

At a Meeting of  
**WHORLTON AND WESTWICK**  
**PARISH COUNCIL**  
On Tuesday 16th July 2019, 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllr Lucy Hoskyns-Abrahall (Chairwoman), Cllr Ian Wilkinson, Cllr Lynda Powell, and Cllr Martin Saville

**Clerk:** Jonathan Dickinson

The Clerk distributed some documents amongst the councillors, including an up-to-date cashflow statement, and a copy of the most recent bank statements. The councillors reviewed the current financial position.

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

**1 Apologies & Interests**

Cllr George Stastny had given his apologies previously. Cllr Roger Foster and Cllr David Kinch were also absent. No interests were declared.

**2 Minutes of Meeting 21.05.2019**

The Chair signed the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

**3 Adoption of revised Standing Orders**

The Clerk had previously circulated by email the amended standing orders, which had been discussed at the previous meeting.

RESOLVED: that the amended Standing Orders be approved and adopted.

**4 Lamppost outside village hall; ownership.**

There was no evidence that the lamppost was owned by the Parish Council, but three posters indicating that it was owned by Durham County Council.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council requests Durham County Council to repair the lamppost, as it does not belong to the Parish Council.

**5 Estate Agents board on village green.**

There was a request, details of which had previously been circulated by email, to advertise for sale, using a billboard on the village green, the properties built behind the pub.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council grant permission for this advert on the village green.

**6 Village Day: permission for tent**

The WVCA had requested permission for a tent on Village Day and had supplied an appropriate risk assessment.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council give permission for a tent on the village green on Village Day.

**7 Future of Whorlton Hall**

It was noted that Cygnet had stopped caring for patients at Whorlton Hall in May 2019, following the arrest of 10 staff working there. Cygnet has 140 sites in the UK, and acquired Whorlton Hall from Danshell in 2018. Whorlton Hall was also being investigated by the CQC.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council would oppose the demolition of Whorlton Hall, if an application to do so was made; that the Parish Clerk should investigate the possibility of asking that the building be listed.

**8 Cemetery extension**

The Clerk reported on slow progress with Durham County Council. The old St Mary’s churchyard had closed on 10th July 2019. The opening of the cemetery extension was therefore urgent.

**9 Planning applications arising at late notice**

There were none.

**10 Cheques**

Cheques were authorised and signed for:

- Repairs to wall, £1950.00
- Repairs to bollards, £80.00
- WVCA, £51.67
- Audit fee, £80.00
- Annual insurance, £342.76
- Grasscutting, £510
- PAYE, £87.60 and £87.20
- Wages of Clerk, £131.72

**11 Matters not requiring a resolution**

Some other matters were discussed.

**Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:**

16 September 2019

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

16 September 2019, Chair .....