

## WITTON – LE – WEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Witton le Wear Parish Council held on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021** via Zoom commencing at **6.00pm**

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

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

**Apologies:** K. Quigley, E. Todd

**Declaration of interest:** None

Meeting started with a minute's silence after the sad news of the death of Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh.

**34/21 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

Minutes agreed as being accurate and correct.

**35/21 Matters arising from the previous minutes.**

**1. Speeding traffic**

Nothing to report at this time.

**2. Trees and bulbs**

Councillor Cowan has taken photographs of where bulbs are currently planted. A Cherry Blossom tree has been planted on the village green in memory of those who lost their lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**It was resolved:** Councillors agreed to buy some bulbs in Autumn 2021.

**3. Information Boards**

Nothing to report at this time.

**4. Witton word**

Councillor Wilson and Clerk still waiting to meet with the owner of Eli Press, this has been delayed due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions.

**5. Fence on the village green**

Clerk still awaiting a response from Jill Errington at Durham County Council.

**6. Cars parked on Station Road**

There is currently a bill going through Parliament considering cars parked on pavements. Police have promised to patrol the area to check on cars parked illegally.

**7. Erosion of the riverbank**

Some work has been carried out by Durham County Council to repair the footpath but it is still quite narrow in that area.

**8. Community centre**

The Community Association is currently in the process of appointing new Trustees.

**9. Cars parked opposite the Nature Reserve**

The Police have been monitoring cars parked in this area.

**10. Social media post**

The Parish Council received some interesting ideas of projects that residents would like to see carried out in the next financial year after a post on the Parish Council Facebook page.

**11. Potholes on High Street**

Some potholes have been repaired but we are waiting for further road maintenance.

**12. Christmas lights**

The Parish Council have a small surplus from the grant to put Christmas lights on trees on the village green so have decided to set aside funds to light another tree next Christmas.

**It was resolved:** Chair to speak to Paul Gleadow to find out how much it would cost to light another tree.

**13. Public Right of Way leading onto High Street**

The Public Right of Way is still closed due to ongoing building work.

**36/21 Representation by Residents**  
None

**37/21 Financial Statement and Report**  
Balance of Current Account, Deposit Account and Cash £7,246.53 as of 31st March 2021.

A Receipt and Payments Account can be found on the Parish Council website. Councillors agreed payment of invoice 344 – 348 as follows:

344 – SE Landscaping	£ 540. 00
345 – Mr A Dixon (Clerk Salary - April)	£ 216. 25
346 – E-On Energy	£ 19. 82
347 – ICO	£ 40. 00
348 – CDALC	<u>£ 140. 00</u>
Total	<u>£ 956. 07</u>

**It was resolved:**  
All financial matters agreed as being correct.

**38/21 Planning Matters**

**Removal of T1 Pine tree**

19 High Street Witton-le-Wear Bishop Auckland DL14 0AY

Ref. No: DM/21/01063/TCA | Received: Thu 25 Mar 2021 | Validated: Fri 26 Mar 2021 | Status: Pending Decision

**Felling of T1 Lime**

Pine Crest The Copse Witton-le-Wear Bishop Auckland DL14 0BA

Ref. No: DM/21/01039/TCA | Received: Wed 24 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 24 Mar 2021 | Status: Decided

Parish Council neither object to or agree with the above planning applications.

**39/21 Clerks Correspondence**

**Annual meeting**

After 7<sup>th</sup> May Councillors will be required to meet face to face as virtual meetings will no longer be legal.

**40/21 Neighbourhood and Parish Plan.**

Nothing further to report

**41/21 Members Reports**

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

**Collapsed dwarf wall in St James Gardens**

Councillor B Henderson has reported a collapsed dwarf wall to Durham County Council. The wall belongs to Believe Housing.

**42/21 Chairman's Report**

**Parking within the village**

There is a continuing problem of speeding traffic and cars parked incorrectly within the village.

**43/21 Any other business**

None

**44/21 Date and Time of the next Meeting**

The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 commencing at 6:15pm.

The meeting finished at 7:20 p.m.