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

On Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 6:30pm

Present: Cllr George Stastny, Cllr I. Pollock, Cllr T. Honeyman, Cllr N. Fox, Cllr P. Bigge

Also Present: C Simpson, C Connelly (Residents)

Clerk: Alan Dixon

1/22 Representation by residents

C Simpson made Councillors aware that there has been an inspection of Egglestone Abbey bridge by Durham County Council and recommended the Parish Council get a copy of the inspection report. Inspections are carried out on a 6 yearly basis.

[Egglestone Abbey pdf.pdf \(durham.gov.uk\)](#)

R Proud emailed Councillors to make them aware that a visitor centre is being proposed for Whorlton Bridge. He also asked whether the bridge could be reopened to pedestrians, equestrians and cyclists should the inspection recently undertaken indicate that this would be safe.

A. Boddy asked to be kept updated on traffic calming measures within Whorlton.

2/22 Apologies & Interests

Apologies: Cllr M. Sanderson,

3/22 Minutes of Meeting 16 November 2021

The Chair signed the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

4/22 Cemetery extension update

Clerk and Cllr Saville to inspect cemetery to see if the ground is level enough. Clerk to contact SE Landscaping to discuss preparing land.

RESOLVED: Target date for opening the Cemetery is 31st March.

5/22 Repair of Whorlton bridge

Charman informed Councillors that he has requested an update regarding the bridge as work seems to have slowed.

6/22 K6 Red Telephone Box

There was a delay in instructing Northern Powergrid to disconnect the electricity supply to the current telephone box. The Parish Council has the funding in place to purchase the new telephone box.

7//22 Speeding traffic

Clerk has spoken to Michelle McIntosh from the Traffic Assets department at Durham County Council. Currently her department is severely understaffed. She is aware that a

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petition was sent to her, signed by residents. She stated that even if the Parish Council had the funding in place to purchase a speed vizer it would not be allowed to install one as there is not a need for one. She is still looking at what traffic calming measures can be used in the village and investigations will be carried out.

Clerk asked about a 7.5t weight restriction for HGV's travelling through Westwick and was informed and was told that could not happen as it would prevent deliveries to farms, businesses and residential properties.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to keep residents (including A Boddy) updated on possible traffic calming measures.

8/22 Village tidy up

SE Landscaping informed Clerk that they hope to carry out the village tidy up work at the beginning of February.

9/22 Change of Bank

Clerk informed Councillors that the change of bank is still underway. The Parish Council's bank accounts will be closed and the balance paid into the new Unity Bank Account.

10/22 Planning applications arising at late notice

Councillors discussed the following applications:

There were none.

11/22 Financial Statement and report

A Receipt and Payments Account dated 31st December, 2021 was reviewed by Councillors. Payment of the following invoices was agreed by Councillors :-

156 - Dell Laptop	£ 598.80
157 - Clerk Salary (November & December 2021)	£ 387.00
158 - Clerk Salary (January 2022)	£ 215.40
159 - WVCA	£ 10.00
160 - Royal British Legion	<u>£ 25.00</u>
Total	<u>£1236.20</u>

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to request a Precept of £6563 which is an increase of 5% in line with inflation. Chairman suggested replacing the notice board next to the telephone box repairing the spout on the memorial fountain, a history of Whorlton project, painting the old black and white road signs, installing a water tap for the cemetery and a regular village tidy up as projects for the next financial year. All financial matters agreed as being correct.

12/22 Clerks correspondence

Code of Conduct

CDALC has requested that all Parish Councils use the Durham County Council code of conduct. Clerk asked the Parish Council to adopt this code of conduct.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to discuss adopting the code of conduct at the next Parish Council meeting.

Royal British Legion

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to make a £25 donation to the Royal British Legion.

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Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to change the night of the meeting from a Tuesday to a Thursday. The date of the next meeting is 17th March 2022

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 7:57 pm.

17 March 2022, Chairman