

Whitley Parish Council – Ref 6/2015

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

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 16th June 2015 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.32 p.m. by the Chairman.
2. **Present.** Cllr S Humphrey – Chair, Cllrs. K Walton, S. Cole, F Blackburn, P Broadhurst & J Watson.
3. **Apologies:** – No apologies received.
- 4 **Declaration of Interests** – None
- 5 **Minutes of the last meeting**
 - 5.1 The minutes of the meeting on 19th May 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 reported as follows: The first cut took place about 5 to 6 week ago and verges are due for cutting this coming Friday –19th June 2015. We are still unsure about what areas NYCC will continue to cut and it was noted that the area at the A19 end of Learning Lane has not been cut. Cllr Watson thinks that this area falls within the road safety criteria and this and other such area should be cut by NYCC. The farmers are cutting some areas but these cuts will not coincide with the work carried out by Jim Taylor. Cllr Watson thinks that the NYCC original cutting schedule was overstated by about two thirds.
 - 6.2 Speed Gun – The speed gun was bought in 2013 and it is not now in regular use. John White had used it to record speeding HGVs through the village with a follow-up letter of complaint to the companies concerned. Following a short discussion it was agreed to explore the options of loaning to other parish councils or selling it. Resolved - Cllr Broadhurst to explore these. Options.
 - 6.3 Transparency Code for Smaller Councils – The clerk explained the legal requirements of the 2014 Act for councils to publish financial and other data, The deadline for first publication is 1st July 2015 and the parish clerk will supply the information to the chairman for uploading onto the website.
 - 6.4 Forthcoming Events. These include the Police event, Plan Selby and the playarea inspection course. Those councillors who expressed an interest have been sent the details of the events. Cllrs Humphrey, Watson and Cole attended the police event they gave a short report about his discussions with the PCC Julia Mulligan. Cllr Humphrey explained that speed cameras were not regularly deployed in Whitley because we have two VAS units on the A19.

He added that a further VAS unit might be installed on the A19 at the northern end of Whitley.

- 6.5 Vacancy on the parish council – It was resolved to advertise the vacancy in the three notice boards and also on the website. The closing date for applications will be 20th July 2015. The candidate can be co-opted as a parish councillor and no election is required.

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

Malcolm Walker

- ❖ Mr Walker asked for clarification about the name of the A19 through the village for addressing purposes. It is know both as Doncaster Road and Selby Road and he thought this might cause some confusion for the emergency services.

Bob Brown

- ❖ Mr Brown asked about the 2015/16 precept increase and also the actual number of properties in Whitley. The clerk said that there were approximately 460 properties in Whitley explained the reasons for the precept increase, which was mainly due to the need for the parish council to cut the grass verges from 1st April 2015. NYCC contractors previously carried out this work.

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

7.1 Three items of correspondence have been received within the past three days:

- ❖ Community Awards Scheme – The chairman summarised the contents of the letter to the meeting
- ❖ Planning Application – It refers to a scheme outside the Whitley Boundary – No response to be submitted.

8. Finance & Administration

8.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 16/6/2015 as being;

Deposit Accounts – Santander PLC £23,949.90, Co-op Bank PLC Deposit Account £50,701.17 - **Total Deposit Accounts £74,651.07**

Current Accounts. – Santander PLC £13,619.00, Co-op Bank £ 3,112.67. **Total Current Accounts £16,731.67.**

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:: YLCA Course Fee £55, JR & L Taylor - Grass cutting £1,300

9 Christmas Lights in Whitley.

9.1 This item was raised by Cllr Broadhurst. He said he would like to see lights in Whitley. He has a tree that might be suitable and lighting could be via solar lighting and LEDs. A short discussion took place and it was resolved to accept the proposal in principle with further

investigation work to be done on the practicality and costs involved. Currently the only Christmas lighting in Whitley was the tree provided by the George & Dragon using the lights provided and owned by the parish council.

10 Recreational Open Space In Whitley

- 10.1 Reports on all three playareas indicated that there are no problems at present. The clerk reported that the waste bins on Whitley Farm and Lea View sites are in poor condition and require replacement.
- 10.2 The work Sue White has carried out on the use of ringfenced maintenance funds was not discussed at this meeting but it was agreed that this matter be included on the July 2015 agenda.

11 A19 Safety Matters

- 11.1 It was reported that a traffic survey is included in the latest newsletter and the school has been contacted so that it can provide input into the work being done by the sub-group. The group reported that there has been no success in raising funds from third party sources.
- 11.2 In view of this lack of funding for a crossing it was suggested that the group should concentrate in the short term on other safety schemes such as a new VAS unit and wheely bin stickers. The groups objectives on A19 safety and the survey results should be reviewed and implemented over a longer time period.

12 Recording of Council Meetings.

- 12.1 The clerk reported that new laws allow recording at council meetings and he suggested that the management of this be incorporated into the council's Standing Orders. The recording of council meetings is permitted under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. It was resolved that the model format of rules for the effective management of recording at local council meetings be adopted and incorporated into the Standing Orders of Whitley Parish Council.

13. Communications.

- 13.1 The chairman reported that the newsletter is now out, the website is up to date and Phil Cortez is running the Facebook site.
- 13.2 Cllr Cole said that she is willing to liaise with the local newspapers on any Whitley matters that we feel ought to be published that might be of interest to local residents and members of the public.
- 13.3 Emailing residents does work and they do visit the website. Is it possible to produce a mailing list for local residents so that information and local news can be sent by email?

14 A O B

14.1 Cllr Cole reported that dog fouling on Learning Lane is becoming a nuisance and it needs some action to curtail this. There are no signs and it was suggested that the school might be prepared to contribute 50% towards the cost of a dog waste bin. The clerk agreed to contact the school with this suggestion. At the recent CEF meeting it was reported that the crime rate in Whitley is down.

14.2 The chairman confirmed that the Whitley Truck Stop has planning permission to operate.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.

Chairman

Date.