

Whitley Parish Council

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 p.m. by the Chairman, Cllr. Humphrey.

Open Public Forum (OPF).

2. **Notes from the OPF:**

- No members of the public present wanted to speak.

2.1 At 7.30 pm the POF was close and the Parish Council Meeting opened.

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council Meeting held on 18th October 2016 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School. Ref 10/2016

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

3. **Present.** Cllrs. S Humphrey, K Walton, , P Broadhurst, A Coney & J Watson.

4. **Apologies:** – Cllr. S. Cole and Cllr. J Watson.

5. **Declaration of Interests:**

5.1 None declared.

6. **Minutes of the last meeting**

6.1 The minutes of the meeting on 20TH September 2016 were taken as read and agreed as being a true record and were then signed by the Chairman

7.0 Ongoing Matters for information and action as required.

The Clerk informed the meeting that:

7.1 The new bins had been delivered and fitted at Blackthorn Close ROS.

7.2 The Hedge at Daffodil Field will be cut at a cost of £230.00

8.0 Correspondence received. (Items for comment / information)

8.1 The Clerk informed the members that he had received an email and had a telephone conversation with Sharon Fox from Area 7 highways in relation to the request by the council for information on the proposed traffic survey which had been indicated by Mr. Steve Burrell, NY Police. She confirmed that the last data they had was from 2010, but that Whitley was definitely on the list to have a survey but the exact time and location she did not know. This information could be obtained by contacting NY Police Traffic Bureau.

8.2 Emma Whittles had forwarded a draft Local Eligibility – Allocation Cascade document in relation to the allocation of affordable houses proposed at the Gravelhill Lane site. It was agreed

that this would be an agenda item on the November meeting and Ms. Whittles would be invited to attend.

8.3 Resident Mr J White had passed on a letter in relation to sponsorship for the proposed Defribulator which stated that Watson Fuels, an oil supplier, have offered £250, and Flogas who supply LPG to a group cooperative in the village have offered £750. Mr White had also offered a personal donation of £50.00.

9. Finance & Administration

9.1 RFO Report: As of 18th October 2016:

Deposit Accounts:

Santander PLC	£24,110.61
Co-operative Bank	£50,560.96

Total Deposit Accounts:	£74,671.57
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Current Accounts:

Santander PLC	£13,759.09*
Co-operative Bank	£ 3,112.85

Total Current Account Balances	£16,871.94
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Total Cash balances; deposit accounts and current accounts	£91,543.51
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*Includes 2nd Precept payment from Selby District Council

Total Funds Ring-fenced for Play area Maintenance – Section 106 (includes current account ring fenced funds)	£68,972.07
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A19/WHS Ring-fenced Funds –	£ 3,499.65
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Total Ring-fenced Funds	<u>£72,471.72</u>
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9.2 **Accounts Payable** – Payments for approval: 2015/16:

The following cheques were signed by two authorised signatories and the corresponding invoices were also validated and signed by the Chairman.

JR&L Taylor, £1,495.00, invoice No's 58, 59 and 60. K Leppingwell* £180.00 – PKF work. PKF Littlejohn £379.20 - Annual return (100.00) and Additional fees* (£216.00) incl. VAT. YLCA £45.00, Course Cllr. Cole.

Retrospective: HMRC £166.88 for PAYE Q2.

*Additional fees due to information submitted to PKF Littlejohn requiring additional work; total £396.00.

9.3 Councillors discussed the additional fees incurred as a result of a resident complaining to PKF Littlejohn in relation to the annual account for 2015/2016. It was **resolved**, to record in the Minutes the extreme disappointment that the Council felt that this complaint had been made. That it had incurred addition cost to the residents of the parish and that it had brought the integrity of the previous RFO and the reputation of the Council as a whole in to dispute. It

was noted that no significant adverse issues or concerns were raised by either the local or national external auditors and that the national auditor did not feel it necessary to comment on the complaint made by the resident. In fact the feedback direct to the Clerk from the national auditor complimented Mr Leppingwell on the exemplary and well detailed documents he provided in response to the complaint and that the efficiency of his response had reduce the amount of extra costs incurred by the external audit.

9.4 It was further **resolved**, that the council will have to identify monies and hold these in a contingency fund in case there are future complaints or legal actions taken against the council which may incur additional unexpected revenue expenditure.

10.0 Recreational Open Spaces in Whitley

10.1 Cathcart Play Area Working Group:

Cllr. Humphrey informed the council that he and the Clerk had visited Cathcart Close to collect the survey sheets in relation to the proposal to have a play area on the central green. There were only 15 returns (total houses 34) of the 15; 11 (73%) were for the project, there was 1 unsure (7%) and 3 (20%) were against. The low numbers of returns were in his opinion insufficient to make a decision on and he recommended a further survey been undertaken. He also commented that feedback from some residents was that the underlying objective was more around protecting the area as a play area / village green rather than the actual installation of play equipment. There were also a number of views on the design with some envisioning a small fenced off area, others a fence around the whole area. While others had more of park with limited play equipment in mind. The council had still not received any responses from the original proposers of the play area as to their own vision of what they wanted to see.

