

Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm by the Chairman Cllr Humphrey.
2. **Open Public Forum (OPF) 19th November 2019**
 - 2.1. A member of the public questioned whether the Council had received any information concerning the recent flooding on Booty Lane. Cllr Humphrey noted that he was aware of the magnitude of the flooding but had no further insight into the causes. It was observed that the water pumping station at Lee Lane had been turned off to facilitate the management of the flooding at Fishlake Village which would impact water levels in the surrounding countryside.
 - 2.2. A general discussion followed concerning the extent and quality of the drainage in and around the community; actions undertaken by the Coal Board in the provision of pumping stations and the maintenance of the dykes to manage run off of water; the adequacy of the urban drainage network provided by North Yorkshire County Council and the knock on consequences of the construction of an additional road parallel to Whitfield Lane proposed within the Gale Common Extraction planning application. Cllr White suggested that enquires could be made of the regional drainage board to establish what if any actions are proposed to be taken in the management of flood risk in the future.
 - 2.3. The extent of the flooding on the section of the A19 just South of the junction at Whitefield Lane was mentioned; Cllr Woodhead whose property is adjacent to this area informed the meeting that he is in regular contact with Highways concerning the problem and has been advised that situation is being monitored and has been logged for attention at some point in the future.

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 19th November 2019 at Whitley and Eggborough Primary School Annex Building Ref 10/19

3. **Present:** Cllr Humphrey, Cllr Walton, Cllr Blackburn, Cllr White, Cllr Woodhead and Clerk to the Council J Hunter.
4. **Apologies for absence:**
 - 4.1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Cole and Cllr D Broadbent
5. **Disclosure of interest:**
 - 5.1. There were no disclosures of interest from any member of the Council.
6. **Minutes of the meeting on 15th October 2019 of Whitley Parish Council.**
 - 6.1. The Council agreed that the minutes of the Whitley Parish Council meeting held on 15th October 2019 are a true record and accordingly the minutes were signed by the Chairman Cllr Humphrey.

7. Opening matter for information and action as required:

- 7.1. **Gale Common Extraction Proposal:** The Clerk summarised the current status of the application. Following a request from EP UK Limited to extent the planning application we have been advised that the next available opportunity for review by North Yorkshire Planning Committee will be in January 2020. The Parish Council's formal objection has been lodged with the North Yorkshire Planning Officer who is managing the application, and this will be uploaded onto the planning portal for public access. Cllr Humphrey observed that nearby local Parish Councils have requested copies of our response and given that the objections can be accessed online he will simply reply referring them to the North Yorkshire Planning Portal.

A leaflet notifying residents of a Parish Meeting with representatives of EPUK Limited to be held at Whitley & Eggborough CP School scheduled for Tuesday 26th November had been drafted and distributed to all homes North of College Farm Close; the occupants of which will be significantly impacted by the proposed transport route. Cllr Woodhead confirmed that he understands from recent communication with members of the EPUK team that they continue in their resolve to press for planning approval of their proposal to transport the ash via HGV along Whitefield Lane and that they were looking during the meeting to establish the nature of residents' concerns and share details of the measures that they intend to put in place in mitigation. The nature of some of the mitigation proposed by the applicants were fencing along the new road on Whitefield Lane to inhibit noise levels, provision of triple glazing for homes along the route, and investment into a community fund for those Parishes affected by the proposal.

Action: Copy of the Parish Meeting leaflet to be uploaded onto Parish Council social media pages. The Clerk to provide a copy of the leaflet to the administration officer of Whitley & Eggborough CP School for distribution to parents. The Clerk to ensure that North Yorkshire and Selby District Council John McCartney was aware of the meeting.

- 7.2. **All Saints Church:** The decision of the Church Commissioners regarding suspension of services at the Church was noted. Cllr White observed that given the current circumstances of the Church that he felt that lodging an appeal would prove to be unsuccessful and that following due process the Church will vest the building with the Finance team for consideration of its future. It is recognised that the Whitley Community Group have input and interest in the response to any plans the Church PCC may have in any disposal of the property.

Cllr Blackburn questioned that given the decision, whether it was appropriate that Whitley Parish Council seek reimbursement of the donation made to the Church several years ago as a contribution to fencing and gates.

Action: Clerk email the Church Commissioners advising them of a request for reimbursement of their contribution to the Church in the provision of fencing and gates.

- 7.3. **Gale Common Motor Cross:** The Clerk advised that Council that he was awaiting a response to his email to the Chief Planning Officer of Selby Council copied to the Chief Executive of Selby Council and North Yorkshire and Selby District Councillor John McCartney requesting an update on the action taken following the issue of the Planning Contravention Notice. It was noted that the farmers field adjacent to the site had been brought back in use in direct breach of planning instructions.

