

## WITTON – LE – WEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Witton le Wear Parish Council held on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020** via Zoom commencing at **6.00pm**

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

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

**Apologies:** K. Quigley, P. Cowan,

**Declaration of interest:** None

**78/20 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.**  
Minutes agreed as being accurate and correct.

**79/20 Matters arising from the previous minutes.**

**1. Speeding traffic**

The SLOW road markings have now been reinstated. Clerk received a letter from Brian Buckley, Strategic Highways Manager at Durham County Council stating that there is no funding available for traffic calming works. He recommended Community Speed Watch as a way forward.

**2. Lights for the Village Green**

Christmas tree lights to be turned on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December for 4 weeks between the hours of 4:30pm to 1030pm.

**It was resolved:**

Councillors agreed to pay for new batteries for the Christmas lights supplied by the Youth Club.

**3. Website**

Nothing further to report.

**4. Trees and bulbs**

Planting of bulbs will be left until Spring 2021.

**5. Seats and notice boards**

The new seat has been installed at the entrance to railway cottages, facing south.

**It was resolved:**

Councillors agreed to repair the noticeboard at St James Gardens.

**6. Vehicles parked on the pavement at the end of St James Gardens**

This vehicle has been reported to the Police.

**7. Information Boards**

Parish Council still waiting for the risk assessment to be carried out.

**8. Work to trees on the village green**

There are still problems getting this work done as Durham County Council are stating that they do not own the village green even though they cut the grass every year.

**9. Remembrance Sunday**

A wreath was laid on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November by Councillors B. & M. Henderson.

**10. Power outages**

Clerk has contacted Northern Powergrid to complain about the number of power cuts in the village.

**80/20 Representation by Residents**

None

**81/20 Financial Statement and Report**

Balance of Current Account, Deposit Account and Cash £18,185.41 as of 31st October 2020. Clerk reminded Councillors that the Parish Council must apply for the 2021-22 Precept in January.

A Receipt and Payments Account can be found on the Parish Council website. Councillors agreed payment of invoice 327 – 334 as follows:

327 – Marmax (Seat)	£ 412. 80
328 – Royal British Legion	£ 17. 00
329 – Mr A Dixon (Clerk Salary - November)	£ 493. 05
330 – Thinford Nurseries	£ 228. 00
331 – Eli Press	£ 137. 43
332 – Mr A Dixon (Clerk Salary - December)	£ 216. 25
333 – Mr D Bradley (Christmas lights)	£ 25. 99
334 – WLW Community Association (Meeting Costs)	<u>£ 33. 00</u>
Total	<u>£1563. 52</u>

**It was resolved:**

All financial matters agreed as being correct. An article to be put in the Witton Word asking residents to think of any projects they would like the Parish Council to undertake in the next financial year.

**82/20 Planning Matters**

None

**83/20 Clerks Correspondence**

**Electric car charging points**

Clerk informed Councillors of a grant that is available to install an electric car charging point within the village.

**It was resolved:**

Chairman to contact Weardale AAP to get further information.

**84/20 Neighbourhood and Parish Plan.**

Nothing further to report

**85/20 Members Reports**

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

**Village green tree report**

Cllr Swift noted that the Parish Council had had the trees on the village green surveyed in July 2018, and that the general recommendation was to have this done every three years. She also noted that two of the trees were ash and that ash dieback was a widespread problem. Even apparently healthy-looking trees can be diseased and require removal. She suggested arranging an inspection in spring or summer 2021.

**86/20 Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report.

**87/20 Any other business**

None

**88/20 Date and Time of the next Meeting**

The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January **2021** via Zoom commencing at 6:00pm.

The meeting finished at 7:30 p.m.