

Whitley Parish Council – Ref 7/2015

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

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 21st July 2015 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 p.m. by the Chairman.
2. **Present.** Cllr S Humphrey – Chair, Cllrs. K Walton, S. Cole, F Blackburn, P Broadhurst & J Watson. Also present was D Cllr White
3. **Apologies:** – No apologies received.
- 4 Declaration of Interests – None
- 5 **Minutes of the last meeting**
 - 5.1 The minutes of the meeting on 16th June 2015 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record and were then signed by the chairman.
- 6 **Matters Arising**
 - 6.1 Cutting of grass verges. Cllr Watson handed out to members, copies of his report on the cutting of verges. He then read out the main points included in the report and detailed the cuts that have already been made. Local farmers have done some work and he mentioned work that has been done by NYCC. He stated that he is not happy with the appearance of the J34 round-a-bout He then detailed where the next cuts would be made and that he will seek to ensure that costs will be kept within budget.
 - 6.2 Casual vacancy on parish council. The chairman reported that three people had responded to the to the advertised vacancy. Two of the three had not responded to his contact with them. Resolved - To leave the vacancy open for another week and then invite those who are still interested to interview.
 - 6.3 Waste Bins for Playareas - The clerk reported that the waste bins in Whitley Farm and Lee View sites are in poor condition and need to be replaced. Resolved – To order replacements bins to be funded from site-specific ring fenced maintenance funds.
 - 6.4 Dog Waste – Learning Lane – The school business manager said that they are not willing to fund 50% of the cost of installing waste bins on Learning Lane. It was suggested that the stencil supplied by Cllr J McCartney is used on pavements and Cllr Watson will contact Cllr McCartney for the loan of the stencil.
 - 6.5 Government Stock Redemption - The 2.5% Consolidated Stock will be redeemed in July 2015 at par value of £151.53 and this will be credited to the Santander current account.
 - 6.6 Speed Gun. This has now been loaned to Burn PC who will report back on the use. They are willing to pay a hire fee.

Open Public Forum. The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public to give their views and ask questions.

❖ **Mr Bob Brown**

1. Once again Mr Brown asked the councillors about the precept increase for 2015/16. The clerk will send him the working papers on the 2015/16 budgets for him to examine. These will detail the increase in the PC precept, the year on year increase and what he will be paying on his band D property in 2015/16 compared to previous years.

❖ **Mr John White asked the councillors about the following:**

1. Requested sight of 2015/16 budget estimates for parish council.
2. Queries on location of verges being cut by PC and NYCC.
3. Poplar Farm Site – Noted vegetation/weeds growth in front of site.
4. Christmas Lights – Proposals for Christmas 2015.
5. Who is the auditor for Whitley PC and how appointed.
6. Larth Close – Planning appeal. – Is PC represented?
7. Communications – Pen picture of parish councillors.
8. Burn PC contact details.
9. Cleaning of bus shelters in Whitley – Frequency?

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

- ❖ NYCC Local Transport Plan – Details circulated by email and on website. Any councillor or resident may respond to this consultation. Closing date is 15th September 2015.

8. Finance & Administration

- 8.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 21/7/2015 as being;

Deposit Accounts – Santander PLC £23,960.07, Co-op Bank PLC Deposit Account £50,701.17 - **Total Deposit Accounts £74,661.24**

Current Accounts. – Santander PLC £12,426.47 Co-op Bank £ 3,112.85. **Total Current Accounts £15,539.32.**

Funds held in reserve for future playarea maintenance = **£76,307.97.** Other ring-fenced and reserved funds = **£3,709.65.** Total is **£80,017.62**

- 8.2 The following accounts were approved for payment: JR & L Taylor - Verge cutting £300, HMRC – PAYE quarter to 30/6/2015 £150.
- 8.3 Co-op Deposit Account. Voted to reinvest for a further one year at 1.125%. The clerk will submit the authorisation letter before the due date. Period of investment will be to 8th August 2016.

9 Recreational Open Space in Whitley.

- 9.1 Councillors reported that they were not aware of any problems at the three playarea sites. Noted that waste bins are to be replaced.

9.2 There was a short discussion on the planned use of ringfenced funds and work on projected costs. Cllr White had spent some time on this but no decisions had been made about the types of expenditure likely and the timescale. Selby DC have asked for our proposals on the use of section 106 or CIL funds likely to accrue from the development of "Rosslyn" site. The clerk will reply with estimate of possible costs and type of equipment likely to be acquired to enhance the existing sites. New ROS sites are unlikely to be started due to lack of available affordable land.

10 A19 Safety Matters

10.1 The sub group has not met since the meeting reported on at the previous council meeting. The school has not replied to emails about getting involved in the group's work. With regard to the survey on providing a controlled crossing, only 16 replies were received and these were evenly balanced on the need for a crossing. Most were not sure that the PC should fund this project. There has been a poor response to raising funds from third party organisations and it was felt that the council's efforts on A19 safety should be on other solutions. The clerk will write to NYCC traffic engineers about the mobile VAS units that might now be available for hire.

11 Recruitment of Parish Clerk

11.1 The present clerk will be retiring in the near future and he and the chairman will prepare a job description and recruitment notice. This will be placed on the following websites: Selby DC, YLCA and our own website. The closing date for applications will be late September 2015.

12 A O B

12.1 Cllr Cole mentioned the problem of cars parked daily near to the old people's bungalows on Whitefield Lane and the cars belong mainly to workers from the care home. MP Nigel Adams has emailed her to say that he will do all he can to help with this problem.

12.2 C Cllr John McCartney mentioned the recent "Talk Selby Plan" event, which was about the 5-year supply of housing in the district. A recent planning refusal vote was omitted from the minutes and at later date the application was approved for 64 houses in Eggborough. He thinks that problems will impact on Whitley over the next few years. We must attempt to reject planning applications on grounds of sustainability and inappropriate development. There was short discussion on this matter.

12.3 Cllr Broadhurst. – He raised the matter of the wind turbine in Great Heck. We have not received any papers relating to this application. The application will be discussed at the parish rooms in Great Heck on Wednesday at 7.00 p.m. Whitley PC can object to this application and closing date is 28/7/2015. He also asked about parish plan and neighbourhood plan.

12.4 Cllr Blackburn mentioned the building work taking place on Templar Close and asked if a planning application had been approved.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.

Chairman

Date.