

# Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm by the Chair Cllr Walton.
2. **Open Public Forum(OPF) 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023**
  - 2.1. Two members of the public attended the meeting seeking an update on the position with the Gale Common Ash Recovery planning application and legal case. The Chair advised that the matter is to be covered within the agenda of the meeting.
  - 2.2. The Chair closed the public forum and proceeded to the conduct of the Parish meeting.

## **Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School Annex Buidling – 09/23**

3. **Present:** Cllr Walton (Chair), Cllr Humphrey, Cllr Cole and Cllr Blackburn and Clerk to the Council J Hunter.
4. **Apologies for absence:**
  - 4.1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr White and Cllr Woodhead. Cllr White provided the Clerk his comments on various items to be covered within the agenda. Comments about which were referenced during the Councillors discussion of each item.
5. **Disclosure of interest:**
  - 5.1. Cllr Cole and Cllr Blackburn are resident on Whitefield Lane and as such would be directly impacted by the HGV movements from the Gale Common site. Cllr White is treasurer of the Allotment Association and a plot holder.
  - 5.2. There were no other interests registered.
6. **Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023:**
  - 6.1. Amendments to the draft minutes were agreed, Subject to which addition, the minutes were agreed as an accurate account of the meeting.  
  
**Action:** The Clerk to amend the minutes as agreed above and deliver a copy for signature by the Chair.
7. **Matters for information and action as required:**
  - 7.1. **Gale Common:** Following the High Court Decision to reject the appeal against planning approval the Protective Cost Order (PCO) set for the appeal now becomes due and payable. It was noted that the courts specified settlement of £5,000 followed by five monthly payments of £200. The meeting considered a proposal suggested by Cllr White that the Parish Council make representation to the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) seeking a waiver of the PCO liability. It was agreed that such communication be affected as soon as practical.  
  
**Action:** Cllr Humphrey liaise with Cllr White in the drafting, agreement, and submission of the communication to the Chief Executive of NYCC.

Councillors discussed further appropriate action following the issue of the decision with the speculation of the commencement of the development at the Gale Common site with the consequential impacts on the community. It was agreed that Local Parish Councils should be advised of the decision and engagement with the Gale Common developers be actively pursued with the formation of a Gale Common Liaison Group that is required within the conditions of the grant of planning approval.

**Action:** Next steps and engagement with Gale Common Extraction developers to be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council in March.

- 7.2. **Allotment Association:** Cllr White in his notes for this agenda item reported that there will be a committee meeting of the Allotment Association on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at which season the revisions to the agreement with the Council will be discussed for finalisation. This will then be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Allotment Association on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.

**Action:** Cllr White to present completed allotment agreement for signature at the next Parish Council meeting in March.

- 7.3. **S106 monies:** The meeting considered improvement projects that could be presented to support request to which s106 monies from Rosslyn and Larth Close applications could be applied:

- Repainting of play areas
- The balance of costs of the Drainage Works within Daffodil Field being expenditure not covered by the £8,000 grant.
- Resurfacing of paths in Daffodil Park
- The provision of outdoor exercise equipment in Daffodil Park
- Schemes for improvement of the Nature Reserve.

**Action:** Schemes and proposals for these projects to be outlined in anticipation of invitations from NYCC for use of the s106 monies when the amount of the approved sums crystallise.

- 7.4. **Christmas Lights & Hanging Baskets:** Councillors reviewed the costing information researched by Cllr White following enquiries with local councils about their provision of hanging baskets. Expenditure is relatively substantial ranging between £2,250 to £1,800 for 30 to 20 baskets. The meeting reflected upon the expense, the relative merits, and the challenges of maintenance of such displays especially along the A19 given the heavy traffic using the road. Councillors concluded that provision of hanging baskets in the village is prohibitive and therefore would require sponsorship, and the evidence of significant interest within the community to warrant investment.

Given the level of comments from residents in Whitley's social media platforms for the provision of Christmas Lights it was agreed this would be investigated with alternative options presented for consideration.

**Action:** Cllr Cole to undertake research into the alternative options for the provision of Christmas Lights.

- 7.5. **Coronation of King Charles:** Councillors considered that Parish Council did not have sufficient resources to facilitate the organisation of community events to celebrate the King's Coronation.

**8. Correspondence received:** The Clerk summarised the details of correspondence received by email or post.

**8.1. Emails and postage.**

**8.1.1** Clerk presented the following details of emails or correspondence by mail relevant to the affairs of Whitley Parish Council:

- a. An email for a resident in the village thanking the Parish Council for taking action to address the issue of the overgrowth encroaching on the public pathway on the A19 North of Silver Street. They expressed appreciation for the work of the Community Payback team in clearing the foot path.
- b. a communication exchange between Cllr Walton and Poskitts' Farm reporting the issue of excessive mud on the A19 deposited by farm vehicles exiting fields.

**8.2. Social Media**

**8.2.1** Comments have been posted about the state of the pathway North of Silver Street and expressions of appreciation for the clearance work carried out by the Community Payback Team.

**9. Planning matters:** The Clerk provided a summary of the planning applications made in the month for review and consideration by the Council.

**9.1. 2023/0105/DOC**, Land at All Saints Court, Whitley. Discharge of condition 06 (site compound) of approval 2018/0355/OUT. Noted without comment.

