

Whitley Parish Council – Ref 3/2010

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

Minutes of the Whitley Parish Council meeting held on 23rd March 2010 at Whitley & Eggborough Primary School.

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 p.m. by the Chairman.
2. **Present.** Cllr Humphrey – Chair, Cllrs. F Blackburn, S White, K Walton, J Davie and J Watson. Later D Cllr Gillian Ivey.
3. **Apologies:** Cllr Gerrard – business. Cllr Humphrey said that Cllr Gerrard had spoken him about the number of meetings he had missed, but that he remained committed to being a parish councillor.
- 4 **Declaration of Interests** – Item on allotments – Cllrs White, Blackburn and Watson declared an interest.

5 Minutes of the last meeting

- 5.1 The minutes of the meeting on 23rd February 2010 were agreed as being a true record. Proposed by Cllr.Blackburn, seconded by Cllr. White and signed by the chairman.

6 Matters Arising.

- 6.1 Allotments – The clerk reported that he is in correspondence with UK Coal and they were consulting with their agent about possible access. There needs to be clarification about type of access and what equipment will be required to access the site. Following a short discussion it was agreed that the access through the UK Coal land should be sufficient for a tractor and trailer.
- 6.2 The clerk read out the timetable for planning conditions at Gale Common Moto X site. He reported that the organiser Alan Hardy had not responded to a letter sent in January 2010. The councillors agreed that the clerk should write to SDC compliance section requesting an update on whether or not the planning conditions were being implemented.
- 6.3 The clerk reported that he has ordered two litter bins and requested that SDC do a litter pick in Whitley. He also reported that he had written to Monaghan Mushrooms about the factory litter being deposited adjacent to the site, with a copy to environmental services at SDC.
- 6.4 Emails from PC Morton have already been circulated and there followed a general discussion about parking in Whitley. PC Morton may start a residents group with a focus on parking in and around Whitley Farm Close, where all day parking by non-residents is a problem. His emails confirmed that he has not been made aware of any street drinking problems in Whitley Farm

Close. It was noted that the Alcohol Free Zones signs had been ordered and funded through CEF.

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

- ◆ David Broadbent told the meeting about the latest position on the plans for the church conversion. The vicar will retire on 4th April 2010 and David Bradley, a PCC member will lead the conversion project. He reported that SDC intend to release the Section 106 earmarked funds to pay for the fencing. On 14th April at 7.30 p.m. there will be a meeting at the church with Steve Parry, the church architect, to view the site and assess the plans. Hopefully the project will move forward once the architect has assessed the project and reported back. Gillian Ivey has provided information about two funding streams that may be available to help with the project.

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

7.1 There were no items for comment.

8. Finance & Administration

8.1 The clerk reported the bank balances at 23/3/10 as being **Current Account** £4,772.94.

Deposit Accounts - Ringfenced for play-area maintenance £87,365.08. Other earmarked funds – Land Purchase £2,021. 91.

8.2 The following accounts were presented for payment: E & W School – Room Hire 6 Meeting to February 2010. £114, Tarmac Ltd Street Light repair £43.76. The above items were approved for payment.

9. Recreational Open Space in Whitley.

9.1 Daffodil Field – It was reported that the following grants have been secured: WREN £35K and Eggborough Power Station £20K. Groundwork NY is working on the specifications for the landscaping tenders. Cllr White will produce a flyer to include news about the field as well as information about parking and church conversion project. Information for inclusion must be submitted to Cllr White by 31/3/2010.

9.2 Daffodil Field Community Group. - Flyer to include a section about the formation of a group to oversee the ROS project with contact details for those people who want to volunteer.

10. Consultation – Selby DC Core Strategy.

10.1 Cllr White has produced a paper on this as the response from Whitley PC. The paper was read out to the meeting. She said that there are differing views amongst both councillors and residents about the status of Whitley being classed as a secondary village. In her paper she

stated that because Whitley is classed as a secondary village it should not be deprived of facilities and investment.

10.2 Councillors held a short discussion and exchanges of views about the contents of the paper and the options that might be available. Overall there appears to be mixed views on Whitley's status in terms of housing development but all agreed that inward investment was essential. One facility called for is mains gas to help avoid fuel poverty in the village. **Resolved** that the paper be submitted to SDC as the consultation response from Whitley parish council.

11. A19 Traffic.

11.1 Cllr Watson reported that he had received information/data and telephone calls about traffic speeds through the Whitley. The data indicates average speeds in excess of 30mph through the village and it is likely that there will noticeable increase in police presence along the A19. He added that Gary Lumb of NYCC highways has indicated that funds are available for additional signage and traffic management.

11.2 The black box data was emailed to Cllr Walton and this shows that 80% of vehicles are travelling at speeds higher than the official limit. The mean speed is 34mph and the data can also indicate the types of vehicles involved.

11.3 Cllr Watson has produced a Whitley road signage audit in the form of a diagram and this was passed around for councillors to examine. A petition calling for control of speeding on the A19 has been started and so far about 50 people have signed this, but we need to get as many as possible to sign. There was a short discussion about the petition and it was hoped that NYCC highways and the police would take note of the strength of local feelings about road safety in Whitley. The chairman and councillors thanked Cllr Watson for the work he had done.

12. Public Footpaths/Towpath project.

12.1 Cllr Watson said that one of the main concerns is the state of the footpath to Whitley Lock, which is now very boggy in places. He considers that wooden decking will be required for that stretch of the footpath and he agreed to produce a plan and costing for the work.

12.2 C Cllr McCartney is aware of the problem and he is keen to increase the awareness and interest in footpaths in this area. He has indicated that funds upto £10,000 are available to help with the repair and reinstatement of footpaths in the area.

13. Planning

13.1 D Cllr Ivey reported that she had discussed the non compliance matter on Templar Close with the SDC planning compliance officer and said that the promised revised planning application had not been submitted. She will follow this case and ask SDC to keep the parish clerk informed.

- 13.2 Pollington Biomass Generator. Councillors reported that they had not been able to access the on-line only planning application. D Cllr Ivey said that the site was already operating the wood pelleting plant and this had already been discussed by SDC. The DC had been assured that HGV traffic would not be significantly increased. She added that a quarter of the site was within SDC area with rest of the site, which includes the generation plant, within East Yorkshire
- 13.3 The clerk reported that he had downloaded the application as a pdf file and he was concerned that there is no indication about how the waste from incineration would be transported from the site. Transport of the waste by HGVs could have a significant impact on local roads and villages and he agreed to send comments to NYCC, on behalf of the council, by the due date of 7th April 2010.

14. Chairman's and members' reports.

- 14.1 Cllr Walton reported on the OF Meeting on 22/3/10 – The details of any provision of local youth services are required for entry in the publication to be printed and distributed. She will contact Cllr Gerrard about information on Whitley Wolves. Tomorrow. 24/3/2010 will be the last meeting of CIP and she reported that Whitley Wolves have now lost the funds for pitch improvements approved at an earlier meeting.
- 14.2 Cllr Blackburn has attended the O/F meeting and the UK Coal meeting.

15. A.O.B

- 15.1 The footpath along the A19 is in need of a sweep and vegetation cutting back. Clerk noted and to action.
- 15.2 Some of the bus shelters need cleaning and one is in need of panel replacement. Clerk to email NYCC.
- 15.3 Cllr Blackburn said that the light repaired by Tarmac Ltd in Whitefield Bungalows is still not working. Clerk will withhold payment and contact Tarmac Ltd.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.