A wide discussion then took place with comments that some people had underlying personal objectives as to why they were supporting a play area. That the survey had only asked about a play area and not, other development options. Concerns were raised about future maintenance costs, the parish council had received one quote of £1,400 to cut the grass for a year, and clearly others would be obtained if needed. Other cost concerns were around insurance, inspections and maintenance. The discussion then centred on the option to contact Selby District Council (SDC) to see if the area could be legally designated as some form of protected area either as a village green, a playing field without the provision of play equipment or other protected type of area which would mean children could still play on it with it still being maintained and owned by SDC rather than the parish council. It was **resolved** that the Clerk would contact SDC to establish what form of protection could be applied and if SDC would support this but still maintain the grass area. Following feedback from SDC a further survey would be undertaken.

11.0 A19 Safety Matters

11.1 Following on from the correspondence received, NY Police will be contacted in relation to date and location of the survey committed by them.

12.0 Future development of the village and the Parish Council's response.

12.1 Cllr. Humphrey raised the matter of the 106 funding reserves and the potential CIL funding which will come to the parish once some of the development that have planning permission in the village start. The parish council needed to have a more strategic plan for these funds and the existing 106 funds to assist the RFO in suggesting budgets and the advising of Precept levels. Consideration needs to be given to how the council looks at future projects and develops a strategic vision for the village together with a funding plan for any such projects. It was **resolved**; that the RFO provides a report and a briefing with suggested budgets and precept options.

13.0 Commemorative Planter Queens 90th Birthday

13.1. Clerk informed the council that questionnaires had been post to all the houses in the immediate vicinity of the proposed location for the planter. While distributing these, the Clerk had spoken to the owner of 1, Lee Court who house immediately looks on to the grassed area and he had no objection neither had the occupant of 1, Lime Tree Drive who he also spoke too. Unfortunately other than these conversations there had been no responses from the actual survey. Cllr. Humphrey stated that he would get an up to date price for the building of a planter, to be on the next agenda.

14.0 Defibrillator for the village

14.1 Cllr. Coney informed the meeting that she had been in aware of the offer for the £250.00 from Watson Fuels but not of the £750.00. She would also look into the possibility of logos being placed on the Defibrillator. There was then a discussion about funding the rest of the costs. The unit cost £1,524.00 including VAT, which is reclaimable by the council. Following the discussion Cllr. Humphrey proposed that all of the additional costs above the £1,000.00 sponsorship would be paid from parish council funds. This was seconded by Cllr. Blackburn and was put to the vote, all were in favour. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write and thank Mr White for his work in obtaining these sponsored funds. It was **resolved** that additional costs above the £1,000.00 sponsorship would be paid from parish council funds

15.0 Planting of bulbs in the village.

15.1 It was **resolved** to purchase bulbs to a maximum value of £50.00.

16.0 Redevelopment of the former Kellingley Colliery Site.

16.1 Cllr. Humphrey raised this matter as the proposal included a potential route for traffic from an exit on Sudforth Lane, and then along Whitefield Lane in the village. It could also be expected that traffic from Doncaster and further South could use the A19

through the village to access the site. It was agreed that this would be an item on the next agenda with a view to submitting a response from the parish council.

17.0 Christmas Tree.

17.1 Cllr. Broadhurst suggested the purchase of a Christmas tree similar to the one purchased last year. The live Christmas tree which was purchased and planted last year and which is being cultivated next to the mound and lectern, it will not be tall enough for a number of years. Councillors reported that they had received good verbal feedback about the tree last year. It was **resolved** to purchase a tree to the maximum value of £100.00.

17.2 Cllr. Humphrey then raised the matter of Christmas presents for the over 80's in the village. Cllr. Walton informed the council as far as she was aware there were 21 over 80's in the village. Cllr. Humphrey would place an item on the website/Facebook on the subject to see if there are more. It was suggested that a maximum of £25.00 per person (£525.00) be allocated. This will be endorsed in an agenda item at the next meeting.

18.0 A.O.B.

18.1 Cllr. Humphrey stated that he had been to the park to look at resolving some of the items that had been raised in the playground inspection report but these need a more professional approach. It was agreed that a quote would be obtained to do the work required from one of the local companies.

19.0 Confirm time and date of next meeting

19.1 The next meeting was confirmed as 22nd November 2016 at 7.30 pm, Whitley and Eggborough School.

20.0 Closure of meeting

17.1 The Chairman closed the meeting at 9 pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman:

Date: