

Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm by the Chairman Cllr Humphrey.
2. **Open Public Forum (OPF), 30, April 2019**
 - 2.1. There being no matters or questions raised by members of the public the forum was closed 7.03pm.

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 30th April 2019 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School Annex Building Ref 15/19

3. **Present:** Cllr S Humphrey, Cllr F Blackburn, Cllr K Walton, Cllr S Cole and Clerk to the Council J Hunter.
4. **Apologies for absence:**
 - 4.1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Coney and Cllr J White.
5. **Disclosures of Interest:**
 - 5.1. There were no declarations of interest made.
6. **Minutes of meeting on 26th March 2019:**
 - 6.1. The Council agreed the minutes presented were a true record of the meeting held on 26th March 2019 and accordingly the minutes were signed by the Chair.
7. **Ongoing matters for information and action as required:**
 - 7.1. **Parish Elections:** The Clerk referred to correspondence received from the Democratic Services Department confirming that in the absence of additional nominations being presented there would be no contested elections on 2nd May 2019 and accordingly their appointment was ratified for the next three years. Cllr Humphrey suggested that at an appropriate point in the future the Council could consider co-option of a further two additional Councillors to achieve the full complement of seven members

The Clerk also, advised Councillors that as required by statute each Councillor is obliged to submit a return of expenses incurred in connection with the election including an advice of nil expenditure.

Action: Clerk to prepare expense forms for Councillors signature at the next meeting.
 - 7.2. **Community Mapping Project:** The Clerk referred to a communication with Sam Hutchinson regarding his request to attend a Council meeting in furtherance of the community mapping project being undertaken by the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners for North Yorkshire. He thanked the Council for the invitation to present details of the project and agreed that he would liaise with the Clerk and schedule a suitable time to attend a meeting in the near future.

Action: Clerk to schedule a time for Mr Hutchinson to attend a future Council meeting.

- 7.3. **Gale Common Motor Cross:** The Clerk advised that Council that the operators of the Gale Common Motor Cross had withdrawn their planning application and given this change in planning status enforcement application based on the existing planning approval, could now be pursued. To that end the email previously circulated to Councillors requesting Selby Planning Enforcement to take appropriate action has been forwarded to Rachel Smith, principal planning officer for Selby Council, and Rachel Robinson, planning enforcement officer for Selby Council.

Action: Clerk to expedite response to email and clarify further action.

- 7.4. **Gale Common Extraction Project:** Cllr Humphrey welcomed James Cranshaw and Helen Ainscough project co-ordinators for EP UK Investments to the meeting and invited them to provide an outline of the proposals in the furtherance of the extraction project.

They provided a summary of the status and future intentions in pursuit of the project objectives;

EPUK Investments owns a number of power stations in the UK including nearby Eggborough together with the Gale Common ash disposal site.

The Gale Common site which has been accepting ash from Eggborough and Ferrybridge power stations covers an area of 300 hectares. Extraction from the site has been ongoing for the past 15 years with current permissions held to extract 30,000 tonnes per year. During this time the northern quadrant of the site has been fully extracted, since restored and landscaped.

The inert ash can be recycled and used in the building industry and as a filler for historic coal workings to prevent mining subsidence. The ash extracted will be delivered not only to local customers in East Yorkshire but also to a wider network throughout Yorkshire extending into Nottinghamshire.

A planning application which will be submitted sometime during May will seek permission to increase extraction for export from the Gale Common site of up to one million tonnes per annum. Prior to submission and to engage with the public three rounds of consultation events have been conducted at Cridling Stubbs, Whitley and Eggborough. Out of these meetings key areas of concern have emerged:

- 7.4.1. The state of the roads in and around the Gale Common as a result of the condition of the HGV's leaving the site.
- 7.4.2. Dust and noise emanating from the site during the extraction process.
- 7.4.3. Impact on the roads in the local area from the HGV's.
- 7.4.4. The increased volume of HGV traffic.

Practical measures will be initiated to ensure that HGV's are free of dirt and debris before entry onto public roads; wheel washing, jet washing and inspection of lorries before exit from the site. This undertaking will be included not only as a requirement within the planning application but also as part of the section 106 contractual agreement providing a basis for legal redress in the event of breach.

The operators on the site have over 20 years' experience in the management of ash extraction and the control of dust and vehicle movements in the site to minimise ash particles. Noise levels on the site will be reduced locating machinery away from residential areas and behind earth bunds.

Whitefield Lane and Doncaster Road offering the shortest route to the M62 will be used as the exclusive route by all HGV's leaving and entering the site. This will mean 260 HGV movements to and from per day over 5 ½ days per week. To mitigate traffic noise for residents on Whitefield Lane the project has secured an option to purchase a strip of land parallel to the Eastern End of Whitefield Lane to construct an additional road exiting onto the A19 providing an access road for HGV away from residential properties. This section will be masked from residents with the erection of fencing and plant landscaping. In addition, further stretches of Whitefield Lane and Cobcroft Road will be widened to facilitate traffic flow.

Cllr Humphrey thanked the team for their comprehensive presentation but made it clear that the Parish Council would argue against the current proposal to route all traffic through Whitley. As a Council acting in the best interests of its residents it will seek a better solution and the reasoned assessment of alternative options including the provision of an additional junction on the M62 adjacent to the Gale Common Extraction Site.

Mr Cranshaw assured the meeting that all options had been considered including approaches to the Highways agency for the construction of a motorway junction which had been rejected. Highways require the proximity of a major development residential or commercial before they will sanction additional junctions. In the absence of any further alternatives the planning application will be based on the current route through Whitley.

Cllr Walton requested details of any environmental studies and was advised that the planning application will be supported by appropriate expert statements that support the conclusion that the proposals will meet health and environmental standards on pollution, noise and vibration and as such will have no significant impact on the local population.

Cllr Blackburn pointed out that the land opposite Whitefield Lane onto which the new road is to be constructed has already experienced subsidence, located as it is directly over historic mine workings. He also questioned whether consideration had been given to a one-way traffic routing system for the entry and exit of HGV's bringing incoming traffic via the A19 through the village along Fulford Lane and Northfield Lane onto the site and for exiting traffic along Whitefield Lane.

Cllr Walton questioned whether alternative transport options had been considered including rail and traffic. The EPUK team explained that the local rail network is already overloaded and too slow to meet their requirements coupled with the fact that their customers have little or no access to rail distribution centres.

Mr Cranshaw concluded the presentation with the confirmation that EPUK are committed to opening the Phase 1 for public access. The 200 acres of land fully restored incorporating trees, shrubs and grassland will be maintained as a protected nature reserve provisioned with toilet facilities open for access during the week-ends and during the week by pre-arranged appointment.

Subject to planning, a community liaison group will be established to monitor observance and ensure compliance with the terms of the planning approval. This group will be supplemented with the establishment of a special interest group Friends of Gale Common that will assist in the development and access to the nature reserve.

Following the presentation Mr Cranshaw and Ms Ainscough left the meeting.

The Councillors discussed their reaction to the presentation and the current proposals. The meeting considered options in responding to the plans as set out and agreed that prior to the submission of the planning application an email outlining the position of the Council together with objections should be sent to meet the EPUK deadline for consultation response of 2nd

May 2019. In addition, Cllr Humphrey would investigate potential expertise to which the Council may refer in their opposition to the plan.

Action: Clerk to draft email to EPUK Ltd and circulate to Councillors for approval prior to forwarding. Cllr Humphrey to source expert advice and fees.

7.5. **Whitley Community Group:**

7.5.1. Cllr Humphrey provided details of his communication with David Broadbent Chair of the Community Group, whom he understands is now the sole active member of the organisation. Further action in respect of which is on hold pending the completion of the decision of the Church Commissioners in respect of the proposed Pastoral Church Buildings Scheme. Business plan documents have been drafted in anticipation of ratification of the scheme; plans that David is happy to share with the Council.

Action: Cllr Humphrey to contact David Broadbent requesting copies for the plan for review.

7.6. **Whitley Allotment Association:** Cllr Cole tabled a copy of the proposed rental agreement between Whitley Parish Council and the Whitley Allotment Association.

Proposed: Cllr Humphrey; the draft agreement be approved and signed. **Seconded:** Cllr Walton – carried unanimously.

Action: Agreement signed by Cllr Humphrey on behalf of the Council and by Cllr S Cole as Chair of the Whitley Allotment Association.

7.7. **Roslyn Property:** The Clerk advised the Council that Keith Armstrong Selby Community Warden had been notified of the state of the derelict property on Roslyn Field and concerns regarding potential for rough sleepers who in turn has referred to the matter to Selby Empty Houses Officer.

Action: Clerk to follow up notification with the relevant department of Selby Council

8. **Correspondence received:**

8.1. The Clerk advised the meeting of the receipt of confirmation from the Church Commissioners of England of the draft Pastoral Church Building Scheme proposal. Representations are now invited for or against the scheme to be delivered by 6th June 2019.

Action: Post formal notice of the Pastoral Church Building Scheme on Whitley Parish Council notice boards. Cllr Humphrey to post details of the proposed scheme on the Whitley Parish Council website.

9. **Planning Matters:**

9.1. Details of weekly planning applications to Selby Council have been circulated to all Councillors. There were no applications received in respect of properties in Whitley.

10. Council Finance & Administration

10.1. Draft Annual Return Statement for year ended 31st March 2019:

10.1.1. The Clerk tabled the draft Annual Return Statements for the year ended 31st March 2019 and presented a reconciliation of the summary income and expenditure figures with the detailed transaction reports.

