

At a Meeting of
WHORLTON AND WESTWICK
PARISH COUNCIL
On Tuesday 15th May 2018, 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Lucy Hoskyns-Abrahall, Cllr Roger Foster, Cllr David Kinch, Cllr Martin Saville

Clerk: Jonathan Dickinson

The Clerk distributed some documents amongst the councillors, including an up-to-date cashflow statement.

Members of the public were at the meeting. The Chair (Cllr Lucy Hoskyns-Abrahall) invited public comments, and the councillors listened.

1 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Cllr Lucy Hoskyns-Abrahall was elected as Chairwoman. She signed an acceptance form. Cllr George Stastny was elected as the Vice-Chairman.

2 Apologies were accepted for Cllr George Stastny, Cllr Ian Wilkinson, and Cllr Lynda Powell

3 Minutes of Meeting 07.03.2018

The minutes from the full council meeting of 07.03.2018, were approved by the council, and signed by the Chair.

4 Registration of village hall as asset of community value

The Clerk explained the procedure for registering an asset of community value.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council apply to register the village hall as an asset of community value.

5 Approval of accounts

The Clerk circulated detailed accounts.

RESOLVED: that the accounts be approved.

6 Adopt new Standing Orders

The new Standing Orders, based very closely on the NALC model standing orders, had been circulated earlier in the week, and commented upon.

RESOLVED: that the new Standing Orders be adopted.

7 "That this council does not allow any commercial use of the village green."

Councillor Kinch explained the background legislation.

RESOLVED: no resolution.

8 Training Course on Cemetery Management

The Clerk estimated the cost of the proposed training course.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council pay for up to 2 persons to attend the course, subject to availability.

9 Parking by Whorlton Hall beside village green

There was input from members of the public on the difficulties presented by the employees of Whorlton Hall nursing home, parking on the corner of the village green.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk investigate what options are available with Durham County Council; that the Clerk begin some negotiations with Whorlton Hall; that Ian Pollock remove one of the bollards

recently installed.

10 Play Area - update - authorisation for amendment to specification

The Clerk reported on the clearing of the site. The Clerk explained the proposed amendment to the specification.

RESOLVED: that the specification only be amended in respect of removing item 1.

11 Picnic tables around the pub

The Clerk reported that there was an offer of a donation from the pub, for the purpose of leaving 2 picnic tables, outside the pub during the summer.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should proceed to negotiate the details of the arrangement, and return at the next meeting; in the meantime, there would be no objection to the two picnic tables outside the pub.

12 Annual return

The councillors examined the gross income and expenditure in the accounts.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

13 Annual return

The councillors considered each of the items in the Annual Governance Statement.

RESOLVED: that the Annual Governance Statement at section 1 of the Annual Return be approved.

14 Annual return

The councillors considered each of the items in the Accounting Statements.

RESOLVED: that the Accounting Statements at section 2 of the Annual Return be approved.

15 Email addresses for councillors

The Clerk notified the councillors that they must have a phone number of email address published on the Parish Council website.

RESOLVED: that each councillor would set up their own email address, and notify the clerk before the next meeting.

16 Society of Local Council Clerks membership

The Clerk informed the councillors that the cost of SLCC membership would be £70 per annum.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk enrol in the SLCC.

17 Litter picking

The Clerk suggested that the Parish Council should buy some litter pickers or sponsor a litter picking day.

RESOLVED: that Clerk investigate the prices of litter pickers.

18 Settlement of pub litigation costs

The Clerk updated the councillors on the costs position.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be authorised to pay the claim for further interest.

19 Village green repairs near The Forge

It was noted that the village green was in a state of disrepair near the Forge.

RESOLVED: that there should be some grass seed sown on the damaged area.

20 Planning applications arising at late notice

There was a planning application Reference number DM/18/01135/FP from Mr And Mrs Sowerby at East Shaws.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council make no comment.

21 Cheques

The Clerk read out details, and the following cheques were authorised: Jane Ascroft £15; Zurich Municipal £206.08; Mill Gardens £96; Keith Brown £150, £450, £1,090; Jamie McBain £50; SLCC £46.

The Chairwoman called the Parish Meetings for Tuesday 29th May 2018.

Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

17 July 2018

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8pm.

29 May 2018, Chair 