

# Whitley Parish Council – Ref 11/2015

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

## Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 24th November 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, A Coney & J Watson. C Cllr John McCartney was in attendance.
3. **Apologies:** – D Cllr D. White
- 4 Declaration of Interests – None
- 5 **Minutes of the last meeting**
  - 5.1 The minutes of the meeting on 20th October 2015 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record and were then signed by the chairman.

### 6 Matters Arising

- 6.1 Cllr Watson outlined the position about getting the stickers put on the bins. The bins along the A19 will be dealt with by Cllr Watson and John White.
- 6.2 Parish Clerk Appointment. The chairman announced that Mr John Dickens has been appointed as clerk. The present clerk will act in the position of parish council RFO until the 2015/16 accounts and annual returns are completed. The appointment is for a 5-month probationary period starting on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016. At the end of this period both parties will review and discuss the position.
- 6.3 Increase in Local Crime. There was an update from Cllr Coney regarding Neighbourhood Watch and she will continue to monitor the situation and post information. Cllr Watson said that they are not looking to close the Eggborough police station in the near future and added that it was important that there was a police presence there. In view of the level of local crime, we must lobby the appropriate people/organisations to ensure the police station remains open.
- 6.4 Dog Fouling – A number of complaints have been noted about the level of dog fouling on both Learning Lane and on the Daffodil Field Park. Cllr Walton said a number of residents had contacted her about this matter. Points raised included the introduction of local bylaws and what positive action the council can take. Cllr Cole will look at the bylaw matter and will also contact the SDC dog warden to discuss the matter. She will also talk to Eggborough councillors and seek their advice on how they deal with the problem.

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

❖ **Mr Malcolm Walker**

1. He raised the matter of vehicles associated with the care home parking on the footpath on the west side of the A19. Clerk to write to care home manager with this complaint. This may well be a police issue because on many occasions the footpath is completely blocked.

❖ **C Cllr J McCartney**

1. John spoke about the matter of the possible closure of the Eggborough police station. He gave the councillors all the information that he had on the prospects for the continued police presence.
2. He update the councillors on the waste tip at Great Heck that was now being cleared by a number of agencies following the insolvency of the waste company responsible for the site.

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

1. He asked about the fund mentioned by C Cllr McCartney for the cutting back of overgrown footpath edging. The area in most need of attention is the stretch from Millfields to Silver St on the west side of the A19. There was a short discussion about this.
2. Speeding problems on A19. He enquired about the Community Speedwatch pilot scheme. Have the results been assessed? There is a need to apply more pressure on NY police to provide more police camera vans. The chairman agreed to write to Julia Mulligan on this matter. This has already been raised with the NY Police CC but it appears that their current policy is not to provide camera vans in Whitley. A short discussion on this matter followed.
3. Cleaning of bus shelters – Mr White thought that the number of annual visits by the NYCC cleaning contractors was insufficient. The current cleaning schedule is four times per year and the chairman felt that this was sufficient and the parish council was not able to take on the task of extra cleaning of the shelters.
4. Verge cutting – Cllr Watson to report at item 12 on this agenda.
5. He reported that he had 5 small conifers available to anyone who wished to have them.
6. Website – Information/communications. It appears that the Whitley Facebook is more popular than the website. He also asked about the newsletter and the frequency of publication.
7. Selby Times information about Whitley - Cllr Cole confirmed that information had been sent for publication but this had not been put in the paper.

❖ **Mr Bob Brown**

1. He again mentioned fly tipping near to Blowell House. The details had been reported to Selby DC for them to deal with this.

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

- 7.1 The clerk reminded councillors about the attendance at the CIL presentation at the Selby DC offices on the two dates in January 2016.
- 7.2 NYCC Waste & Minerals consultation – Details are on the website and the consultation period closes on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016. All residents may submit views/comments.

## 8. Finance & Administration

8.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 24/11/2015 as being;

**Deposit Accounts** – Santander PLC £24,000.14, Co-op Bank PLC Deposit Account £50,000. -  
**Total Deposit Accounts £74,000.14**

**Current Accounts.** – Santander PLC £17,317.06 Co-op Bank £ 3,113.57. **Total Current Accounts £20,430.63.**

Funds held in reserve for future playarea maintenance = £72,575.04, Other ring-fenced and reserved funds = £3,567.65. Total is **£76,142.69**

8.2 The following accounts were approved for payment: Retrospective approvals – K Issaks – Bin Stickers – £140.00, Over 80s Float to Cllr Walton £550, YLCA Course Fee £45, Renato Boi – Tree pruning £240. Other K Leppingwell – Net salary 6mths to 30/9/2015 £1275.75, Accom. and Expenses £313, Vision ICT Direct – Web Hosting £228. W & E School – Room Hire £78.

8.3 Precept 2016/17 – The clerk had prepared a paper on this, the details have already been circulated to councillors by email, and the paper was discussed at the meeting. The clerk recommended that the precept did not need to be increased for the 2016/17 year because at the start of the new financial year the free cash balance is expected to be about £12,900. This sum along with the precept will be more than adequate to cover the 2016/17 recurrent expenditure in addition cover any expenditure on non-recurrent items and expenditure on items of a capital nature. At this point it is not known if Selby DC will provide the same support grant at the same level as in 2015/16. There followed a short discussion and it was **resolved** to submit a 2016/17 precept request for £12,500. The clerk will prepare the necessary documents for submission to SDC.

## 9 Recreational Open Space in Whitley.

9.1 There were no reports of major problems with playarea equipment and grounds at the three village sites. All sites were in good order.

## 10 A19 Safety Matters

10.1 VAS units on A19 – There was a short discussion about the siting of the VAS units in Whitley and whether or not the hiring of the temporary VAS units from NYCC might be more effective in reducing traffic speed. I was generally agreed that the hire of these signs was not good value for money.

10.2 A further discussion took place about buying more modern signs that display speed and allow data logging and collection. It was felt that any new signs needed to be placed closer to the two entrances to Whitley. The clerk will contact Gary Lumb at NYCC highways to discuss options and check the NYCC protocols for road signs.

## 11 Christmas Tree in Village

11.1 Cllr Broadhurst has offered to organise the supply of a 10ft cut tree complete with lights and decorations. The tree will be erected close to the A19 in the Daffodil Park.

## 12 Verge Cutting Report

12.1 Cllr Watson has agreed to complete a report on the cutting of the verges in 2015 and that this will be presented at the January 2016 meeting. The report will detail costs, the areas cut and any problems that have been encountered during the year. He again reminded councillors that he considers that the NYCC cutting schedule area was overstated.

## 13 Donations 2015/16.

13.1 The clerk sought approval for this years donations and suggested that donations be at the same level as last year and to the same recipients:

Chairman's Charities Appeal	£100
Kellington & All Saints PCC	£100
Selby Dial	£50
Selby CAB	£250
Selby District Vision	£50

It was **resolved** that above donations be made for 2015/16.

## 14 A. O. B.

14.1 Cllr Walton reported that she has made good progress with the Over 80s Christmas parcels. There are now 22 Whitley residents eligible to receive the parcels.

14.2 Cllr Blackburn spoke about Osgoldcross Forum activity: - Big Lottery Fund Year 4 end report has been completed and submitted but no news yet about it being signed off. They have received a grant of £4,638 from the NY Police Commission to run several drugs, alcohol and substance misuses workshops by the end of summer 2016.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 p.m.

Chairman

Date.