

# Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm by the Chair Cllr Walton.

## 2. Open Public Forum(OPF) 18th Oct 2022

2.1. The meeting was joined by residents of a property situated on Lee View immediately adjacent to the play area. They explained a problem with the activity of children and young adults while playing games of football in the designed play areas. Given the particular location of their property opposite the play area as a result of natural enthusiasm the children are kicking balls onto their land and on occasion causing damage to external facia of their home. The residents stressed that they would not wish to curtail or limit the activity of the children's games but wondered whether the Council would permit the planting of a suitably positioned line of trees or bushes that would serve to act as a barrier. The residents outlined a proposal to the Council indicating that they were happy to cover the cost of the trees and planting and were simply seeking to explore the attitude of Councillors to such an idea.

Councillors sympathised with the residents and agreed that a strategically planted addition to the tree line at the perimeter of the play area offers an attractive and practical solution.

**Action:** The residents agreed to investigate planning options and present proposals to Whitley Parish Council for consideration during the next Parish Council 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 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School Annex Buidling – 05/23

3. **Present:** Cllr Walton (Chair) Cllr White (Vice Chair), Cllr Woodhead and Clerk to the Council J Hunter.

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

4.1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Blackburn & Cllr Humphrey.

### 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 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022:**

6.1. Amendments to the draft minutes were agreed, it should be made clear the July meeting was conducted via Zoom conference as access to the school was limited during the exceptional weather conditions, the reference to PCO in agenda item 7.1 means Protective Cost Order, in agenda item 11.1.3 is was agreed Tunstall Health would be asked if they would support the management of the planters with the donation of plants. Subject to these amendments it was resolved the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022 were a true record 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:** Cllr White provided a summary of the video conference meeting between the Parish Council and its legal team of solicitor and barrister. Notwithstanding the limitations to Protective Cost Orders (PCO) that we have sought to set in the prosecution of the appeal the matter has reached a stage such that the Parish Council would be liable to settle the amount of the PCO of £6,000 whether the action was progressed to the hearing or whether the Parish Council withdraw from the appeal. This means that costs would be due even if the Parish Council ceased all further action concerning the matter.

Parish Councillors acknowledged that give these circumstances that their would appear to be no alternative other than to progress the appeal and that a further £6,000 is required to be found from within the Whitley Parish Council budget.

**Action:**

1. Clerk to make enquiries with potential donor given the change in circumstance and the Parish Council's crystallised liability for £6,000.
2. Clerk to establish the impact on the Parish Council budget of an additional cost of £6,000
3. Parish Councillors to pursue approaches to the Crowd Justice scheme to determine the process and seek support from our legal team in setting up a campaign.

7.2. **Allotment Association:** Cllr White reminded Councillors of the points discussed during last months Parish Council Meeting concerning the renewal of the agreement between the Allotment Association and the Parish Council and held over for decision at a meeting with a full complement of Councillors.

1. The amount of the annual rental for the next term of three years.
2. The notice period to be served on the Allotment Association should the Parish Council wish to dispose of the land currently set at 12 months.
3. Registration of the land by the Allotment Association as public property with the local authorities thereby giving the Allotment Association the option of first refusal if the Parish Council choose to sell the land.

It was agreed that the matter be carried over until the next Parish Council meeting in November.

7.3. **Arriva Bus:** Councillors reflected on the proposed new bus service to accommodate residents in Whitley. Copies of the timetable of the 476-bus route have been delivered to residents in the community considered to be regular users of the Arriva service, notably homes on Whitefield Lane, and Whitefield bungalows. It is understood the employees of the Mushroom Farm and Tunstall Health utilise coach transport provided by the respective companies, and that young adults attending Pontefract College have dedicated buses. The possibility of establishing a private shuttle bus like the service operated between Pontefract and Cridling Stubbs was mentioned as a potential alternative.

