

Whitley Parish Council

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

Open Public Forum (OPF), 20th Nov 2018

2. Notes from the OPF

- 2.1 A member of the public advised the Council meeting that they had noticed a blocked gulley on the west side of the A19 between street lights W20 and W19.
Action: The Clerk to inform A7 Selby and request clearance of the drains.
- 2.2 A member of the public informed the Council that they had received a letter from Selby District Council following the Heathcote's Planning Enquiry which stated that the matters requiring compliance would be followed up by 24th October and questioned whether such action had been undertaken and if so what was the outcome?
Action: The Clerk to seek clarification for Selby District Council Planning concerning the follow up actions.
- 2.3 At 7.10 pm the OPF was closed.

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November 2018 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School Annex Building Ref 11/2018

3. Present: Cllr S Humphrey, Cllr F Blackburn, Cllr S Cole, Cllr A Coney, Cllr J White, Cllr Walton Cllr Watson North Yorkshire County Cllr McCartney (NYC Cllr) and Clerk to the Council Mr J Hunter.
4. **Apologies:**
 - 4.1 Apologies for absence. All Councillors were present at the meeting.
5. **Declaration of interests:**
 - 5.1 No declarations.
6. **Minutes of the last meeting on 9th October 2018**
 - 6.1 Cllr White noted that the draft minutes had recorded in error that Cllr Walton as absent from the meeting. The Clerk advised the Council that since distribution of the draft this omission had been corrected and the actual minutes presented for approval had Cllr Walton recorded as present. The point was noted; the Council agreed the minutes presented as a true record of the meeting held on 9th October 2018 and accordingly the minutes were signed by the Chair.
7. **Ongoing matters for information and action as required:**
 - 7.1 **All Saints Church:** The Clerk confirmed to the Council that the Arch Deacon would be available for a meeting to discuss further actions in connection with the All Saints Church on Tuesday 11th December. Cllr White and Cllr Walton offered subject to diary commitments to attend such meeting on behalf of the Council.

Action: Cllr Walton and Cllr White to check diaries and confirm availability and Clerk to liaise with Diocesan Secretary regarding timing of meeting.

The question of the Council policy of donation to the Church was discussed with conclusion that given the present uncertainty over the Future of the Church and the effect on it's ministry to Whitley Residents the matter would be carried over for discussion following the meeting with the Arch Deacon on the 11th December.

- 7.2 **Friends of Whitley:** Progress on the Christmas Tree Lighting event was moving ahead according to plan. A promotional banner had been printed and displayed in front of the George and Dragon. Whilst potential turnout is uncertain the level for catering has been informed by the attendance at the recent Halloween Party and it is anticipated that expenditure will be in the region of £190 which is short of the £250 budget.

Soup, hot drinks, mulled wine, mince pies and a selection of juices will be offered to participants. The tree which will be procured from a local supplier at cost of £50.00 and will be erected and decorated on the day by volunteers. The George and Dragon will secure compliance with electrical test standards.

The Choir from the Whitley Primary School will attend to lead the community event.

Subject to the successful outcome of this year's event and positive feedback from residents the Friends of Whitley would have ambitions to extent the coverage of Christmas Lighting in the village perhaps gaining involvement of pupils of the Whitley CP School in proposing designs and layout ideas.

- 7.3 **Remembrance Day Service:** Cllr Watson briefed the Council on the Remembrance Day Service. Attendance was good thanks to the promotion of the ceremony in the recent leaflet drop. It was a simple yet effective service during which Cllr White read out the names of the fallen during both the First and the Second World War of residents of Whitley.

Action: A wreath and plants for the War Memorial had been provided by Cllr Watson and Cllr White at a cost of £30 and £10 respectively. **Cllr Humphrey proposed** that such expenditure be reimbursed to the Councillors. **Seconded by Cllr Coney. Carried Unanimously.**

- 7.4 **Village History:** Cllr Coney tabled a USB stick holding the digitised records of maps and historical documents. The original hard copies were returned to Cllr Blackburn. It was agreed that the digital information be uploaded onto the Council Website for public access.

Action: Cllr Humphrey to arrange for the digitised documentation to be uploaded onto the Whitley Parish Council Website.

8. **Correspondence received:**

- 8.1 There was no correspondence for Councillors to review.