Action: Clerk to speak with NY& SD Cllr McCartney requesting support in securing action from Selby Planning following the planning breaches.

- 7.4. **Community Litter Pick:** Cllr White commented on the success of the recent litter pick; 9 bags of litter were collected most of which arising from motorists and wind-blown refuse from recycle bins. It was noted that the provision of new wheelie bins for recycle waste may have a marked effect on the extent of the refuse litter.
 - 7.5. **Over 80's Christmas Gifts:** Cllr Walton advised the meeting that 18 residents have been identified and the Christmas Gift packs were being brought together for distribution.
 - 7.6. **Woodland Trust:** The Clerk referred to the recent offer from the Woodland Trust to provide trees to mark a tree planting event on 30th November 2019. Whilst the Council supported the planting of trees within the community, they recognised such an event needed some careful consideration and a strategic approach should be adopted in the future.
 - 7.7. **VE Day Commemorations:** The Council considered the notion of the event to be held on Friday 8th May at 3.00 pm and concluded that such celebrations will be better facilitated in larger towns and surrounding communities. It would be more appropriate for Whitley Parish to promote those events that will be organised by Selby District to mark the anniversary.
8. **Correspondence received:** The Clerk summarised details of correspondence received and copied to the Councillors via email prior to the meeting.
- 8.1. Notice of Parish Liaison Meeting hosted by Selby Council scheduled for 24th February, which will principally involve the Chair and Clerk to the Council.
 - 8.2. An update on the various events organised by Selby District in furtherance of the 950 year celebrations.
 - 8.3. An email from a resident informing the Council of an injury sustained by the resident's mother who stumbled on the grass verge leading into the Sunday Market at the bottom of Learning Lane. The Council whilst have sympathy for distress caused have limited influence and control over the condition and maintenance of grass verges and pavements in the village. This is something that comes under the auspices of North Yorkshire Highways to which department all issues can be addressed.
 - 8.4. An email from Selby Planning regarding the poor condition and state of maintenance of the land at Rosslyn requiring improvement within 21 days. **Action:** Clerk to monitor situation and request update from Selby Planning.
 - 8.5. An email from CEF advising of a meeting to discuss flood risk was noted.
 - 8.6. An email from CEF offering free training sessions for Community Energy Ambassadors. Cllr Walton advised that she had previously attended such a course.
 - 8.7. An email from Woodland Trust concerning Tree Planting Events was noted.
9. **Planning Matters:** The Clerk provided a summary of the planning applications for the month for review and consideration by the Council.
- 9.1. 2019/1195/FUL – Oldroyd Flooring – Unit 2, The Maltings Industrial Estate, proposed erection of side extension to existing industrial unit.

10. Council Finance & Administration:

10.1. RFO Report as at 19th November 2019:

Bank/Account	Income since 1 st April 2019	Expenditure since 1 st April 2019	Of which is 106 expenditure	Current Balance	Notes/Comment
Santander Deposit	258.86	1,000.00	Nil	72,695.90	Interest paid monthly
Santander Current Account (Cash Book)	13,730.19	10,865.71	2,574.00	3,347.08	No interest
Total Bank Balances				<u>76,042.98</u>	
Less following funds:					
Protected 106 funds		3 x Play areas/ROS and the Tree Lines.		50,230.45	
Other protected funds		A19, WHS Defibrillator fund		2,644.65 355.00 <u>69.60</u> 3,069.25	
Total Protected funds				53,699.70	
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				66,101.10	
Balance:					
Unprotected funds available to the Council		Current account balance + 106 Funds available to transfer		<u>9,941.88</u>	Includes cheques payable in 10.2

The Clerk presented his report on the financial position of the Parish Council and tabled an income and expenditure statement providing details of receipts and payments during the year to date.

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

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £
22430	Removal of green waste from Daffodil Park	20.00
22431	Wallflowers for Daffodil Park memorial	5.00
22432	HAGS – inspection of Play Areas and report	432.00
22433	Vision ICT – website hosting	247.80
22434	CR Wright – Christmas tree Norweign Spruce	420.00
22435	K Walton – Gifts for over 80's	450.00
22436	S Cole – wreath for Remembrance Day	20.00
22437	John White – Cuprinol for bench in Daffodil Park	12.00
22438	Kellington and Eggborough Church	50.00
22489	Danvm Drainage Commission	16.00

- 10.3. **Accounts Payable retrospectively:**

Cheque No.	Payable to:	Amount: £

- 10.4. **Budgets and Precept for 2020/21:** The Clerk reminded the Councillors of the draft budgets presented at the previous meeting and a discussion ensued considering the anticipated future financial requirement both in terms of regular annual expenditure and also potential adhoc costs that may be incurred next year. The current state of the Parish financial reserves were noted and given the healthy state of the bank surplus it was considered appropriate that the precept be maintained at the quantum agreed for 2019/20; any exception costs either for capital projects or unanticipated needs would be met from reserves.