It was recognised that the key issue facing Arriva was the ever-decreasing numbers of passengers using their services compounded by the Covid pandemic and the prolonged closure of the A19.

Cllr Woodhead referenced ideas discussed at an online meeting hosted by Gillian Ivey and the conclusions reached by those attending the session including risks in the access to provision for healthcare for residents with pharmacies and GP's located in Askern, Snaith or Pontefract.

Cllr White closed the discussion confirming that he would be attending the monthly Selby & Ainsty Area Committee Meeting to contribute to the agenda item discussion on the issue of the reduction of bus services in North Yorkshire.

- 7.4. **Charitable Donations:** Councillors recognised that with the pressure on the Parish budget careful consideration needs to be given to any charitable donations to be offered. The Clerk provided a summary of the contributions made by the Parish in previous years, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Selby District Council Chairpersons Christmas Appeal, Selby District Vision and the Kellington and Whitley Parish Church.

**Action:** Clerk to establish details of whether there is to be a Selby Chairpersons Appeal.

The matter will be carried forward to the Parish Council meeting in November to agree recipients and amount of donations.

- 7.5. **Events during Autumn & Winter:** Councillors agreed to continue their regular hosting of the Commemoration of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Daffodil Park on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November that will be promoted on the Community Facebook page. A wreath will be provided for the event at a budget of £25.

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 from residents on Lee View concerning issues arising from the activities of children and young adults using the play areas adjacent to their property. The residents attended the meeting, and their concerns were discussed as part of the open public forum reported above.

8.2. Social Media

8.2.1 There were no postings of social media to report relevant to the meeting of the Parish Council.

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. **2022/0997/OUT** Rosslyn, Doncaster Road, Whitley. Outline application including construction of a new access for residential development following demolition of a dwelling and outbuilding. The Clerk summarised the content of the application covering the provision of 9 dwellings with double garage and private drive. 4 of the homes will be located with direct access to Doncaster Road the other 5 being set back on the private driveway. The details of the application were considered by the Councillors who concluded there were no issues to be raised or grounds for objections to be lodged. It was noted that such a development would be subject to a s106 financial arrangement in respect of which the Parish Council would have a legitimate interest.

**Action:** Clerk to register the Parish Council interest in the s106 agreement with the Selby Planning Department. In addition, reference should be made to the position of the bus shelter adjacent to the George and Dragon whose relocation would need to be included as a condition to planning approval.

- 9.2. 2022/0268/FUL** Land off Larth Close, Whitley. Erection of 8 dwellings and garages. Councillors noted that following planning approval work has commenced on the development that will be subject to a s106 agreement.

**Action** The Clerk to lodge an interest in the proceeds of the s106 agreement with the Selby District Planning Department.

- 9.3.** Councillors noted the possibility of a new planning application being submitted for the build of 3 homes on the plot of land currently situated at 1 and 2 Whitefield Lane.

**Action:** The planning register to be monitored for the submission of a planning application at this location.

## 10. Council Finance & Administration:

### 10.1. RFO Report as at 18/10/2022:

Bank/Account	Income since 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	Expenditure since 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022		Current Balance	Notes/Comment
Santander Deposit	6.80			15,219.29	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account (Cash Book)	9,317.00	7,701.49		15,445.08	No interest
<b>Total Bank Balances</b>				<b>30,664.37</b>	
<b>Less following funds:</b>					
Allocated Funds		Crossing		1,798.71	
Total Allocated funds				1,798.71	
Debtor		Due from Cridling Stubbs PC		2,750.00	
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.		28,865.66	
VAT due for reclaim				278.00	
<b>Total Unallocated Parish Funds</b>				<b>33,692.37</b>	

The Clerk presented his report on the financial position of the Parish Council referring to income and expenditure statements providing details of receipts and payments for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022. Income to date is £15,275 including the second tranche of the parish precept of £4,500. This compares with expenditure of £16,806 that includes the provision for the cost of the pedestrian crossing at £3,201 and settlement of the Gale Common protective cost order of £10,000. The net deficit is £1,531.

