter A19. – The clerk reported on the costs and design details that he has received from the manufacturers. After a short discussion it was resolved that the most suitable shelter for this site would be a Queensbury Arun two bay with half side ends and with a seat in one bay. This specification has not yet been priced but it will cost slightly less than the three bay type which was priced at £3792 plus VAT. John White has volunteered to submit grant application forms to CEF and it is hoped that the application will result in a grant to help with the purchase. The clerk to obtain a new quote for the agreed shelter type.
 - 6.2 Notice Board for Daffodil Park – Cllr Watson was not present at the meeting but he has sent information about the progress and hopes to give a full report at the next meeting.
 - 6.3 Our internal auditor suggested that we publish councillor attendance at meetings data. She said that this is good practice and the clerk will collate the data for publication on the Whitley website.
 - 6.4 Software Upgrades for VAS units. The VAS units are not able collect data about speeds, number of vehicles, date & times. It has been agreed in principle that collecting data might prove useful and help with the lobbying for an active traffic police presence in the village. The main problem is that the two VAS units are not from the same manufacturer and the software and prices will therefor differ. The clerk will make enquiries about the software and costs for the unit opposite the George & Dragon Pub. There was further discussion about additional units that allow the units to be programmed to display different messages and also give a reading of actual vehicle speed.
 - 6.5 Danvm Drainage – The clerk read out the letter from Danvm and this relates to the ownership of the daffodil park and our liability to pay drainage rates – Land Drainage Act 1991. The amount due for 2014/15 is £12.30. The drainage commissioners are updating their record of landowners and this is the reason why we have not been charged a drainage

rate despite having owned the land for a number of years. D Cllr Gillian Ivey had emailed the clerk about the matter with the explanation about the lack of any charge for earlier years since the land was purchased. There followed a short discussion and it was resolved to pay the rate due.

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

❖ Beverly Godwin

1. Mrs Godwin told councillors that the southbound bus stop opposite Templar Close did not have any hard standing area. In winter this meant standing in wet grass or on the road. The clerk will contact NYCC transport to ask them to provide a hard surface area at the stop.

❖ John White raised the following points:

1. The two VAS units in the village are from different manufacturers. He has been in contact with Gary Lumb of NYCC highways, about software upgrades for the signs.
2. He has also contacted the police about the monitoring of traffic speed in Whitley and if the data is available who has it.
3. He urged all members to complete and submit 95 Alive forms.
4. What has happened to the Wheely Bin sticker initiative? The new signs do not stay in place very long. Is it possible to have a 20-mph limit near to the school?
5. Could the parish council write to the NYCC Police & Crime commissioner about a renewed presence of the police camera vans in Whitley?
6. Harron Homes Estate – The frontage onto the A19 looks untidy and work that is started never seems to be finished. D Cllr Gillian Ivey will be contacted about this matter.
7. Planters – Suitable sites might be next to the sign at Whitley Bridge and at the south end of the village.
8. Allotments – Now seven residents on a waiting list. Is it possible to rent land from Raymond Wood for additional allotments?

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

7.1 There was just one item for this meeting since most correspondence is now arriving by email, which is then forwarded to councillors. - Letter from Steve Shaw seeking support for sustainable communities. Council supports this in principle and the chairman will write to Mr Shaw.

8. Finance & Administration

8.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 24/6/2014 as being;

Deposit Accounts – Santander PLC £33,765.70, Co-op Bank PLC Deposit Account £50,000
- Total Deposit Accounts £83,765.70.

Current Accounts. – Santander PLC £14,824.82 Co-op Bank - £ 5,338.32 **Total Current Accounts £20,163.14**

Total cash balances held = £103,928.84. Funds held in reserve for future playarea maintenance and other ring-fenced and reserved funds £94,236.20.

- 8.2 : The following accounts were approved for payment: - Retrospective approval: Aon Insurance £629.17, Other accounts: JR & L Taylor -£1,416.00, Mary Farman - £20.00, Marcus Taperell £300.00.
- 8.3 The clerk presented the internal audit report and annual return for 2013/2014. The Annual Return was audited and signed by Mar Farman on 5th June 2014. Once the audit was completed the chairman and clerk signed the return before submission on the due date of 9th June 2014.
- 8.4 The clerk reminded all councillors that the annual councillor allowance should be declared for income tax purposes.

9 Recreational Open Space In Whitley

- 9.1 Cllr Walton said that Jim Taylor informed her that 3 bolts were missing from the metal fencing around the Daffodil Field playarea and three wooden posts on the fence panels needed to be replaced. Cllr White said that condition of the Barratt & Bovis playareas was fine and no problems to report.
- 9.2 Upgrade of equipment and repairs at Lee View Site. The clerk reported that he had obtained the quotes for the upgrade and repair of the site. Whilst not the cheapest, the quote from Streetscape of Selby is likely to be the supplier. The layout and detail in the quote was good and a meeting with the managing director at the site gave a good impression of the firm. Reports from another clerk who has also used the firm confirmed the quality of their work. It was resolved that the clerk was authorised carry out further assessment of the three quotes and then place the order.
- 9.3 The fly tipping in the Daffodil Field will be monitored by Jim Taylor who will, if necessary, speak to the individual responsible

10 Playarea Maintenance Funds.

- 10.1 Cllr White explained to the meeting about the work that she has been doing to schedule the estimated expenditure on repairs and maintenance of the three playareas. The three playareas are Bovis, Barratt and Persimmon, where Section 106 funds have been provided for this purpose over a ten-year period. Cllr White handed out a schedule showing estimated/likely expenditure over the period ten-year period of each scheme. She said that in order to maximise the benefit to the parish council, it might be cost effective to deplete the funds by renewing all of the play equipment at each site in year nine. The life span of play equipment is not know but information might be obtainable from play equipment suppliers. A short discussion followed and Cllr White will continue with the work and seek some help from the parish clerk. She would welcome any comments and advice from other councillors.

11 Rights of Way. The clerk reported that many of the RoWs and footpaths in Whitley were in a poor state. After a short discussion it was suggested that NYCC might be able to help. Cllr Davie suggested contacting a member of the Ramblers Assoc. who had helped him in the past. Cllr Davie will forward the details to the clerk.

12 World War 1 – 100th Anniversary Commemorative Event.

12.1 Following a short discussion it was suggested that the following might be appropriate:

- ❖ Planting Session - Shrubs etc
- ❖ Planting of poppies.
- ❖ G & D to fly flag at half-mast.

The matter will be discussed at the July meeting and councillors can put forward further suggestions and firm up the arrangements.

13 Chairman's & Members Reports. – There were no reports

14 A O B

14.1 Volunteers for Speed Awareness project. No details of number of volunteers who have applied to join the scheme.

14.2 The role and nature of work being carried out by Osgoldcross Forum Ltd was raised. Cllr Blackburn was not at this meeting to report on this matter. Cllr White suggested that it might be possible to invite John Vause to a future PC meeting to brief members. No decision was taken on this.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.27 p.m.

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.