

Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm by the Chairman Cllr Humphrey.
2. **Open Public Forum (OPF), 26th March 2019**
 - 2.1. North Yorkshire County (NYC) Cllr J McCartney addressed the meeting concerning the current status of the planning review of the Gale Common Motor Cross application. Details of the information provided by Cllr McCartney and the discussion that followed are included in agenda item 8.2 below.
 - 2.2. North Yorkshire County (NYC) Cllr H McCartney addressed the meeting concerning the status of the Gale Common Extraction project and the public consultations conducted in recent weeks. Details of the information provided by Cllr McCartney and the discussions that followed are included in agenda item 8.3 below.

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 26th March 2019 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School Annex Building Ref 14/19

3. **Present:** Cllr S Humphrey, Cllr F Blackburn, Cllr S Cole, Cllr J White, Cllr K Walton and Clerk to the Council J Hunter
4. **Apologies for absence.**
 - 4.1. Apologies for absence Cllr A Coney.
5. **Remembrance of Cllr John Watson:** The Council sadly marked the passing of Cllr J Watson with a minute's silence. The Councillors remembered how he worked tirelessly for the Council and would be missed. Cllr Humphrey suggested that in the fullness of time the Council may wish to consider a memorial to Cllr Watson whether a tree, bench or some other suitable commemoration subject to the wishes of Cllr Watson's wife and family.
6. **Disclosure of Interest.**
 - 6.1. There were no declaration of interests made.
7. **Minutes of meeting on 19th February 2019**
 - 7.1. The Council agreed the minutes presented were a true record of the meeting held on 19th February 2019 and accordingly the minutes were signed by the Chair.
8. **Ongoing matters for information and action as required:**
 - 8.1. **Notice of Parish Election:** The Clerk advised the Council that he had arranged an appointment at Democratic Services Selby Council on 28th April 2019 to deliver the completed nomination papers. The meeting speculated whether there may be other residents interested in seeking nomination and considered that a reminder of the deadline date for the delivery of forms to Selby Council should be notified on the Council's Facebook page.

Action: Completed nomination papers to be delivered to the Clerk by Wednesday 27th April 2019. Notice of the deadline date of 3rd April 2019 for the submission of nomination forms for the Parish Council election to be posted on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

- 8.2. **Gale Common Motor Cross:** NYC Cllr McCartney reminded the Council that the review of the planning application postponed by the planning committee from the meeting on 20th March 2019 is now scheduled to be discussed by the Selby Planning Committee on Wednesday 3rd April 2019. The planning officers report on the matter proposing refusal of the application had been redrafted following legal advice. Following decision, it is likely that the planning authority would pursue enforcement action on the operators based on the original 2009 application. This will be concerning a noise abatement demand issued by environmental health.

Cllr McCartney explained that it was possible that the operators could appeal the planning decision or indeed withdraw the application, but this would not impede enforcement action.

Cllr McCartney also observed that the key issue is the amount of noise emanating from the site and its impact on residents in the surrounding villages. He noted that little effort had been made by the operators to take measures to manage sound emissions although technology was available such as motor bike silencers that would reduce decibel levels.

The number of mobile homes on site during various meetings was also noted with sounds from loud speaker systems audible from 7.00 in the morning throughout the day.

The availability of residents to speak at the Planning Committee meeting was discussed and, given prior commitments of Councillors, the Clerk agreed to attend the planning meeting on the 3rd April and make representation of behalf of the Whitley Parish Council. The basis of such presentation would be the guidance provided to Cllr Humphrey following his discussion with a planning consultant. NYC Cllr McCartney reiterated his observation that his understanding was that the application would be refused thereby presenting the opportunity to make the case for enforcement action. A member of the public questioned the motives of Selby Planning and Cllr McCartney acknowledged that the history of planning enforcement had in the past been poor but there is now, due to criticism from various members of the district a renewed focus on the exercise of suitable enforcement.

He noted that the operator had exceeded the stipulated number of motor cross meetings which means planning enforcement could place a stop notice on the operation. Following the outcome of the planning committee meeting NYC Cllr McCartney urged Whitley Parish Council to press for enforcement action.

Action: Clerk to attend and speak at the Planning Committee meeting of 3rd April 2019 on behalf of Whitley Parish Council.

- 8.3. **Gale Common Extraction Project:** NYC Cllr McCartney summarised his current understanding of the plans for the management of ash coming from the Gale Common site. There have been several public consultations carried out in recent weeks with more expected to be organised in March leading to the submission of a planning application sometime during May 2019. Some 600,000 to 700,000 tonnes of ash will be extracted per annum 60% to 70% of which will be transported by HGV to building block manufacturers; Celmit based in Heck and Celcon based in Pollington Airfield. Notwithstanding various alternative options for the movement of the ash including canal or rail the preferred approach will be HGV transport along Whitfield Lane and Doncaster Road to the M62 being the shortest route to the Motorway network.

Cllr Humphrey questioned whether a coordinated response has been organised by the local communities. NYC Cllr McCartney explained that the in addition to the public consultations the project team had attended the Council Meeting at Cridling Stubbs and recommended that

Whitley Council invite them to one of their own meetings. He observed that they project team had been very upfront with their intention in using HGV's to ship the ash.

Cllr White mentioned earlier discussions concerning the establishment of a community group to focus dialogue with the project team to identify benefits to the village that may come out of the implementation and questioned whether this group should be formed after the submission of the planning application. NYC Cllr McCartney suggested that discussions of such nature could be entered into now pending the application and cited the experience for Cridling Stubbs Parish Council who have received undertakings for grass cutting from Gale Common into Cridling Stubbs.

NYC Cllr McCartney also explained that as part of the planning application and 106 agreement there will also be the establishment of a "Local Liaison Committee" that would comprise members of Cridling Stubbs and Whitley Parish Council together with Enforcement Officers of the County Council. The committee will provide a vehicle for the discussion of any issues that arise which would then be, mediated, adjudicated and regulated by the Enforcement Officer.

Cllr White shared with the meeting a response he had received from the project team with regard to further public consultations events. These will be in Cridling Stubbs, Whitley and Eggborough and in this next round they would provide more detail on such areas as mitigation measures, how the site will be managed, traffic, air quality, noise and employment opportunities.

The meeting discussed what immediate action could / should be taken in response to the consultations. Cllr Humphrey suggested that essentially the council had two avenues to progress in parallel; one to enter into discussion by way of damage limitation and to seek some benefit for the village if the scheme is implemented but also to raise objection to the proposal before it is approved. The problem with engaging in consultation to seek some advantage for the village is that this may be construed by the Selby Planning as tacit agreement for the proposal by the Council.

The meeting concluded that the next stage would be to invite representatives of the project team to a Council meeting.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr White to obtain contact details and invite representatives of the Gale Common Extraction Project Team to a Council meeting following the conclusion of the final round of public consultations.

- 8.4. **Whitley Community Group:** Cllr Humphrey advised the meeting that Mr David Broadbent as Chairman of the Community Group had invited him to attend a meeting with David, Elaine Marsh (another member of the Community Group) Rev Mike Marsh and Peter landlord of the George and Dragon. In the event only Rev Marsh and Cllr Humphrey turned up for the meeting. There had been no further explanation or reason for the cancellation. NYC Cllr McCartney added that he had been informed that since this time David Broadbent and Elaine Marsh had both resigned; there is therefore no Community Group. This brings into question the current status of the progress of community engagement with the planning of the future of All Saints Church.

Cllr White informed the meeting of his conversation with the Church Commissioners in London who confirmed that the proposal for the cessation of services had been presented to them but there were several other matters that were being addressed before the future of Whitley Church would be considered. However, when the issue is assessed Whitley Parish Council as an interested party will be kept fully informed and will have opportunity to make such representations as they feel appropriate.

Action: In the meantime, Cllr Humphrey will communicate with David Broadbent to enquire into the current position and status of the Community Group.

9. Correspondence received:

- 9.1. An email from Sam Hutchinson who is working at the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners of North Yorkshire on a community mapping project. The aim of the project is to produce a detailed report of the local communities of North Yorkshire to improve how the PFCC interact with key stakeholders and representatives. He has requested if he may be invited to attend a Council meeting to establish policing and crime concerns of residents and gain an understanding of key stakeholders in the local community.

Action: Clerk make contact to extend invitation to attend Council meeting.

