

WITTON – LE – WEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Witton le Wear Parish Council held on **Monday 8th July 2019** in the Community Centre, Witton le Wear commencing at **6.15pm**

Present: Councillors O. Wilson (Chair), M. Henderson, B. Henderson, T. Parkinson,

Also Present: A. Dixon (Parish Council Clerk),

Apologies: E. Swift, K. Quigley, P. Cowan, E. Todd

Declaration of interest: None

67/19 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 10th June 2019.
Minutes agreed as being accurate and correct.

68/19 Matters arising from the previous minutes.
1. Speeding traffic

Chairman informed Councillors that she planned to attend the Witton Park Bridge meeting on Friday 12th July to bring up problems of speeding traffic passing through Witton le Wear and ask whether the County Council could provide signs asking drivers to slow down when travelling through the village.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DURHAM (A68 CASTLESIDE TO WEST AUCKLAND) (SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2008 (AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2019

The Council proposes to make the above Order under Section 82, 83, 84 and Pt IV of Sch. 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the A68 from 310m south of its junction with Unc. Road 33.12 southerly for 201m. Full details can be examined at Crook & Consett libraries & County Hall, Durham during normal opening hours or via the Council website. All representations in writing to Sharon Renwick, County Hall, Durham (highways.orders@durham.gov.uk) to be received by 24/7/2019.

The Parish Council were made aware of the above proposal by Durham County Council. Councillor B. Henderson told Councillors that there should be a 30mph limit on the A68 around the turning into Witton le Wear as if you want to cross the A68 with a dog at that point you must sprint. Other places such as Tow Law and Toft Hill have a 30mph limit. The Chairman felt that the argument from the County Council would be that it is the main highway up to Scotland.

Chairman informed Councillors that there are lorries coming down Cemetery Bank and along the High Road, using Witton le Wear as a shortcut.

Low Barns is becoming more popular and drivers are parking on the main road instead of in the car park which is causing traffic problems.

It was resolved:

Clerk to contact Low Barns Nature Reserve to see if anything can be done about the cars parked outside the Nature Reserve.

2. **Parking on cemetery bank**
Nothing further to report currently.
3. **Gate on public footpath near Little Marshall Green Farm**
Nothing further to report currently.
4. **It's Your Neighbourhood grant.**
Currently nothing further to report.
5. **Operation London Bridge**
Clerk and Chairman to attend a training event held by Durham County Council on 16th July at 6pm that will cover this matter.
6. **Lights for the Village Green**
Chairman has been in contact with Darren Hubbard to confirm that the cost of the electricity connection to the National Grid was included in the quote of £2500. She also requested that we be given a date of when the work is to start so we can inform residents.
7. **Website**
The Parish Council hope to get photographs from the village fayre to put on the website.
8. **Sponsorship of plant tubs**
The Dun Cow, Parkinson Removals, Fury Events and Linsey Henderson have offered to sponsor the plant tubs within the village. They will each pay £50.
9. **Problems reported to Durham County Council and Environment Agency**
Clerk updated Councillors about 3 problems reported to the Parish Council by residents.
 - **Narrow bridge on road just off A68.** Still awaiting signage to be installed. Problem originally reported November 2018.
 - **Long grass on the edge of the A68.**
The long grass on the edge of the A68 has been cut by the County Council. Due to economic constraints the County Council are only cutting the first metre next to the highway.
 - **Waste bin in layby on A68 (from A68 to McNeil Farm).**
Durham County Council will not install a waste bin in this layby as they don't have the resources to constantly empty it. The laybys are visited once a week and any litter is removed.
 - **Broken gate to the footpath by the level crossing**
Clerk reported this to Durham County Council online.
 - **Debris on the upstream side of the old bridge.**
Clerk reported this to the Environment Agency using their incident helpline.

10. Witton Park Bridge

There is another meeting planned at Witton Park Village Hall on Friday 12th July at 6:30pm. Brian Buckley to attend this meeting.

It was resolved:

Chairman and Councillor B. Henderson to attend this meeting.

69/19 Representation by Residents

None

70/19 Financial Statement and Report

Balance of Current Account, Deposit Account and Cash £14,671.40 as at 30th June 2019. Clerk has submitted the P3 claim to Durham County Council but is still waiting for it to be paid.

A Receipt and Payments Account can be found on the Parish Council website. Councillors agreed payment of invoice 259 – 264 as follows:

259 –	Mr A. Dixon (Clerk Salary July)	£ 172. 40
260 –	HMRC PAYE	£ 38. 60
261 –	Mr A. Dixon (Clerk Salary August)	£ 172. 60
262 –	HMRC PAYE	£ 38. 40
263 –	Eli Press	£ 222. 00
264 –	Thinford Nurseries	<u>£ 387. 60</u>
	Total	<u>£1031. 60</u>

It was resolved:

All financial matters agreed as being correct.

71/19 Planning Matters

Please find below relevant planning application : -

DM/19/01342/FPA	Mr & Mrs P Gibbs	Land to The West Of 3 High Street Witton-le-Wear	Demolition of existing garage and construction of dwelling
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The Parish Council neither agrees with or objects to this planning application.

72/19 Clerks Correspondence

CDALC have provided a VAT training session at Shotton Hall on 24th September.

It was resolved:

Councillors agreed to allow Clerk to attend this training event.

Velo North

Velo North has been cancelled. Cycling event no longer going ahead due to lack of rider numbers.

Defibrillator signage on telephone box

Councillors agreed to pay for new defibrillator signs for the telephone box.

73/19 Neighbourhood and Parish Plan.

Nothing further to report at this time

74/19

Members Reports

Councillors have been asked by residents to report on the following matters :-

Dog Bin on Cemetery Bank

This Dog Bin is in poor condition.

It was resolved:

Clerk to contact the Clean and Green Team to see if we can get a new dog bin.

75/19

Chairman's Report

Witton Word

The deadline for articles is the 16th July.

76/19

Any other business

None

77/19

Date and Time of the next Meeting

The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 9th September **2019** in the Community Centre, Witton le Wear commencing at 6:15pm.

The meeting finished at 7:02 p.m.