

Whitley Parish Council – Ref 5/2015

(Minute numbers should be preceded by the above reference prefix)

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 19th May 2015 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.36 p.m. by the Chairman.
 2. **Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman for 2015/16** – For the position of chairman, Cllr Blackburn, seconded by Cllr. Cole, proposed Cllr Humphrey. All those present voted in favour and Cllr Humphrey was elected as chairman for 2015/16. Cllr Broadhurst, seconded by Cllr Cole, proposed Cllr Walton for position of Vice Chairman. Following a vote, Cllr Walton was elected as vice chairman for 2015/16.
 3. **Acceptance of Office** - Cllrs Humphrey and Walton signed the acceptance of office forms and these were witnessed and signed by the clerk. All other councillors that were present also signed the acceptance of office forms and these were also witnessed by the clerk
 4. **Present.** Cllr S Humphrey– Chair, Cllrs. F Blackburn, K Walton, S Cole and P Broadhurst.
 5. **Apologies:** – Cllr Watson - Holidays - This was approved. The newly elected district councillor for Whitley DC White, indicated that she might be able attend later in the meeting.
 - 6 **Declaration of Interests** – None
 - 7 **Minutes of the last meeting**
 - 7.1 The minutes of the meeting on 21st April 2015 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record.
 - 8 **Matters Arising**
 - 8.1 Daffodil Park Information Board. The board is now in place and Cllr Watson is trying to get the school involved in the official unveiling. Cllr Watson is at present on holiday and he will give a report at a future meeting. The board is there to provide a history of Whitley and the Daffodil Park.
 - 8.2 Council Vacancy – Whitley parish council has a vacancy for one councillor. The clerk will contact the democratic services manger at Selby DC to seek advice on the procedure for appointing to the vacancy.
- Open PublicForum.** The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public to give their views and ask questions.
- ◆ **Steve Haywood** – A Whitley resident asked about the new public footpath signs that have been installed at various points in the village. There was a short discussion about NYCC

responsibilities for sign posting and then the general state of the footpaths, RoW and bridges over the drainage ditches.

◆ **John White.**

- ◆ He asked if it might be possible to co-opt former district councillors to fill the vacancy on the parish council. Noted.
- ◆ He noted that verge grass cutting has not been carried out in certain places. Poskitts have agreed to cut some of the verges along Whitefield Lane.
- ◆ Has the parish council any assets that can be sold to raise funds?
- ◆ Community Speedwatch – Has it started operating in Whitley? Councillors thought that the group had already visited the village.
- ◆ Hits on the Website? Short discussion about the number of hits and interpretation of the data.
- ◆ Wheely Bin Stickers. What is happening about the proposal to buy stickers?
- ◆ He asked about councillor allowances. Why do councillors take them? There seemed to some confusion about councillor allowances and councillor expenses. The clerk explained the difference and reason why the allowance is paid.
- ◆ Osgoldcross Luncheon Club – The contact information in the notice boards is out-of-date and Cllr Blackburn will supply new posters for the notice boards.

Amanda Coney

- ◆ Amanda mentioned litter and dog fouling and noted that fouling was in the fenced off children's play area. It was suggested that a "No Dogs" sign be erected in the playarea.

9. Correspondence received. (Items for comment/information.)

All items received recently have been circulated by email.

- ◆ NYCC – Consultation on reduction in bus services. Any councillor comments to be sent to the clerk.
- ◆ Letter re Thorpe Marsh Gas Pipeline

10. Finance & Administration

10.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 19/5/2015 as being:

Current Accounts. – Santander PLC £14,790.59, Co-op Bank - £3111.81. **Total Current Accounts £17,902.40**

Deposit Accounts – Santander PLC £23,940.06, Co-op Bank Deposit Account £50,701.17.

Total Deposit Accounts £74,641.23. Total cash held in bank accounts is **£92,543.63.**

Funds held in reserve – Playarea maintenance and other ringfenced funds **£80,017.62**

10.2 The following payments were approved and cheques signed: Retrospective approval – Cllr S Humphrey – Chairman's allowance 2014/15 £300, JR & L Taylor- £140. Other payments approved were - Clerk's expenses and accommodation - 6 months to 31/3/2015 £313, Cllr

Allowances for 2014/15 - 4 x £54.26 to Cllrs Walton, Davie, Humphrey and Watson, Danum Drainage 2015/16 £13.26, Aon Insurance – Premium for year to 31/5/2016 £629.17.

10.3 The clerk produced the 2014/15 annual return audited by Mary Farman. The audit report has been circulated by email and the chairman read out the report to the meeting. The clerk added that basis for the completion of the statutory annual return was the council accounts for the year to 31/3/2015, as circulated to councillors in April 2015. The annual return was approved for submission and signed by the chairman and the clerk (RFO)

11 Recreational Open Space in Whitley

11.1 Councillors reported that all playareas appear to be in good order with no noticeable problems. The clerk will study the detail in David Bracey's report and arrange for any necessary repairs to be attended to. The report did not highlight any areas that were high risk or required priority attention.

12 Grass Verges in Whitley

12.1 Cllr Watson is on holiday but he and Cllr Walton are to meet with Jim Taylor to discuss the verge-cutting schedule. Report will be made at the next meeting.

13. A19 Safety Matters

13.1 The councillors noted that the line marking on the A19 at the north entrance to the village has now been completed.

13.2 The A19 Safety Sub Group is to meet on the 26th May 2015 and the notes from that meeting will be reported at the next of the council.

14 Redemption of 21/2% consolidated stock

14.1 The clerk reported he has received notification that this gilt stock investment is to be redeemed by the Government. The parish council has held this stock since 1955 and the proceeds- £151.50- will be paid into the council's Santander current account.

15 Council meeting dates for 2015/2016.

15.1 The clerk presented the meeting with the suggested dates, which take into account the school timetable for 2015/16. There was a short discussion, councillors approved the suggested dates, and these will be posted on the notice boards and website with a copy to the school.

16 Chairman's & members' reports – No reports at this meeting

17 AOB

- 17.1 Cllr Cole said that she would be attending the next CEF meeting. She also added that she is willing to help with the delivery of the newsletters.
- 17.2 Cllr Humphrey said that all councillors would receive a copy of the newsletter prior to it going to print.
- 17.3 Cllr Humphrey read out to the meeting the letter from Gillian Ivey about her period in office as the Whitley ward district councillor. She thanked councillors for the help and support that she has received whilst in office.
- 17.4 The clerk pointed out that Jack Davie was our representative at Eggborough Power meetings and since he is no longer a Whitley councillors we need a new representative. Both Cllrs Walton and Cole offered to represent the council at EP.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.59 p.m.

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.