

# Whitley Parish Council – Ref 1/2010

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

## Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 p.m. by the Vice - Chair Cllr Walton
2. **Present.** Cllr Walton– Chair, Cllrs. F Blackburn, S White, K Walton, and J Watson.
3. **Apologies:** Cllr Humphrey – holiday, Cllr Davie – travel problems and Cllr Gerrard - business
- 4 **Declaration of Interests** – None Declared

### 5 Minutes of the last meeting

- 5.1 The minutes of the meetings on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were agreed as being a true record.  
Proposed by Cllr. Walton, seconded by Cllr. Watson and signed by the chairman.

### 6 Matters Arising.

- 6.1 Allotments – The clerk reported that Tim Marlow has not yet responded to our offer to buy the land on Whitefield Lane (Offer submitted in November 2009) Councillors suggested that the council should seek other sites in Whitley that might be available to buy, lease or rent. One site suggested was the land adjacent to the A19 behind the Bovis houses. A short discussion took place about what the new owner of the rhubarb sheds and adjacent land might use the site for and whether or not they might also be interested in buying the land identified as the possible allotment site.
- 6.2 Christmas Lights. – The lights will remain the property of the parish council and they will be used again in the future. Cllr Walton agreed to store them in her garage until next Christmas. The clerk agreed to write to the school headteacher to pass on the thanks of the parish council to the staff and choir for their contribution at the lights switch-on.
- 6.3 Cllr Walton reported that 15 Christmas hampers have been distributed to the over 80s at a cost of £296.43.
- 6.4 Sign for Whitefield Bungalows – The clerk reported that SDC has the sign on order.

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

- ◆ Michael Coney asked about the rhubarb sheds and land on Whitefield Lane. At the moment councillors do not know what the new owners proposes to do with the land and buildings. He then informed the meeting about recent cycle events that he had been involved in.

- ◆ He mentioned that he had been in Whitley Wood recently and came across discarded hypodermic needles in a plastic bag. Cllr Blackburn said that he would speak to both PC Tony Morton and PCSO Laura Walton about this matter.

## 7. No Agenda item

## 8 Correspondence received. (Items for comment/information.)

- 8.1 The clerk said that there were no items that required immediate consideration.

## 9 Finance & Administration

- 9.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 12/1/10 as being **Current Account** £5,144.96. **Deposit Accounts** - Ringfenced for play-area maintenance £87,365.08. Other earmarked funds – Land Purchase £2,021. 91.
- 9.2 The following accounts were presented for payment: -Retrospective Approvals - Cllr Walton over 80s balance due - £46.43, Christmas Lights – £331.64. Other payments: Mazars Audit Fee - £155.25, Selby DC replacement bin liner - £34.00, NALC membership subscription - £72.00. The above items were approved for payment.

## 10. Recreational Open Space in Whitley.

- 10.1 Daffodil Field – An email from Peter Murphy confirms the promise of £25K from Eggborough Power Station with additional funds likely to be available through WREN. He also confirmed that the change of use planning application was submitted in December 2009. Cllr Walton produced the latest site plan/design for the councillors to examine and comment on.
- 10.2 Cllr White suggested that a working party should raise the daffodils after flowering so that these could be replanted following the landscaping work on the site. She suggested that an article be put on the website seeking get volunteers for this in April. Cllr White agreed to email Peter & Nick about this and take their advice.
- 10.3 The Oaks Playarea. - Cllr White reported that flyers had been delivered to houses on the Barrett estate seeking views on what needed doing on the site regarding the trees and shrubs. There have been three responses – one suggesting hedge planting and two wanting to buy the site for garden extension. It was agreed that Cllr Walton would seek estimates for tidying the site from Neil Dobson and JR & L Taylor.

## 11. Review of Standing Orders.

- 11.1 Cllr White talked briefly about some of the clauses included in the current Standing Orders but she felt that a full review ought to take place when all councillors were in attendance. All those present agreed that this item should be carried over to the next meeting.

## **12. A19 Traffic Speeds.**

- 12.1 Cllr Watson passed around a paper prepared by himself and Cllr Gerrard on the progress so far in relation to the A19 traffic. There was a short discussion about the content of the paper and Cllr Watson explained the difficulty he has had getting information from fire and police officers about the actual traffic speed data. He will continue to email officers in his capacity as a councillor in order to try to get this data.
- 12.2 Cllr Watson said that there is a need to form an action group consisting of members of the public to lobby the various public utilities on A19 traffic issues. The group would need the backing of the parish council. He suggested that a petition for action to reduce speeding on the A19 is set-up for those villagers who are keen to see some positive action. He suggested that petitioners could receive feedback and information by via telephone or email.
- 12.3 Traffic Signing - Gary Lumb from NYCC Highways advised that signing must be legal and that the police must be consulted on the positioning of signs and any matrix signs along the A19 through the village.
- 12.4 The question was asked about the parish council organising and sponsoring an action group. Councillors agreed that if an action group was formed by local residents, the council could support such a group by various means, including lobbying and the provision of cash grants. All councillors approved the principle of the setting up of an A19 speed reduction action group and pledged support for such a group.
- 12.5 Councillors were reminded that the south area CEF meeting was on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February and they should encourage as many villagers as possible to attend the meeting to lobby on the action to reduce traffic speeds through Whitley.
- 12.6 Item 5 on Cllr Watson's paper the use of S.I.D. cameras used by volunteers. Some areas have these but NY is behind other areas in the provision and use of these cameras. The feeling of councillors was that if these were in use it might provide an evidence base for reducing speeds in Whitley. Cllr Watson agreed to research costs and the possibility of getting the cameras in Whitley.

## **13. Planning**

- 13.1 In the absence of Cllr Humphrey, the clerk reported on the SDC planning committee meeting on 9/12/09. All ten members of the committee supported the moto-x application but they have drawn-up a list of conditions that will apply to the use of the site. Copies of these conditions have already been circulated to all parish councillors by email.
- 13.2 The clerk reported the failure of the planning department to inform the planning committee members of the parish council comments and objections. This fact only became apparent when the meeting agenda was published and under the section recording comments received, it was stated that no comments had been received from Whitley PC. The clerk immediately contacted the planners and Cllr John McCartney to complain about this and asked that the

agenda be corrected and committee members supplied with a copy of our comments. Cllr McCartney was a great help in this matter and managed to get one of the senior planners involved. Because of this omission, the clerk then emailed a copy of our comments to every member of the planning committee on the Friday before the meeting.

- 13.3 With regard to the conditions that apply to moto-x site, the clerk has ascertained that they apply to both the owner of the site – Mr Bayston and the user of the site – Mr Alan Hardy, the club secretary. Councillors resolved that the clerk should write to Mr Hardy sending him a copy of the conditions and invite him to the March 2010 council meeting in order that the council might have an update on what progress has been made on the various required works on the site.

#### **14. Chairman's and members' reports.**

- 14.1 Cllr Blackburn attended a meeting at Drax re the air quality lecture given by Dr Van Steen. There was a short discussion about this and councillors may wish to borrow the DVD of the lecture.
- 14.2 Cllr White attended the CEF meeting and it was well attended and a worthwhile meeting. The concerns expressed by other villages covered other issues, rather than just traffic speeds.
- 14.3 Cllr Walton attended the CIP meeting and she said that any funding requests need to be submitted quickly, since this organisation will merge with the CEF from April 2010.

#### **15. A.O.B – No items.**

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.

**Chairman of the Parish Council**

**Date.**