- 9.2. Email from North Yorkshire CC Highways department advising that incidence of serious flooding on the A19 near to Whitefield Lane has been examined and the area inspected, and repairs will be arranged within the next 90 days.

Action: Remedial repairs to be monitored

- 9.3. The Clerk tabled the lasted copy of the bi monthly magazine "Local Councils Update".

Action: Cllr White to pass on the magazine to other Councillors following review of contents.

- 9.4. Cllr White has written advising the Council in his capacity as Treasurer to the Whitley Allotment Association that the three-year Agreement between Whitley Parish Council and Whitley Village Allotment Association is about to expire and needs renewal. He is proposing that renewal be on the same basis as previous years with the Parish Council being allocated one third of the annual rental income collected in each financial year ending 31 December. The reasoning behind the sum is that current rental income is running at £900 per annum with fixed costs of £300 for insurance and water and a rental allocation of £300 to the Parish Council leaving the Association with £300 to cover repairs and consumable expenditure.

Cllr Humphrey sought clarification that the proposed agreement would stipulate the Parish would receive one third of annual rental income that would in which case rise or fall in proportion to rents received. He was given assurances that the management committee of the association had no intention to reduce the rental charges to plot holders and therefore subject to successful letting of plots income is not likely to fall.

Cllr White gave undertaking to present a copy to the Council of the approved annual accounts of the Whitley Allotment Association and a draft of the renewal agreement that would include details of the rental allocation and also an amendment to the clause 5.2 which will now stipulate that plots will solely be allocated to Whitley residents.

Action: Copy of Approved Annual Accounts to be forwarded for presentation at the next Council Meeting.

Action: Draft of agreement between Whitley Parish Council and Whitley Allotment Association to be prepared for review and sign off at the next Council meeting.

10. Planning Matters: Planning applications that have been circulated to Councils are:

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| 10.1. | 2019/0096/HEN Toffee House, Doncaster Road |
| 10.2. | 2018/1421/FUL The Paddocks, Templar Close |
| 10.3. | 2019/0094/PPP Firs Court Doncaster Road |
| 10.4. | 2019/0105/MAN2, Poplar Farm, Doncaster Road |

No comments were received from Councillors and no objections submitted in connection with the planning applications.

11. Council Finance & Administration

11.1. **RFO Report as of 26th March 2019:** The Clerk presented the following financial summary of expenditure to 26th March 2019

Bank/Account	Income since 1 st April 2018	Expenditure since 1 st April 2018	Of which is 106 expenditure	Current Balance	Notes/Comment
Santander Deposit	374.82	3,000.00	Nil	73,437.04	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account (Cash Book)	15,576.35	15,471.26	4,683.95	1,514.18	No interest
Total Bank Balances				<u>74,951.22</u>	
Less following funds:					
Protected 106 funds		3 x Play areas/ROS and the Tree Lines.		52,804.45	
Other protected funds		A19, WHS Defibrillator fund		3,144.65 355.00 <u>69.60</u> 3,569.25	
Total Protected funds				56,373.70	
PC Reserve 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.		12,401.40	
Total protected/reserve funds				68,775.10	
Balance:					
Unprotected funds available to the Council		Current account balance + 106 Funds available to transfer		<u>6,176.12</u>	Includes cheques payable in 11.2

The Clerk presented his report on the financial position of the Parish Council and tabled income and expenditure statement providing details of receipts and payments during the year to date. Cllr White sought clarity concerning the magnitude of the Council reserves and observed that the Whitley Historical Society funds may at some future point be released as this project is now complete.

- 11.2. **Accounts Payable:** The following cheque payments were approved, and the cheques prepared and signed.

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £
22357	Myeloma UK - donation	25.00
22360	J R Hunter – Clerk Salary Feb & March 2019	329.54
22359	HMRC – PAYE on Clerk Salary Feb & March 2019	82.40
22358	S Cole – reimburse cost of banner for Christmas Lights	57.04

- 11.3. **Accounts Payable Retrospectively:**

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £

12. Recreational Open Spaces in Whitley:

12.1. ROS and Play Areas:

- 12.1.1. Clerk advised the meeting that he had made arrangements with Jim Taylor to repair the bins on Learning Lane and the Daffodil Park and install the new notice board in Daffodil Park. Scheduling a date and time was in hand.
- 12.1.2. The Clerk advised the meeting that he is liaising with HAG's the nominated supplier to arrange a date and time to fix the replacement railing in the Blackthorn Close Play Area.
- 12.1.3. The Clerk presented the Council with two alternative models of Park bench supplied by Glasdon's. After consideration the Glasdon Phoenix Model was selected at a cost of £437.52 plus VAT, a price that was in line with the budget agreed in the previous months Council meeting. It was agreed the replacement bench would be sited in the same area as the existing bench on the junction of Doncaster Road and Whitefield Lane but located further forward away from the branches of the tree. The original bench is to be retained and stored at the grounds of the Whitley Allotments.
- 12.1.4. The additional bin for the Nature Reserve has been ordered from Selby Council who will deliver and fit in the desired location.
- Action:** Clerk to expedite the order.
- 12.1.5. Cllr White advised the Council that some fence panelling in the Park is damaged. The question of responsibility for the maintenance of the Daffodil Park was discussed and Cllr White agreed to review repair costs.

12.2. **Parks and Verges:**

12.2.1. The Clerk advised the Council that Bedford Mowing had been re-engaged for the forthcoming cutting season under the same terms and price as last year. It was agreed that first cut should be commenced following the litter pick scheduled for 6th April and the Clerk undertook to take on the role as primary contact with Bedford Mowing.

12.2.2. Cllr White drew the Councils attention to gaps in the hedging and requested approval to purchase saplings to fill the gap, which approval was granted.

12.3. **Repair / Maintenance of Underpass:** This is a work in progress and needs to be carried forward for consideration in future meetings. Cllr Humphrey expressed the view that refreshment of the underpass is needed and shared his aspiration that the project be completed by the end of the year. Cllr White summarised two basic options one being to identify the original artist or a suitable alternative artist to renovate the work the other simply to paint over the entire mural. Cllr White speculated that the latter option would not be well received by the local community. The key issue is one of manpower and securing appropriate permission from Highways. NYC Cllr McCartney questioned the costs of the work and was advised that paint would be in the order of £1,000 to which labour must be added. NYC Cllr McCartney suggested that if appropriate quotations were secured that application could be made to North Yorkshire County Council for funding support. He pointed out the Tom Jenkins would be the relevant officer to contact but also offered some £500 of financial support from his own community support fund which monies would be available from June.

Action: Budgets to be prepared and quotations obtained for presentation the next Council meeting. NYC Cllr McCartney to chase up Highways to get their involvement in sorting out the underpass so the work can be commenced and completed in the Summer.

12.4. **Community Litter Pick:** The event will be held on Saturday 6th April and promoted via a posting on the Council Facebook page and notices pinned on the village notice boards. The plan is for volunteers to meet on the car park of the George and Dragon at 10:30am, the equipment will be delivered the day before and confirmation has been secured by our insurers that we have appropriate public liability cover. Groups will be arranged into teams to tackle the southern end of the village from the George and Dragon Pub to Silver Street the other group will take on the northern end possibly up to the Underpass. The state of litter on Gravel Hill and Booty Lane was mentioned however it was considered that the extent of the litter in this area is beyond the scope of a community pick.

Following completion groups will return to the George and Dragon at 12.00 pm at which location bags will be left for collection on the following Monday; coffee and refreshments will be provided. Subject to the community response and success of the event another litter pick could be considered in the future.

12.5. **Replacement bench on Whitfield Lane:** The Clerk presented the Council with two alternative models of Park bench supplied by Glasdon's. After consideration the Glasdon Phoenix Model was selected at a cost of £437.52 plus VAT, a price that was in line with the budget agreed in the previous months Council meeting. It was agreed the replacement bench would be sited in the same area as the existing bench on the junction of Doncaster Road and Whitfield Lane but located further forward away from the branches of the tree. The original bench is to be retained and stored at Whitley Allotments.

Proposed: Cllr Humphrey Glasdon Phoenix Bench be purchased at cost of £437.52 plus VAT. Seconded Cllr Cole Carried Unanimously.

