

At a Meeting of
WHORLTON AND WESTWICK
PARISH COUNCIL
On Thursday 21st July 2022 at 6:30pm

Present: Cllr M. Saville, I. Pollock (Vice Chair), N. Fox,

Also Present: Cherry Simpson, Alison Boddy, Ann Young, Irene Young (Residents)

Clerk: Alan Dixon

44/22 Representation by residents

Alison Boddy informed the meeting that she had met with County Councillor Richardson on the 21st June and gave him a copy of the petition signed by residents requesting that traffic calming measures be implemented within the village. On 23rd June she received confirmation that the petition had been received by the Council. Since then, one of the new speed watch vans has visited Whorlton on at least 3 occasions, unfortunately these were not at times when there is usually a lot of traffic passing through the village. PCSO Preet Singh who is responsible for Community Speedwatch in this area is looking for volunteers to man the van.

45/22 Apologies & Interests

Apologies: P. Bigge, T. Honeyman, Cllr George Stastny, Cllr M. Sanderson,

46/22 Minutes of Meeting 19th May 2022

The Chair signed the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

47/22 Cemetery extension update / missing fence posts.

The Clerk informed Councillors that he had received a quote from SE Landscaping for the cemetery plot markers of £4.40 plus VAT, per marker. SE Landscaping would install these markers. Due to the lack of rain the new grass has not grown very quickly but has recently been cut. Mr Brown has requested £70 to purchase the posts that were removed by SE Landscaping at the request of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to purchase the markers and have them installed.

48/22 Repair of Whorlton bridge

The repair of Whorlton bridge is ongoing. Updates can be found on the Durham County Council website at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/25171/Whorlton-Bridge-current-programme>

49/22 K6 Red Telephone Box

The telephone box has been installed with only a small amount of remedial work to be carried out to level the base.

50/22 Speeding traffic

The Clerk informed Councillors that since the last meeting he had received updates from the Teesdale Action Partnership giving a quote of between £4500 and £5500 to implement traffic calming measures coming into the village from the A67 Darlington

Road and from Westwick. These measures would consist of the white gates with planters in front and rumble strips, which makes it more obvious that you are coming into a built up area. This work could possibly be part funded by Teesdale Action Partnership although TAP would expect the Parish Council to pay for the planters.

Reinstating the white lines within the village has also been proposed by Durham County Council but the Clerk informed Annalisa Ward from Teesdale Action Partnership that the roads were in such a poor state that this would be a pointless exercise. She is going to go back to DCC to ask if road repairs are possible.

The installation of a pole so that a speed vizer could be used on an occasional basis within the village has also been mentioned, but this is dependent on whether Staindrop still need to use one.

To get further traffic calming measures on the road coming from Whorlton bridge would cost a further £1000 to £2000.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to look into reinstating plant troughs. Clerk to get quotes for new planters. Councillors agreed that traffic calming measures are not needed at the entrance to the village from Whorlton bridge and that it would be difficult to introduce traffic calming within Westwick as there is a 60mph speed limit going through the village.

51/22 Tree planting – Jubilee

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to wait until the next meeting and get advice from Councillor Bigge as there are concerns regarding a prevalent disease affecting Horse Chestnut trees.

52/22 Noticeboard

Planning permission has been requested to move where a Parish Council noticeboard could be positioned as the current spot is cramped. Prices for a new noticeboard have been obtained.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to wait for planning permission to be granted.

53/22 Village garden

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to wait and discuss this matter at the next Parish Council meeting as input from Councillor Stastny is required.

54/22 Path next to the Church

Keith Brown has quoted a price of £730 to relay the path next to the Church.

RESOLVED: Councillor Fox agreed to speak to Mr Brown regarding the price for the missing posts and the quote for relaying the path.

55/22 Parking congestion in front of the Bridge Inn

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that this was not parking congestion but parking by tradesmen, people using the pub or going for a walk.

56/22 Planning applications arising at late notice
Councillors discussed the following applications:

Crown lift up to 2m to T1. Horse chestnut

Village Green Whorlton DL12 8XD

Ref. No: DM/22/O1698/TCA | Received: Tue 07 Jun 2022 | Validated: Wed 08 Jun 2022 | Status: Decided

Parish council notice board

Land East Of The Bridge Inn Whorlton DL12 8XD

Ref. No: DM/22/O1547/AD | Received: Mon 23 May 2022 | Validated: Wed 08 Jun 2022 | Status: Pending Consideration

RESOLVED: Councillors neither agreed with or objected to any of the applications.

57/22 Financial Statement and report

A Receipt and Payments Account dated 31st August, 2022 was reviewed by Councillors. Clerk is still waiting for the annual VAT refund to be paid into the Parish Council's bank account. Payment of the following invoices was agreed by Councillors:-

179 – Playsafety Limited (play area inspection)	£ 84. 00
180 – Book of condolence	£ 32. 95
181 – Allen Sykes (Internal audit)	£ 510. 00
182 - Clerk Salary (June)	£ 217. 88
183 - Clerk Salary (July)	<u>£ 266. 75</u>
Total	<u>£1111. 58</u>

RESOLVED: All financial matters agreed as being correct.

58/22 Clerks correspondence

Operation London Bridge

The Clerk informed members that using his delegated powers he had bought a book of condolence that could be signed by residents in the event the Queen passed away. Whorlton Village Community Association have agreed to allow the village hall to be used in such an event.

Internal Audit

The internal audit was carried out by Allen Sykes as the Clerk was unable to find anyone else to carry out the work.

Working from Home Allowance

The Clerk asked if the Parish Council would pay a working from home allowance of £26 per month to cover telephone and broadband costs.

Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

RESOLVED: The date of the next ordinary meeting is 15th September 2022.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 7:10 pm.

15th September, 2022, Chairman