9. **Planning Matters:**

9.1 There have been no planning applications nor decision notifications made following the previous Council meeting on 9th October 2018. The Clerk advised the Council that he had made enquiries with WDH Ltd concerning their interest development of the land at Rosslyn. They were progressing slowly with their own plans in connection with the development but would not be ready to submit any planning application until well into the new year. It was noted by Councillors that Rosslyn field is becoming derelict and there have been several incidents of trespass and environmental health issues.

Action: Clerk to advise Selby District Council of possible environmental health matters and level of trespass incidents.

10. **Council Finance & Administration:**

10.1 **RFO Report as at 20th November 2018:** The Clerk presented the following financial summary of income and expenditure to 20th November 2018.

Bank/Account	Income since 1st April 2018	Expenditure since 1st April 2018	Of which is 106 expenditure	Current Balance	Notes/Comment
Santander Deposit	230.12	3,000.00	Nil	73,292.34	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account (Cash Book)	14,264.85	11,197.44	4,903.45	3,894.92	No interest
Total Bank Balances				<u>77,187.26</u>	
Less following funds:					
Protected 106 funds		3 x Play areas/ROS and the Tree Lines.		52,584.95	
Other protected funds		A19, WHS Defibrillator fund		3,144.65 355.00 <u>69.60</u> 3,569.25	
Total Protected funds				56,154.20	
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				68,555.60	
Balance:					
Unprotected funds available to the Council		Current account balance + 106 Funds available to transfer		8,631.66	Includes cheques payable in 10.5

10.2 Accounts payable:

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £
22336	Bedford Mowing Services	984.00
22337	B Crossdale	25.00
22338	Vision ICT	246.00
22339	Wheelie Clean Bins	75.00
22400	John Watson – Remembrance Wreath	30.00
22401	Communi Corp – subscription to Clerk and Councils Direct	100.00

10.3 Accounts Payable retrospectively:

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £
22335	K Walton – elderly Christmas Gifts	450.00

- 10.4 The Clerk tabled a detailed statement of anticipated financial expenditure for the forthcoming year 2019/20, which showed an expenditure requirement of around £9,000.00. Projected funds available to the Council at the end of 2018/19 would be about £15,000. As under general guidance it is recommended that Councils maintain reserves approximately equal to one year's expenditure it was noted the Parish has more than sufficient unrestricted reserves for 2019/20.

The Councillors reviewed the budget statements and debated options in the management of the financial reserves which included consideration of:

- (a) given the level of reserves, a one-time reduction in precept requirement for 2019/20 or
- (b) a lowering of the precept requirement going forward into the future in recognition of the financial position or
- (c) further expenditure / investment on projects for the benefit of the village and residents.

The Clerk tabled, for information, the impact of various levels of precept requirement on the Council Tax bill for residents.

Action: The Councillors to review the draft budget statements provided by the Clerk and consider the alternative options in setting the precept for 2019/20 in anticipation of decision at the next Council meeting on 15th January 2019.

11. Recreational Open Space in Whitley:

- 11.1 **ROS and Play Area:** It was observed that the gate on the Lee View play area does not close automatically. The tree line by Lee View and Blackthorn Close is becoming overgrown.

Action: Cllr White inspect Lee View and report back. Cutting back tree line to be considered during Spring next year.

11.2 Parks & Verges:

- Cllr Watson reviewed the current state and experience of grass cutting and verge maintenance in the village. It was noted that many residents in the village manage their own verges although the road alongside the Common is not managed. The state and quality of the cutting continues to be a problem, especially within the Daffodil Park. It was agreed that ideally the Park should be tended by a dedicated gardener. Cllr Cole volunteered that there was a member of her own family who may be interested in providing gardening services.

Action: There will be more cuts scheduled for next year throughout the growing season. Consideration will be given to contracting with a dedicated gardener to service manage Daffodil Park.