Annual Return	Year to 31 Mar 2019	Year to 31 Mar 2018
Balance brought forward	76,898	79,439
Precept, Rates and Levies	10,625	10,625
Other Receipts	989	987
Staff Costs	-2,505	-2,406
Loan interest & capital	-6,568	-5,437
Other payments	79,439	83,209
Total Cash & Short Term Funds	76,466	73,964
Total Fixed Assets	93,995	94,750
Reconciliation Statement		
Balance brought forward	79,439	83,209
Deduct: VAT	-1,328	-2,917
Deduct: Ring fenced funds play area	-1,862	-6,545
Add: Defibrillator fund	217	217
Box: Total cash & short term	76,466	73,964

10.2. **RFO Report as at 26th March 2019:** The Clerk presented the following financial summary of expenditure to 30th April 2019.

Bank/Account	Income since 1st April 2019	Expenditure since 1st April 2019	Of which is 106 expenditure	Current Balance	Notes/Comment
Santander Deposit	37.44	1,000.00	Nil	72,511.89	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account (Cash Book)	1,000.00	1,308.02	260.00	174.85	No interest
Total Bank Balances				<u>72,686.74</u>	
Less following funds:					
Protected 106 funds		3 x Play areas/ROS and the Tree Lines.		52,544.45	
Other protected funds		A19, WHS Defibrillator fund		3,144.65 355.00 <u>69.60</u> 3,569.25	
Total Protected funds				56,113.70	
PC Reserve Funds		Legal Action and Complaints against the Council. Future Development and Facility Provision –Buildings. Future Development and Facility Provision – ROS.		12,401.40	

		Future Development and Facility Provision -Nature Reserve. Unexpected/unforeseeable expenditure.		
Total protected/reserve funds			68,515.10	
Balance:				
Unprotected funds available to the Council		Current account balance + 106 Funds available to transfer	<u>4,171.64</u>	Includes cheques payable in 10.3

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.

10.3. **Accounts Payable:**

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £
22361	HAGS – replacement fence on Blackthorn Close Play Area	312.00
22362	Yorkshire Local Council Association	401.00
22363	S Humphrey – reimbursement of flowers for Cllr Watson funeral	70.00
22342	Cancel cheque to Commi Corp	(100.00)
22364	Replacement cheque to Commi Corp subscriptions for Local Council Update	100.00
22365	Glasdon – bench on Whitefield Lane	525.02

10.4. **Accounts Payable retrospectively:** The following cheque payments were approved and the cheques prepared and signed.

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £

10.5. **BankTransfers:**

10.5.1. The transfer of £1,000.00 from Santander Deposit Account to Santander Current Account was approved and the transfer form signed.

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

11.1. **ROS and Play Areas:** The first grass cut of the growing season was noted. Cllr Walton suggested that given the state of the hedges in the Daffodil Field application of weed killer should be requested.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Bedford Mowing to request herbicidal weed spray.

- 11.2. **Parks and Verges:** The Councillors discussed Cllr White's proposal for the acquisition of a permanent Christmas Tree to be sited at the front of the George and Dragon. The Councillors concluded that whilst there was no objection to consideration of the proposal the suitability of the PH balance of the soil at the location should be investigated before proceeding with the plan.

Action: Cllr White's proposal to be further discussed at the next Council meeting.

The Clerk advised the meeting that the notice board for Daffodil Field had been delivered and arrangements are in hand for Jim Taylor to install at the required location.

- 11.3. **Repair / Maintenance of Underpass:** The Clerk advised the Council that Cllr White is suggesting that subject to NYC Councillor McCartney's discussion with Highway's the maintenance of the underpass be put on hold for the moment.

Action: Clerk to make enquiries with NYC Councillor McCartney concerning his progress and report back to the next meeting.

- 11.4. **Community Litter Pick:** The encouraging turnout and the success of the litter pick was noted; with the observation that similar exercise could be conducted later in the year.

- 11.5. **Replacement Bench on Whitefield Lane:** The Clerk advised the Council that the bench had been ordered on pro forma invoice terms and following clearance of the Council cheque delivery would be arranged straight to the site.

Action: Clerk to liaise with supplier and Jim Taylor to co-ordinate delivery and installation.

- 11.6. **Other issues or matters to report:** There were no other issues to report.

12. A19 Safety Matters:

- 12.1. **Speed Camera Data and VAS sign:** The Clerk advised the meeting that the installation of the VAS sign was progressing with completion expected sometime at the end of May early June.

13. AOB:

- 13.1. Cllr Humphrey advised the meeting of his engagement with the Local Liaison Committee of the Southmoor Energy Centre based at Kellingley Colliery. The initiative is the construction of a proposed energy from waste facility capable of producing 26MW of electricity and heat for supply to nearby businesses.

14. Confirm date and time of next meeting:

- 14.1. **Next Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 7.00 pm, Whitley & Eggborough School.

15. Meeting Closed: 8:55 pm