The Clerk also, presented a cash flow summary analysing month by month the actual receipts and payments up to Sept with a forecast of income and expenditure for the remainder of the year to March 2023. The forecast cash flows included the cost of the installation of the drainage in Daffodil field incorporating a contingency for cost escalation of £1,100. The amount of this expenditure is mitigated by the receipt of grant of £8,000 from Selby District Council as a contribution to the project. It was noted the anticipated cost of the Over 80's Christmas Parcel would be £450 rather than £400 as initially projected. In addition, provision needs to be made for the cost of the relocation of the parish notice board from All Saints to the George and Dragon at a budget of £250. The consequent balance of funds forecast to be carried over into the new year was £15,048.94.

The Clerk reported that the cheque payment of £2,750 made by Cridling Stubbs to the Gale Common Campaign returned unpaid by the bank as been rectified with a replacement cheque delivered by the Chair of Cridling Stubbs Parish Council.

Cllr White advised that following the completion and billing for the pedestrian refuse he will approach the Crime Commissioners Office to ascertain whether the surplus grant of £1,798.71 being the excess of the contribution of £5,000 over the actual cost of provision of £3,201.29 needs to be repaid. Cllr White suggested that any free surplus could be best invested in another A19 project.

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

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payable to:</b>	<b>Amount: £</b>
22520	North Yorkshire County Council	3,201.29

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

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payable to:</b>	<b>Amount: £</b>

**10.4. Bank Transfer:.**

<b>Transfer</b>	<b>Payable to:</b>	<b>Amount: £</b>

## 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.

- Cllr White confirmed that he has received a quote for £50 from a local farmer to cut the hedges on the perimeter of Daffodil Field Park.

***It was resolved by unanimous vote a budget of £75 be approved to cover the cost of the hedge cutting.***

- Cllr White reported that the formal offer of £8,000 for the drainage work has been received from Selby District Council who have presented forms for signature prior to the release of funds into the Parish bank account. Pending receipt Cllr White advised that he will approach Sweetings the nominated contractor to determine the logistics and report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

11.1.2 **Management of Moles:** The extent of the infestation of moles in Daffodil Park and along sections of the verges has been discussed with George Fillingham who is a registered pest controller.

11.1.3 **Management of Tree on Lee View:** It was noted the decision of the Council in connection with the state of the Oak Tree on Lee View has been communicated to the resident.

11.1.4 **Verge cutting:** Councillors questioned the status and accuracy of the bills received from George Fillingham. The Clerk confirmed that invoices rendered had been undercharged based on the agreed contract; the deficiency has been acknowledged and the shortfall will be invoiced. At which point the cost of verge and park cutting will be up to date and within the original budget.

11.1.5 **Community Payback:** Cllr White advised that the Community Payback scheme has now been resumed and have agreed to re-engage with the Parish Council. The governors of The Whitley and Eggborough Community Primary School have agreed to make available their toilet facilities to the payback team members. It is anticipated that some work will be commenced during November or December at which point the logistics for such access will be agreed.

## 1. A19 Safety:

1.1. **Speeding on A19:** Cllr White reported on the continuing problem of downloading data from the VAS. The suppliers of the equipment have been approached and will be attending on site to resolve the issue within the terms of the warranty.

## 2. A.O.B.

- Cllr White enquired whether the date of the Parish Council Meeting scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 could be changed to 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023. **Action:** Clerk to poll all Councillors by email to consider the change of date.

- Cllr White requested an update on the publication of the financial data under the requirements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return AGAR 2021/22. The Clerk advised that the only outstanding matter was the receipt of the External Auditors report from PKF, who have advised that there was a delay in completion of their work due to time pressure.

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

**3.1. Next Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7pm at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

**4. Closure of meeting:** 9:20 pm