- It was noted the Hedges along the perimeter of Daffodil Park now been cut.
- The Clerk table details of the Litter bins supplied by Selby District Council and confirmed the bin would be delivered and located by Selby District Council. It was agreed that a square slatted open top litter bin of 112 litre capacity be purchased. **Proposed:** Cllr Humphrey, a litter bin be purchased to be located at the front of the entrance to the Nature Reserve. **Seconded** Cllr White – Carried Unanimously
- The Clerk advised the Council that Cllr White had approached Area 7 regarding the state of the pavements on Doncaster Road and had been advised that application had been made by Selby District Council for funding to carry out a slurry sealing scheme for the A19. **Action:** Clerk to confirm that agreement has been obtained by Area 7 for implementation of the proposed scheme.
- Cllr White advised the Council that he had inspected the footbridge by the lock and considered that it was secure and safe. It was noted the issue was not with the lock footbridge but with the footbridge by the underpass. Cllr Humphrey's agreed to inspect.

11.3 **Repair / Maintenance of Underpass:** Cllr White reported that he was unable to trace the artist who painted the original mural. A simple repaint job would be in the order of £750. Area 7 would need to be consulted

Action: Clerk to consult with Area 7.

11.4 **Whitefield Lane Bench:** Cllr White advised the Council that the bench was in need of attention as there were cracks appearing in the concrete at both ends. It is unlikely to be capable of repair and the Council may need to consider the provision of a new bench which could be dedicated to Whitley men fallen in both Wars.

Action: Options to be considered at next Council meeting.

11.5 **Bulb Planting:** Cllr Watson reported that all bulbs had been planted; a third in Daffodil Field the remainder being distributed throughout the village.

11.6 **Community Payback Team:** Cllr White summarised the work undertaken over the year by the Community Payback Team and advised that the only other possible item is painting of the bench on Whitefield Lane. Given the success Cllr White suggested that a letter of thanks from the Chair of the Parish to the Community Team would be appropriate.

Action: Cllr White to provide details of Community Payback Team contacts.

12. **A19 Safety matters:**

12.1 **Speed Camera Data:** Cllr White raised the question of the VAS on the A19 situated opposite the George and Dragon pub. It appears following enquiries with North Yorkshire Council Highways department that the VAS is beyond economic repair. The Clerk outlined details of the new scheme to be introduced in April 2019 under which Councils could acquire VAS systems that can be deployed for a limited period of 6 weeks every 3 to 6 months. There would be a financial contribution that would be required from each Council the precise amount of which is yet to be determined
Action: Cllr White to communicate with Darren Griffiths of North Yorkshire Highways to discuss options in the repair or management of the VAS.

12.2 **Double Yellow Lines:** Cllr Watson updated the Parish Council on his and NY Cllr John McCartney's meeting with the Heathcote's management team. He explained that at the day of the meeting there were no cars parked on the A19 or in Whitley Farm Close. There were 12 staff vehicles all parked within the footprint of the Whitley Farm Cottage site and 5 on the Whitley Park site opposite. It is apparent that with the odd exception all staff vehicles can be parked on the site - however this clearly takes good deal of organising on a daily basis as all the vehicles are parked closely, and of course this means that vehicles leaving will require other vehicles to be moved to allow this to happen. The Service manager said she believed other options for parking had been explored including liaison with the Sunday Market Landowner to establish whether parking spaces would be available on their land during the week.

It was also suggested for consideration that spaces may be available in the nearby Whitley Allotment car park. NY Cllr John McCartney indicated that he may be able to obtain funding to improve the car park surface and in turn the Heathcote's management suggested that they may be able to fund CCTV and lighting. The Parish Council whilst noting the offer always recognise their responsibility to allotment holders whose need for access to parking spaces is essential particularly on the weekend.

Cllr Watson expressed his disappointment, despite an undertaking, in the failure of any member of the Heathcote's management to attend this meeting. Nor, has there been any further communication from Heathcote's to explore the matters. Indeed, the only action has been in the lodgement of complaints accusing certain Whitley Farm Close residents of anti-social behaviour.

NYC Cllr McCartney explained that notwithstanding these issues with Heathcote's parking the provisioning of double yellow lines have been proposed to address matters of highway safety.

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

- 13.1 Cllr White noted the progress being made in the provision of pumping station to significantly improve drainage on the fields to the east of the village.
- 13.2 Cllr White proposed that he produce an article to be published in Selby Times highlighting the success of the Police Campaign in the targeting drivers speeding on the A19 Doncaster Road.

14. **Confirm date and time of next meeting:**

14.1 The next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday 15th January 2019 scheduled to commence at 7.00 pm, Whitley & Eggborough CP School Annex Building.

15. **Meeting Closed at 21:40pm**