- 12.6. **Other issues or matters to report:** The Community Payback team have been active in cutting back shrubs in the Park and on the pavements along Doncaster Road up as far as Rosslyn. These are 4 big sacks of cuttings that will need transport to Selby Waste. Cllr White will contact Selby Council requesting recovery or alternatively source a suitable van to accommodate the volume of waste. Councillors commended upon the success of the work undertaken by the Community Payback team and acknowledged the significant contribution made by their efforts. Other areas for clearance were considered including the tree line.

Cllr White pointed out that the toilet facilities made available to the Community team by the Church was important and suggested that the Council may wish to make an appropriate contribution in recognition.

13. A19 Safety Matters:

- 13.1. **Speed Camera Data and VAS sign:** The installation of the VAS sign has been agreed upon following which the Council will receive an invoice covering their agreed contribution of £500.

14. AOB

- 14.1. Cllr Blackburn requested that the historical archive maps and documents be returned by Cllr Coney.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Coney to collect documents and return to Cllr Blackburn

- 14.2. Cllr Blackburn raised the issue of rough sleepers in Rosslyn and questioned whether there was evidence of vulnerable individuals or squatters on the premises. Damage to fencing and theft of gates on the perimeter of the property was also noted.

Action: The Clerk to contact Keith Armstrong Selby Community Officer and gain an update of any action taken following reporting of rough sleepers in the Rosslyn Property.

- 14.3. Cllr Cole updated the meeting on her investigation into Christmas Tree lights for the village. She had made enquiries with Leeds Highways who outlined options in the provisioning of lights.

The lamp posts to which lights are to be affixed must be converted to accommodate the necessary electric fittings. This would be at a one-off cost of £300 per lamp post.

Lights selected from a standard range could be hired at a cost of £300 per post. Alternatively, bespoke lights could be designed and manufactured at a cost of £500 per light in addition an annual maintenance fee of £100 per fitting per annum would be payable. Both options would cover annual installation, repair, electricity cost, removal and storage.

Cllr Cole envisaged that sponsorship would be sought to help finance the expenditure and to that end the Mushroom Farm has been approached with positive responses. Gale Common could also be canvassed for contributions. Cllr Cole also speculated that residents in the village may be approached to make donations.

It is worth noting that the timescale is tight if we hoped to have the lights available for Christmas 2019 as the necessary work needs to be carried out in July.

Cllr Humphrey shared his option that seeking resident donations is not likely to be viable and that given the significant expenditure it would be important that committed sponsorship is

secured before embarking on the project. Whilst the Council could make a contribution perhaps to cover the cost of the lamp post conversion it does not have sufficient financial resource with its limited precept to meet the majority of the annual operating costs.

Cllr White in supporting Cllr Humphrey's view also, suggest that seeking the experience of nearby Councils would be valuable; Burn have successfully installed Christmas lights and the knowledge they have gained concerning running costs and storage would be useful. In addition, it is important that project is brought to the attention of North Yorkshire Highways to gain the necessary support, advice and permissions, given that it is this agency that is responsible for the roads in the village.

Action: Cllr Cole will undertake further investigation into the options and consult with the appropriate bodies.

14.4. Cllr White sought the opinion of the Council in funding the provision of a permanent Christmas Tree to be planted in front of the George and Dragon. A 10ft tree that would grow at the rate of a metre a year would cost approximately £300. He suggested that he with the Councils permission approach the landlords to establish their view.

14.5. Cllr White advised the meeting that he had made further requests of Heathcotes about the fir trees outside Garnsway who had given assurances that they will cut them back.

14.6. Cllr White suggested that a news letter be produced next month. Cllr Humphrey recommended that the newsletter be issued in May following the Parish Council elections providing the opportunity to introduce the new members of the Parish Council.

14.7. Cllr White advised that he had been approached by a resident of Templar Close commenting on the absence of a bus stop at Templar Close. Questions were raised in the meeting as to whether there had ever been a bus stop on the site and whose responsibility was the provision of such facility. Cllr White indicated that he would make enquiries with the County Council transport department in a private capacity.

14.8. Cllr Humphrey advised that he had funded the purchase of flowers for delivery to Cllr Watson's funeral and subject to Council approval requested that the Parish reimburse him the cost of £70.

15. Confirm date and time of next meeting:

15.1. Next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 30th April 2019 at 7.00 pm, Whitley & Eggborough School Annex Building.

16. Meeting Closed: 9:05 pm