

# Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm by the Chairman Cllr Humphrey.

## 2. Open Public Forum(OPF) 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

2.1. No members of the public joined the virtual meeting nor were there any comments and questions raised with the Clerk prior to the meeting. The public meeting was closed by the Chair.

## Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Virtual Online Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020 Ref 01/20

3. **Present:** Cllr Humphrey, Cllr Walton, Cllr Cole, Cllr White, Cllr Woodhead, and Clerk to the Council J Hunter.

### 4. **Apologies for absence:**

4.1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Blackburn.

### 5. **Disclosure of Interest:**

5.1. There were no disclosures of interest from any member of the Council.

### 6. **Minutes of the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 of Whitley Parish Council.**

6.1. The Council agreed that the minutes of the Whitley Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 are a true record and accordingly were approved for signature by the Cllr Humphrey the Chair.

**Action:** Clerk to deliver copy of the minutes for signature by Cllr Humphrey.

### 7. **Opening matters for information and action as required:**

7.1. **Gale Common Extraction Proposal:** The Clerk informed the meeting that North Yorkshire County and Selby District Councillor McCartney had advised that as yet no communication had been received from the Office of Nigel Adams MP concerning the issues raised by the Whitley Action Group during his meeting with members of the Group.

**Action:** Cllr Woodhead on behalf of the Whitley Action Group to contact Nigel Adams office to chase up the communication.

The Clerk informed Councillors that a meeting of the North Yorkshire County Planning Committee was scheduled to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 during which session the Gale Common Extraction Application was to be considered. Given the current Covid-19 lockdown arrangements the meeting would be conducted online Chaired by the North Yorkshire County Council Chief Executive with the Chair of the Planning Committee in attendance. No information was available concerning arrangements to permit any members of the public or interested parties to participate in this virtual planning meeting nor what if any further representations would be accommodated.

The Council considered next steps particularly the importance of understanding the protocol that will be adopted in the determination of the application and the extent to which the Council as representative of the local residents should be heard at the planning meeting given the long term impact that the proposal will have on its community.

**Action:** The Clerk to seek confirmation of the nature and timing of the planning meeting to discuss the application and to seek clarification of the planning process and right of public and the Parish Council to access and make representation at the planning meeting.

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

8.1. Email from resident of Whitley Farm Close: expressing concern that the lock on the gate to Daffodil Park could be compromised allowing unauthorised and illegal access to Daffodil Park and would the Council consider the purchase of a height barrier to inhibit entry.

**Action:** email to be circulated to Councillors for comments.

8.2. Email notification from North Yorkshire County Area 7 advising that the 'slurry sealing' of the footpaths through the whole length of the A19 will commence in the next few weeks. During the work operatives will be maintaining 2m social distancing. Email duly noted.

8.3. Email from Chair of Heck Parish Council requesting support from neighbouring Parish Councils in their objection to Sellite/Thomas Armstrong Glass Plant Planning Application. The Councillors discussed the request and concluded that Whitley Parish Council will not be recognised by Selby District Planning as an official interested party and as such any comments raised by Whitley Parish will carry little weight and provide no grounds for legitimate objection. The Council do consider that there is merit in sharing information between local Parishes concerning industrial planning applications within the region to jointly consider the impact that such developments will have not only within the Parish directly affected but the ramifications and consequences upon adjoining communities.

**Action:** Cllr Broadbent to email Chair of Heck Parish Council advising of the decision of Whitley Parish Council. The Clerk to email local Parishes to explore the notion of collective participation in a suitably constituted committee to share information and collaborate in addressing planning applications from commercial operations development of which will have a marked affect on the communities within the region.