Proposed: Cllr Walton, the precept request for 2020/21 be maintained at £9,000.

Seconded: Cllr White. **Carried:** unanimously.

- 10.5. **Other Protected Funds:** Cllr White sought clarification that the reserved funds for Whitley Historical Society (WHS) of £355.00 is no longer required. It was agreed that the amount be absorbed into the general reserve of the Parish together with the balance of the Defibrillator fund of £69.60.

11. Recreational Open Space in Whitley:

- 11.1. **ROS and Play Areas:** The Clerk presented details of a quote of £14,600 from HAGS to affect the necessary maintenance and repairs recommended in their Inspection Report.

Action: The Clerk to obtain competitive quotes from other suppliers.

- 11.1.1. Cllr White suggested that the general maintenance work; moss clearance, painting and rust management could be undertaken by the Community Payback team with the support of Councillors who would undertake to greet the working parties on the appointed days, provide some direction and a point of contact.

Action: Cllr White to liaise with Community Payback initiative to establish available dates and request support as appropriate.

11.1.2. Cllr White suggested that in the new financial year the Council may wish to consider replacement of some of the Playground equipment and perhaps poll residents to establish the community preferences.

11.2. **Parks and Verges:**

11.2.1. The boundary hedges along the Daffodil Park require cutting back:

Action: Clerk to request Bedford Mowing to cut back hedges on Daffodil Park.

The hawthorn between Silver Street and Millfield is overgrown and the verge alongside the bund is encroaching on the pavement.

Action: Cllr White to approach the farmer requesting cut back of the Hawthorn and include the verge management as part of work to be undertaken by the Community Payback Team.

11.2.2. **Nature Reserve:** Following the approach from a local ground maintenance contractor offering their services, the option of inviting a quotation was considered.

Action: The Clerk invite the contractor to visit the two sites in anticipation of providing a quote for various ground maintenance work. In addition, Bedford to be invited to update their quote for maintenance work on the Nature Reserve.

11.2.3. **Park Gates:** Action: Cllr Woodhead to remove the padlock on park gates and replace with new lock.

11.2.4. **Park Keepers:** Cllr will prepare draft job specification for discussion at the January meeting of the Parish Council.

11.2.5. **Litter Bins:** The repair and maintenance of the litter bins is to be actioned following the installation of the bench on Whitefield Lane.

11.3. **Christmas Tree:** The tree has been planted and preparation for the tree lighting event were being progressed and managed by the landlords of the George and Dragon. Cllr Humphrey will liaise with the landlords to establish if they require any promotion.

11.4. **Replacement of bench on Whitefield Lane:** The Clerk advised the meeting of the difficulties in expediting the installation of the bench. Jake the contractor had indicated the work would require two individuals quoting £300 plus materials; the completion of which is dependent upon weather particularly the extent of rainfall that had inhibited progress. Jake's limited availability to complete the work was questioned and consideration was given to approaching alternative contractors.

Action: Clerk to establish contractor's status and confirm dates and times for completion.

11.5. **Roslyn Vacant Property:** This item was considered during the review of correspondence item 8.4.

11.6. **A19 Resurfacing:** The complaint regarding the quality of the resurfacing has been lodged on the Parish Portal. It was noted that since the road works the surface material on the road has stabilised, however the condition of the pavement is showing significant deterioration. Cllr White reminded the Council that repair work on the pavements throughout the village has been scheduled during 2020/21.

12. **A19 Safety matters:** Cllr White advised the Council that he had received confirmation that a new initiative has been recently approved by North Yorkshire County Council under which a Parish could purchase mobile speed signs. Two locations in the village would be nominated at which permanent posts would be installed to house the mobile device. Every two months the sign would be situated at these locations. The total cost would be in the region of £3,000.

Action: Cllr White to investigate the scheme and present further details to the Council for review.

13. **A.O.B**

- 13.1. Cllr Blackburn reported that he had been approached by one of the residents at Whitefield Bungalows requesting whether consideration could be given to the addition of a dropped curb by the bungalows to support disabled pedestrians.

Action: Clerk to investigate the opportunity to request provision of curb.

- 13.2. Cllr Blackburn reported that the first streetlight on the turn in to the bungalows is not working, the main light is not functioning.

Action: Clerk to report the faulty streetlight.

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

- 14.1. **Next Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7.00 pm Whitley and Eggborough CP School.

15. **Meeting Closed:** 9.00 pm.