

**WEST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING 21ST SEPTEMBER 2017**

Present:

Cllr David Brown (Chairman) Cllr Diana Allen, Cllr Graham Bottley, Cllr John Hunter
Tracy Harker (Parish Clerk)
Cllr Caroline Thornton-Berry (Richmondshire District Council)
5 members of the public

Apologies:

Cllr Christine Donovan-Brown

Approval of minutes of 13th July 2017 meeting:

The minutes were approved as a true record.

Matters Arising:

- **West Burton School Updates:**

A public consultation will be held at West Burton School on 4th October, with everyone invited to attend, along with an open day on 26th September to visit the School. A group of parents are preparing an alternative solutions document, using the governments fairer funding formula. Posters advertising the consultation and open days have been placed on the notice board and a letter of support has been written.

- **Dogleg Lane:**

Steve Shepherd and Les Orange presented an update to the Council on the progress so far regarding the culvert in Dogleg Lane, a background information sheet was read and maps and plans were viewed. The assessment and design has been completed by Les Orange through AECOM's corporate responsibility program. Several options have been discussed, including diverting the stream across the field to the rear of the pond (at a cost of around £4000 by Ivesons of Hawes) this was decided to be unfeasible as it would cause more flooding behind the pond and it was agreed that the simplest solution is to line the culvert with a large plastic pipe. Les Orange is waiting for a quote for the cost of a pipe and is expecting this next week. Funding for this project could potentially be shared between the adjacent property owners, the Parish Council, YDNP and NYCC Flood Agency.

The wall at the back of the pond could be altered to allow free passage of water, by replacing a section with fencing, Les Orange will find out the optimum size gap to prevent passing the problem to lower properties.

The Grille on the pond is also a problem and we are awaiting costings for a new design.

Steve Shepherd and Les Orange were thanked for their work so far.

- **Affordable Housing Development:**

Plans have been submitted to YDNP Planning department for the development of 17 houses. The plans were on display at the Parish Council meeting, individuals are welcome to comment directly to YDNP via their website.

A long discussion took place, including input from the members of the public present. Cllr Allen wished to declare she was not in favour of the development, the rest of the council are all in favour.

Concerns were raised about the size of the development, (an increase from 12 suggested by YDNP Housing needs survey in 2012 to 17 now), the lack of single person accommodation and the likelihood of affordable housing actually being affordable. The Parish Council understand that there is an increase in demand, and the higher number of houses could be to make the scheme financially viable for the developer. Cllr Thornton-Berry confirmed that an independent financial viability study has already taken place.

A resident was concerned about the remainder of the field, and the potential for future expansion of the site. The Parish Council understands that the remainder of the field will remain property of the current owner, and any future plans can be looked at should they arise.

Questions about the impact of traffic, and of speed were discussed.

The Parish Council agreed to support the proposal, but would like to submit comments and questions on the above points to the planning department of YDNP, the Clerk will send this tomorrow as a matter of urgency. (see appendix 1)

Planning Issues:

Only the above affordable housing scheme.

Financial Issues:

- **Report of Payments made/received:**
£450 was received from Park Leisure for the sign on Green Hill £75 from U3A croquet
- **Payment of outstanding invoices/expenses:**
£735 to Anthony Goulthorpe, £420 clerks ½ year salary £26.25 ink and stationery

Swinithwaite news/issues:

Nothing to report

Any Other Business:

An email was received asking us to complete the Leyburn Town Plan Survey online, the survey takes a few minutes to complete and will help the Town Council to form a plan for the future.

Confirmation of time and date of next meeting:

This was agreed for Thursday 16th November at 7:30 in the Village Hall.

Appendices:

1. Copy of letter to YDNP planning department