

## WITTON – LE – WEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Witton le Wear Parish Council held on **Monday 8th January, 2018** in the Community Centre, Witton le Wear commencing at **6.15pm**

**Present:** Councillors B. Henderson (Chair), M. Henderson, O. Wilson, T. Parkinson, E. Swift, E. Todd

**Also Present:** A. Dixon (Parish Council Clerk), A. Yuill, E. Bostock, C. Haworth

**Apologies:** K. Quigley

**Declaration of interest:** None

**1/18 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.**

Minutes agreed as being accurate and correct.

**2/18 Matters arising from the previous minutes.**

**1. Speeding traffic**

Nothing to report at this time.

**2. Church path**

Because of a change to the route of the path there has been a need to change the plans. Amended plans have been sent to Durham County Council planning department.

**3. Electric Car Charging point**

Nothing to report at this time.

**4. Youth Club**

Lynne Docherty has contacted Angelina Maddison from the Weardale Area Action Partnership. No further information at this time.

**5. Witton Word – Editor's Letter**

Parish Council have given guidance to John Wheeler that they feel one side of A4 is enough for each organisation within the village unless they are having a special event. This is being done to try and reduce costs as income from advertising is going down. It may be necessary in future to reduce the number of copies printed and also to look into whether printing costs can be lowered.

**6. Land between Railway Platform and Level Crossing.**

The work to tidy up this area is nearly complete. A few alterations have been suggested.

**7. Pathway 156**

Parish Council is awaiting a quote for the work to clear this overgrown pathway together with repairing 2 bridges and replacing another.

## 8. Ideas for future projects

Councillor Mary Henderson suggested that we get quotes for creating “Welcome to Witton Le Wear” timber signs. Chairman to appeal for designs for these signs.

Councillor Wilson suggested that we look into getting lights for the village green. This would be lovely especially at Christmas time.

### 3/18 Representation by Residents

Anne Yuill asked whether the Parish Council would be willing to fund the printing of three future editions of Witton at War at a total cost of £300.

#### It was resolved:

Councillors agreed to fund this project.

### 4/18 Financial Statement and report

Balance of Current Account, Deposit Account and Cash £13194.58 as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017.

A Receipt and Payments Account is attached to these minutes. Councillors agreed payment of invoices 183 to 189 as follows:

183 –	Thinford Nurseries	£228.00
184 –	Mr J. Wheeler (Witton Word)	£ 30.42
185 –	Eli Press (Witton Word)	£289.98
186 –	Mr A. Dixon (Clerk – January Salary)	£118.50
187 –	Zurich Municipal (Insurance)	£484.32
188 –	WIW Community Association	£180.00
189 -	Mr N. Lamont (Enviro)	<u>£360.00</u>
Total		£1,691.22

#### It was resolved:

Clerk suggested reducing the Precept for 2018/19 but Councillors felt that if we reduce the Precept this year then there is a possibility we may not get this amount back in future years. Clerk asked Councillors for a list of costed future projects and Chairman agreed that this would be available.

In response to pressure from Government, Police, Crime and Victims’ Commissioner Ron Hogg has decided to increase the amount of Council Tax which goes to the police service by 7.09%. This equates to an increase of £8 per year, or 15p a week for a property in Council Tax Band A. Members of the public are being asked to comment.

All financial matters agreed as being correct.

### 5/18 Planning Matters

Nothing to report at this time.

### 6/18 Clerks/Correspondence

Nothing to report at this time.

**7/18 Neighbourhood and Parish Plan.**  
Nothing to report at this time.

**8/18 Members Reports**  
Councillors have been asked by residents to report on the following matters:-  
  
There have been reports of speeding traffic on the top road.  
  
Work to repair drains within the village have been carried out within the last few weeks.

**9/18 Chairman's Report**

**New Councillor**

Parish Council have been given permission to co-opt a new member. Chairman felt it would be a good idea to advertise this in the next edition of the Witton Word.

**Railway Platform**

Former Parish Councillor Anne Yuill has asked whether the Parish Council wish the group of volunteers who cleared the area around the railway platform to continue with their good work. All Councillors agreed they would be happy for this work to continue. Chairman said he would like to place on record the Councils gratitude to the volunteers who undertake this work.

Councillor Swift proposed the land between the railway platform and the level crossing be dug over using a digger and sprayed to kill the weeds.

**Village Fayre**

Chairman has approached the Witton Le Wear Community Association to see if they would like to work together with the Parish Council to plan the village fayre. There has been no response to date. Their help is necessary as access to the Community Centre is needed. Councillor Todd suggested that a member of the Parish Council attend one of the Community Association meetings. Councillors Todd and Wilson said they would be willing to attend.

**It was resolved:**

Councillor Todd said he would speak to Jack Collins and ask if it would be possible to attend the next Community Association meeting.

**10/18 Any other business**  
None

**11/18 Date and Time of the next Meeting**  
The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February, **2018** in the Community Centre, Witton le Wear commencing at 6.15pm.

The meeting finished at 6:52 p.m.