

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

On Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 6:30pm

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

Also Present: A Boddy, A Young, S Smith (Residents)

Clerk: Alan Dixon

86/21 Representation by residents

The Parish Council has received a petition from 92 residents stating that they believe traffic speeding through the village is a serious threat to safety. It was felt that once Whorlton Bridge is reopened then the problem of speeding traffic will increase. Durham County Council require evidence of 15% non-compliance as evidence that there is a need for traffic calming measures, which is difficult to achieve. Mrs Boddy made Councillors aware of an article in the Teesdale Mercury regarding the problems Staindrop village are having trying to get traffic calming measures within the village. Mrs Boddy asked that the Parish Council make a decision on purchasing speed signs for the village.

87/21 Apologies & Interests

Apologies: Cllr M Saville, Cllr M. Sanderson,

Cllr T. Honeyman declared an interest in the planning application re The Old Vicarage.

88/21 Minutes of Meeting 21 September 2021

The Chair signed the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

89/21 Cemetery extension update

Work has been carried out to trim the long grass and remove stone. Hopefully by next Spring it will be more clear whether any further work needs to be done so that the new cemetery can start to be used.

90/21 Repair of Whorlton bridge – Levelling up fund

Exploratory work has started. The levelling up fund announced by the Government will be used to pay for the repair of the bridge.

91/21 K6 Red Telephone Box

Chairman has applied to the Teesdale Action Partnership on behalf of the Parish Council, for a grant to pay for the purchase of the telephone box.

The quote for the disconnection of the electricity supply came back cheaper than expected. This work has to be carried out by Northern Powergrid.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to accept this quote.

There is a 9 week lead time for the supply of the telephone box. The telephone box will be purchased using funds from Teesdale Action Partnership, Whorlton Community Association and village residents.

92/21 Speeding traffic

Clerk informed Councillors that he has received a letter from the head of the Traffic Assets Department at Durham County Council stating they unwilling to install a speed visor within Whorlton village as there is no evidence that one is required. They have advised that they are willing to conduct an inspection with the possibility that they will install signs asking motorists to drive carefully.

Clerk made members aware that he has spoken to the Police and they are willing to have an officer attend the next Parish Council meeting. The Police have offered to have the new speed van park in the village as a deterrent to speeding traffic. There is also a community speedwatch team which could be used to gain evidence of speeding traffic.

Clerk made Councillors aware of a petition trying to prevent Heavy Goods vehicles going through Barnard Castle. If this petition were to be successful then it could possibly lead to more HGV's going through Westwick. Clerk has written to DCC asking about putting in a 7.5 tonne weight restriction stopping heavy goods vehicles going through Westwick but as yet he has not received a reply. Clerk was informed by the Police that there have been no problems reported regarding HGV's going through Westwick.

RESOLVED: Councillors felt that residents should lobby the County Council. Councillors agreed that the petition should be sent to Durham County Council making them aware of speeding traffic concerns within the village. Members felt that there was no need to form a working group.

93/21 Village tidy up

SE Landscaping have suggested that the village tidy up be carried out in January.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that a village tidy up be carried out by SE Landscaping.

94/21 Defibrillator / First Aid Training – The Circuit

Defibrillator training, organised by the Chairman has finally gone ahead after delays due to COVID restrictions. The defibrillator is now on a public database called "The Circuit" which means weekly reports no longer need to be sent to the North East Ambulance Service, although it will still be checked from time to time.

95/21 Change of Bank

Although Councillors requested that new bank accounts be setup with Barclays Bank this has not been possible due to the need for a face to face appointment which are currently not taking place. Clerk asked that the Parish Council move to Unity Bank instead where applications can be done online.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to move to Unity Bank.

96/21 Christmas Tree on the Village Green

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to a Christmas Tree being installed in front of the pub with the lights being turned on, on the 12th December. The pub is to re-open on the same day.

97/21 Climate Change

Clerk made Councillors aware of an email from CDALC regarding what Town and Parish Councils can do to help stop climate change.

98/21 Planning applications arising at late notice

Councillors discussed the following applications:

Discharge Condition 3 (Sample Panel) and Condition 4 (Roofing Materials, Joinery Details and Doors) pursuant to DM/21/00019/FPA

Woodbine Cottage Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8XG

Ref. No: DRC/21/00362 | Received: Thu 04 Nov 2021 | Validated: Fri 05 Nov 2021 | Status: Pending Consideration

Discharge Condition 3 (Sample Panel) and Condition 4 (Roofing Materials, Joinery Details and Doors) pursuant to DM/21/00620/FPA

The Old Vicarage Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8XD

Ref. No: DRC/21/00316 | Received: Wed 29 Sep 2021 | Validated: Thu 30 Sep 2021 | Status: Pending Consideration

Single storey rear extension, new estate wrought iron fence to front of the property. Internal and external alterations including new doors/windows, rooflights, re-pointing/repair of stonework, new floor construction, new roof membrane and new plasterboard internally. 

4 Grange Terrace Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8UY

Ref. No: DM/21/03277/LB | Received: Mon 20 Sep 2021 | Validated: Thu 04 Nov 2021 | Status: Pending Consideration

Single storey rear extension. New estate wrought iron fence to boundaries at the front of the property. 

4 Grange Terrace Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8UY

Ref. No: DM/21/03276/FPA | Received: Mon 20 Sep 2021 | Validated: Thu 04 Nov 2021 | Status: Pending Consideration

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact the Commons Registration Authority at Durham County Council to ask whether the owner of Woodbine Cottage has requested permission to build on part of the village green. There were no other objections.

99/21 Financial Statement and report

Clerk made Councillors aware that the Parish Council need to apply for the 2022/23 Precept in January 2022. He asked Councillors to think about projects they would like to see undertaken by the Parish Council in the next financial year. Balance of Current and Deposit Accounts £8379.54 as at 31 October 2021.

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

150 -	WVCA invoices	£ 18.00
151 -	A. Dixon – Clerk Salary	£ 259.60
152 -	SE Landscaping	£ 972.00
153 -	CDALC	£ 10.00
154 -	Wordpress	£ 84.00
155 -	Phone box deposit	<u>£ 250.00</u>
	Total	<u>£1593.60</u>

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that funds will be required for the cemetery and possible traffic calming measures. All financial matters agreed as being correct. Clerk to create a separate receipt and payments account for the cemetery once it is opened.

100/21 Clerks correspondence

Queens Jubilee

Clerk asked whether the Parish Council will be involved in organising an event to celebrate the Queens Jubilee.

Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

18th January 2021

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 7:48 pm.

18 January 2021, Chairman