

At a Meeting of  
**WHORLTON AND WESTWICK  
PARISH COUNCIL**

On Tuesday 16th March 2021 at 6:30pm

**Present:** Lucy Hoskyns-Abrahall (Chair), Cllr George Stastny, Cllr Ian Wilkinson,  
Cllr Lynda Powell, Cllr Martin Saville, Cllr David Kinch,

**Also Present:** Mr J Dickinson

**Clerk:** Alan Dixon

**19/21 Representation by residents**

There were none

**20/21 Apologies & Interests**

Apologies: Cllr Roger Foster.

No interests were declared.

**21/21 Minutes of Meeting 19 January 2021**

The Chair signed the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

**22/21 Cemetery Extension Update**

Clerk has been unable to do the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management course due to COVID restrictions.

**23/21 Footpath repair next to the village hall**

The Clerk updated the meeting on the current position.

**24/21 Repair of Whorlton bridge.**

There appears to be some slippage / delays in Durham County Councils timetable to complete the repairs to the bridge. Dehenna Davison MP is working closely with DCC. There is a dedicated webpage on the Durham County Council website providing monthly updates. There is still no further information regarding a possible footbridge to give pedestrian access across the river. [Whorlton Bridge - current programme - Durham County Council](#)

**25/21 Red Telephone Box**

Councillor Stastny updated Councillors on the current position.

**26/21 No's 4 & 6 Grange Terrace**

Number 4 Grange Terrace will hopefully be sold soon. Number 6 is to be renovated with the hope it will be sold once this is completed.

**27/21 DAS Complaint**

Councillor Stastny suggested that the Parish Council take advice from a Barrister to see whether the Parish Council are required to pay the Solicitors fees. DAS Insurance are currently only willing to pay £7100 leaving the Parish Council to pay the remaining balance of £10,162.50

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to get quotes for a direct access Barrister who could advise the Parish Council as to their options. Councillors do not want to pay out public money for legal expenses if there is any way not to do so.

### **28/21 Parish Council Elections**

Clerk updated Councillors on what to do if they wish to be nominated as a Parish Councillor for the next 4 year term.

### **29/21 Parish Paths quotes and village clean up**

Clerk is getting quotes for strimming the Public Rights of Way within the Parish. He is also getting quotes to tidy up the village footpaths and cutting the grass on the village green.

### **30/21 Parish Council action plan**

An action plan will be put on the Parish Council website to show residents projects the Parish Council would like to carry out during the next financial year.

### **31/21 Foliage on the footpath outside Whorlton Grange**

This has been removed by Durham County Council.

### **32/21 Planning applications arising at late notice**

#### **Orangery to south elevation**

The Old Vicarage Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8XD

Ref. No: DM/21/00620/FPA | Received: Wed 24 Feb 2021 | Validated: Tue 09 Mar 2021 | Status: Decided

Parish Councillors had no comments regarding this planning application.

### **33/21 Financial Statement and report**

Balance of Current and Deposit Accounts £15,519.62 as at 28 February 2021.

Councillors would like to set aside funds for the following:-

Parish Council elections	£ 1500. 00
Barristers fees	£ 1000. 00
DAS – Legal Fees	£10000. 00
Cemetery	£ 1000. 00
Red telephone box	£ <u>1000. 00</u>
Total	£14500. 00

A Receipt and Payments Account dated 28 February, 2021 was reviewed by Councillors. Payment of the following invoices was agreed by Councillors :-

127 - Mr A Dixon – Clerk Salary (Feb & March 2021)	£ 387. 60
128 – HMRC PAYE	£ 56. 00
129 – Zoom Meeting costs	£ 14. 39
130 - SE Landscaping	£ <u>504. 00</u>
Total	£ <u>961. 99</u>

RESOLVED: All financial matters agreed as being correct.

**34/21 Matters not requiring a resolution**

**Parish Council meetings**

Clerk informed Councillors that the next meeting may be held face to face as the legislation for virtual meetings ends on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

**Fly tipping**

A Councillor has received a complaint regarding fly tipping near Whorlton Beck.

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

18th May 2021

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 7:45 pm.

18 May 2021, Chairman .....