

At a Meeting of
WHORLTON AND WESTWICK
PARISH COUNCIL

On Tuesday 22nd October 2019, 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Lucy Hoskyns-Abrahall (Chairwoman), Cllr Ian Wilkinson, Cllr Martin Saville, Cllr George Stastny, Cllr Roger Foster, Cllr David Kinch

Clerk: Jonathan Dickinson

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

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

1 Apologies & Interests

Cllr Lynda Powell was absent. No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Meeting 17.09.2019

The Chair signed the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

3 Play Area: finishing touches

The Clerk reported that there was an underspend on one of the grants for the Play Area, and invited councillors to suggest any extra work that is necessary. Suggestions were put forward.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk obtain quotes and then apply to have the extra work authorised under the underspent grant.

4 Cemetery Extension

The Clerk reported that negotiations were ongoing with Durham County Council, and that the Parish Council's financial situation was still not sufficiently strong to commence any more work on the Cemetery Extension.

5 Pub planning application

There was a lengthy discussion about the planning application in relation to the pub, and this included input from the large public gallery.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council request the application go to the committee procedure, and that the Parish Council express its concerns and objections on planning matters.

6 Sale of interest in pub

The Parish Council was notified by Durham County Council that the pub would be marketed, and that it could trigger a moratorium to bid for the pub. The council heard representations from the owner of the pub. There was also a discussion about forming a community company to acquire the pub.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council adjourn this matter to the next meeting, which would occur before the relevant deadline.

7 Bridge closure

A councillor reported that 4 structural engineers had inspected and surveyed the bridge all day on 15th October 2019. No report had been made available yet.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk continue to press Durham County Council for progress and information.

8 Planning applications arising at late notice

There were none.

9 Cheques

Cheques were authorised and signed for:

Payroll Admin, £28.80

Repairs, £120.00

Salaries £131.32

PAYE, £87.60

10 Matters not requiring a resolution

No other matters were discussed.

Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

18 November 2019

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

18 November 2019, Chair