

WITTON – LE – WEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Witton le Wear Parish Council held on **Monday 13th May, 2019** in the Community Centre, Witton le Wear commencing at **6.15pm**

Present: Councillors O. Wilson (Chair), P. Cowan, M. Henderson, B. Henderson, E. Swift, T. Parkinson, K. Quigley,

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

Apologies: E. Todd,

Declaration of interest: None

45/19 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 8th April 2019.
Minutes agreed as being accurate and correct.

46/19 Matters arising from the previous minutes.
1. Speeding traffic

An advert will be in this months Witton Word asking for volunteers to do Community Speed watch training.

2. Gate on public footpath near Little Marshall Green Farm

Unfortunately, due to someone leaving the new gate open allowing sheep to escape, the gate has been removed and a stile installed in its place. It is not yet clear whether the gate will be reinstated (with a return spring stopping the gate from being left open) later, or it will be used somewhere else.

3. It's Your Neighbourhood grant.

Councillor Cowan has been contacted by Durham County Council asking to meet with a member of the Parish Council to check whether the proposed areas we would like to plant the bulbs are suitable.

It was resolved:

Councillors P. Cowan and M Henderson agreed to attend this meeting.

4. Operation London Bridge

Parish Clerk contacted Steve Ragg (CDALC) regarding this matter. He is consulting with Durham County Council to see whether they can supply a standard book of condolence.

It was resolved:

Councillors agreed to wait for a reply from Steve Ragg before purchasing a book of condolence.

5. Lights for the Village Green

Chairman is still waiting to receive a quotation from Darren Hubbard.

6. Website

Nothing further to report at this time.

7. Defibrillator refresher course

Councillor Parkinson has spoken to Mike Eldridge who organises these training courses. As it was felt that the course should be held before the village fayre the only available date was Monday 24th June 6-8 pm.

It was resolved:

It was agreed to put an advert in the Witton Word advertising this training course to be held in the Methodist Chapel.

8. Sponsorship of plant tubs

Councillors felt asking local businesses to sponsor the plant tubs was a good idea.

It was resolved:

It was agreed to put an advert in the Witton Word asking businesses if they would like to sponsor the plant tubs.

9. Hedge at Adamton House

Councillors agreed that this complaint is nothing to do with the Parish Council.

10. Culvert near Hill House Farm

Clerk to write to the landowner to notify them of the blocked culvert.

11. Problems reported to Durham County Council

Clerk updated Councillors about 3 problems reported to the Parish Council by residents.

- **Drain outside 8 West End.** After a follow up from the property owner it was found that Durham County Council had cleaned the wrong drain and had consequently closed the case. Clerk notified DCC that the wrong drain had been cleaned but when they came to clean the drain again, they found that it is completely blocked.
- **Narrow bridge on road just off A68.** Still awaiting signage to be installed. Problem originally reported November 2018.
- **Waste bin in layby on A68 (from A68 to McNeil Farm).** A resident asked for a waste bin to be put in the above layby as rubbish was being left in the layby by people who were stopping to look at the view. This has been done.

47/19 Representation by Residents
None

48/19 Financial Statement and Report
Balance of Current Account, Deposit Account and Cash £15,292.51 as at 30th April 2019. Clerk informed Councillors that he had submitted the VAT Return for the year to 31st March 2019. The Parish Council are due a refund, of £506.53. The Precept of £6600 was received at the beginning of April. Clerk has requested a grant of £1,530 from Durham County Council to cover the cost of strimming the parish paths. The Parish Council will now have to make an annual payment of £40 to the Information Commissioners Office due to the General Data Protection Regulations that came into force on the 25th May 2018.

A Receipt and Payments Account can be found on the Parish Council website. Councillors agreed payment of invoice 249 – 253 as follows:

249 –	Mr A. Dixon (Clerk Salary April)	£ 190. 90
250 –	HMRC PAYE	£ 38. 60
251 –	Entwine Solutions (Website)	£ 45. 00
252 –	CDALC	£ 95. 14
253 –	K.M. Rudd (Cherry Blossom Tree)	<u>£ 50. 00</u>
	Total	<u>£ 419. 64</u>

It was resolved:

All financial matters agreed as being correct.

49/19

Planning Matters

Nothing to report at this time.

50/19

Clerks Correspondence

Already reported at 46/19 – 11.

51/19

Neighbourhood and Parish Plan.

Tim Cole has managed to convert a paper copy of the last Parish Plan into a digital format. It is hoped resident will come to see the stall planned for the village fayre. Hopefully this will provide some feedback and aid in the preparation of the Parish Plan.

52/19

Members Reports

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

Long grass on the edge of the A68.

A resident has asked whether the long grass on the A68 near the turning into Witton le Wear could be cut. Councillor B. Henderson suggested that it had not been cut due to Health and Safety. Cutting the grass could be dangerous due to the speed of the passing traffic.

It was resolved:

Clerk to contact the Highways Agency to ask if the long grass could be cut.

53/19

Chairman's Report

Large storage container at the Lido

A resident has raised concerns about a large storage container which has been left at the Lido. It could attract the wrong type of people.

54/19

Any other business

None

55/19

Date and Time of the next Meeting

The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 10th June 2019 in the Community Centre, Witton le Wear commencing at 6:15pm.

The meeting finished at 7:05 p.m.