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

9.1. There were no planning applications or decisions on applications during the month.

## 10. Council Finance & Administration:

### 10.1. RFO Report as at 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020:

Bank/Account	Income since 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Expenditure since 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Of which is 106 expenditure	Current Balance	Notes/Comment
Santander Deposit	37.06		Nil	72,953.15	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account (Cash Book)		1,868.94	230.00	262.78	No interest
<b>Total Bank Balances</b>				<b><u>73,215.93</u></b>	
<b>Less following funds:</b>					
Protected 106 funds		3 x Play areas/ROS and the Tree Lines.		50,000.45	
Other protected funds		A19, Defibrillator fund		2,644.65 <u>69.60</u> 2,714.25	
Total Protected funds					
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	
<b>Total protected/reserve funds</b>				65,116.10	
<b>Balance:</b>					
<b>Unprotected funds available to the Council</b>		Current account balance + 106 Funds available to transfer		<b><u>8,099.83</u></b>	Includes cheques payable in 10.2

The Clerk presented his report on the financial position of the Parish Council with reference to detailed income and expenditure statements providing details of receipts and payments for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 in addition to income and expenditure statements for the first period of the new financial year to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020 previously circulated to all Councillors by email with hard copy to Cllr Blackburn. The Clerk referred to queries raised by Cllr White concerning the accounts the response to which was emailed and circulated to all Councillors:

1. Which contractor undertook grass cutting in the park? – Bedford Mowing carried out their last cut of the Parks on 18<sup>th</sup> March, since which date cutting has been undertaken by George Fillingham.
2. When is the refund of VAT claimed? Refunds of VAT are claimed once per year in July.

3. Why does the recent Selby District Council Tax bill show a small increase of 0.6% in the Parish Precept? The reason for the increase is that the number of band D equivalent houses in the village has fallen from 405.9 houses in 2019/20 to 403.5 houses in 2020/21, which means that although the precept request at £9,000 remains the same year on year the number of houses over which it is allocated is lower for the new financial year generating a small increase in the per household charge.
4. What is the nature of the payment to HMRC? This is the PAYE collected from the salary of the Clerk.

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

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payable to:</b>	<b>Amount: £</b>
22450	Bedford Mowing	276.00
22451	Yorkshire Local Council Association	409.00
22452	BHIB Ltd – insurance	672.00
22453	Commi Corp – Local Council update	100.00
22454	J R Hunter – Clerk salary	329.54
22455	HMRC – PAYE	82.40

The Council approved the expenditure and cheques were raised for signature.

10.3. **Accounts Payable retrospectively:**

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payable to:</b>	<b>Amount: £</b>
22446	Selby District AVC – t/a Community House	35.94
22447	Signtext	96.00
22448	S Humphrey – Portable PA system	162.98
22449	S Cole – lights and chocolates for Christmas Lighting event	58.98

The cheques raised retrospectively were approved.

## 11. Recreational Open Space in Whitley:

11.1. **Parks and Verges:**

11.1.1. **Review of grass cutting:** The Council expressed their satisfaction of the cutting of the grass in the Daffodil Park and Play Areas. The Clerk advised that he would progress the cutting of the bund from Silver Street to Millfield with Bedford Mowing.

Cllr White suggested that he arrange a virtual conference call with Cllr Humphrey, Cllr Cole and the Clerk to discuss the maintenance work arising out of the inspection report on the Play Areas. This meeting would consider the various options and circulate proposals to Councillors for discussion at a future Parish Council meeting.

**Action:** Cllr White to arrange conference meeting.

Cllr Cole noted that some of the fencing around the Calor Gas enclosure needs repair and questioned whether maintenance of such fencing was the responsibility of the Parish. Cllr White informed the meeting of previous communication he has had concerning repairs to their facility and suggested he write to Calor to expedite action.

**Action:** Cllr White to correspond with Calor regarding repairs and circulate details to Councillors.

**12. A.O.B.**

- 12.1. Cllr White suggested that given the provision of the two additional wheelie bins to residents in the village he was proposing to deliver more wheelie bin speed stickers to properties on the A19. Cllr Humphrey suggested that Cllr White pass a batch of stickers to Cllr Cole, Cllr Walton, Cllr Woodhead and Cllr Broadbent who would liaise with their immediate neighbours to affix the stickers to their wheelie bins.
- 12.2. Cllr Walton advised that she keeps in touch with all the over 80's to ensure that they are receiving appropriate support during the lockdown. There have been no specific requests for assistance.
- 12.3. Councillors discussed the difficulty for Cllr Blackburn in joining the virtual meetings given his limited access to the web and smartphone technology. Cllr Cole offered to make available an ipad that could be used to facilitate access and would contact Cllr Blackburn to discuss the option.

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

- 13.1. **Next Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 7pm via 'Zoom' video conference.

**14. Meeting Closed:** 7.35 pm.