**9.2. 2023/0112/DOC, Land off Larth Close, Whitley.** Discharge of condition 03 (engineering drawings), 05 (construction management plan), 07 (ecology), 09 (contamination), 10 (remediation scheme), 13 (noise vibration, dust and dirt), and 17 (surface water), of approval 2021/0268/FUL. Noted with no further comments.

**9.3. 2023/0051/FUL 2 Whitefield Lane, Whitley.** Erection of detached bungalow to the North of No 2 Whitefield Lane. Councillors noted the submission of the application details of which had been discussed during the Parish Council meeting in January 2023. Councillors had no further comments or observations to be raised with the planners.

**10. Council Finance & Administration:**

**10.1. RFO Report as at 15/11/2022:**

<b>Bank/Account</b>	<b>Income since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022</b>	<b>Expenditure since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022</b>		<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>Notes/Comment</b>
Santander Deposit	6.80			15,219.29	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account	20,067.00	9,935.29		23,961.28	No interest

(Cash Book)				
<b>Total Bank Balances</b>			<b>39,180.57</b>	
<b>Less following funds:</b>				
Allocated Funds		Surplus from Crossing Drainage Daffodil Field	1,798.71 8,000.00	
Total Allocated funds			9,798.71	
Parish Council Bank Funds		Legal Action and Complaints against the Council. Future Development and Facility Provision –Buildings. Future Development and Facility Provision – ROS. Future Development and Facility Provision -Nature Reserve. Unexpected/unforeseeable expenditure.	29,381.86	
VAT due for reclaim			634.05	
<b>Total Unallocated Parish Funds</b>			<b>30,015.91</b>	

The Clerk presented a cash flow summary analysing month by month the actual receipts and payments up to February 2023, with a forecast of income and expenditure for the remainder of the year to March 2023. Total expenditure up to 31<sup>st</sup> March is anticipated to amount to £14,631 that compares with total income flowing into the bank for the year of £21,159. The balance of reserves carried forward into the new year would be £35,607.

The cash flow projections for the year 2023/24 were reviewed that included settlement of the Protective Cost Order together with the payment of cost of the installation of drainage in the Daffodil Field. The projections show total receipts of precept and allotment rental of £10,860 compared with expenditure of £44,116. The anticipated balance of reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 was £5,980.

**10.2. Accounts Payable:** The following payments were approved for settlement by cheque.

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £
22527	John White – reimbursement for cost of plants	50.00

**10.3. Accounts Payable retrospectively:** The following retrospective payments made by bank transfer since the last council meeting were approved.

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £

10.4. **Bank Transfer:**

Transfer	Payable to:	Amount: £

10.5. **Change of address with Santander Bank:**

The Clerk advised that following his relocation out of the village a change of address notification is required to be forwarded to Santander Bank. Councillors discussed the options with the conclusion that the new address to which bank statements and replacement cheque books will be sent is to the residence of Cllr Walton.

**Action:** Clerk to forward a request for change of address to Santander Bank signed in accordance with the bank mandate by Cllr Walton and Cllr Humphrey.

**11. Recreational Open Space in Whitley:**

**11.1. Parks and Verges:**

**11.1.1 Parks & Playground Maintenance:** Councillors considered various items in connection with maintenance within the park and playgrounds.

- Councillors noted the update from Cllr White on the progress of the drainage project and his invitation to other Councillors to join him at a site meeting with the contractors to be scheduled in late March early April.
- Councillors discussed the impending drainage work and concluded that further decisions regarding provision of additional community facilities within the Daffodil Park should be suspended until completion of the project, including consideration of the installation of new goal posts. Once the impact of the drainage system is fully understood the Council will be in a better position to consider improvement schemes.

Notwithstanding, Councillors recognise the maintenance of existing facilities is important; the repainting of play areas should be given some priority subject to funding restraints and the sourcing of 106 monies to cover the cost.

- Councillors noted the comments from Cllr White that following clarification of the details of the existing bench and costs to replace an approach to the West Yorkshire Police Federation will be made seeking contribution to the costs. The Clerk advised that a claim will be made to cover any deficiency in funding.

**Action:** Status of the funding will be discussed in the next meeting of the Parish Council in March.

- The Clerk advised that an insurance claim had been lodged to cover the cost of repair and replacement of the damaged planters by the Daffodil Park.

11.1.2 **Community Payback:** Cllr Walton reported on the success of the activities of the payback team; the clearance of the pedestrian pavements and the clearance of the debris from the Daffodil Park planter. The potential further clearance work is to be identified suggestions being litter on Gravel Hill and general weeding and maintenance at Blackthorn Close Park.

11.1.3 **Verge Cutting:** The Clerk and Cllr Humphrey agreed to arrange a meeting with George Fillingham to agree the programme of verge cutting for the new season and to discuss the infestation of moles especially along the A19 by the planters.

**12. A19 Safety:**

12.1. **Speeding on A19:** The damage to the pedestrian refuge area was noted with the understanding that repair will be the responsibility of North Yorkshire Highways.

**13. A.O.B.**

13.1. Cllr Humphrey requested that Councillors review the information published on the pages of the Parish Council website and notify him of any amendments, additions, or redundant content.

**14. Confirm the date, time and place of next meeting:**

**Next Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 7pm at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

**Closure of meeting:** 8:10 pm