

WEST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF WEST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22ND MARCH 2022
AT WEST WITTON VILLAGE HALL.

Present

CLlr Dave Brown (Chair) Cllr Christine Donovan-Brown
CLlr Graham Bottley Cllr John Hunter

In attendance

Alyson Jones (Clerk)
Public: 0

1.1 To receive Apologies and reasons for Absence

CLlr Neil Dutton – Work commitment

RESOLVED: Reasons for absence were approved by the Council

1.2. Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st Sept 2021 were read by the Chair.

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st Sept 2021 as a true and proper record.

3. Ongoing Issues

To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:

3.1 Cemetery – To consider the leaning pillar, walling, gate, parking area

A discussion took place regarding the leaning pillar, walling, gate, and parking area at the cemetery.

RESOLVED: A Councillor will speak to a Contractor with regard to the leaning pillar, walling, gate, and parking area at the cemetery and will provide an update at the next meeting.

3.2 Milk Stand – Christmas lights

An update was given regarding the village Christmas lights being wired to a telegraph pole in the village in future.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted and that a Councillor will provide a further update to the Council when this work is complete.

3.3 Rural reports

The latest reports have been distributed to Councillors by the Parish Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Clerk will continue to circulate reports received to Councillors.

3.4 Crime reports

Monthly crime reports have been distributed to Councillors by the Parish Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Clerk will continue to circulate reports received to Councillors.

3.5 Highways update

Councillors met with a Project Engineer from Highways North Yorkshire on Tuesday 15th February and updates on the following issues were given:

- *Subsided 'Sluice Valve' Cover and Subsided Carriageway* – **awaiting update** from the local Highways Officer if any work is required.
- *'SLOW' Marking – A684 West Of Village* – **awaiting update** from the local Highways Officer if any work is required.
- *Residential Housing Development* – **awaiting update** from the local Highways Officer if any work is required.
- *'Keep Clear' Marking – 'The Wensleydale Heifer'* – existing white 'H' Bar marking across the entrance to the car park to the west across the front of the property has been extended by Highways North Yorkshire and 'KEEP CLEAR' written in large letters. **Work complete.**
- *Church Lane / A684 Junction* – a white 'H' Bar 'keep clear' marking has been installed by Highways North Yorkshire around each corner at the junction. Each marking has been extended for a short distance along both Church Lane and the A684. **Work complete.**
- *'Bus Stop' Marking* – Highways North Yorkshire to mark out a formal bus stop area. **Awaiting update.**
- *Repainting Of Road Markings* – Various road markings at the east end of the village have been repainted by Highways North Yorkshire. **Work complete.**
- *'30' Mph Road Markings* – A large '30' roundel has been marked by Highways North Yorkshire on the carriageway on each A684 approach to the village, adjacent to the 30 Mph Speed Limit signs. **Work complete.**
- *Damaged Verge Marker Posts* – A local Highways Officer has inspected the condition of the marker posts and repairs have been completed. **Work complete.**

RESOLVED: That the updates be noted and that a Councillor will provide a further update to the Council on any of the outstanding issues listed above at the next meeting.

3.6 Resilience Plan

Copies of the Resilience Plan had been circulated to all Councillors.

RESOLVED: That the Resilience Plan would be discussed at a future meeting.

3.7 20s Plenty

Copies of a report regarding the responses to the 20s Plenty campaign flyer had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Council agreed to support the campaign in principle.

3.8 Update on Remembrance Service 2022

Last years' short service at the commemorative bench on 11 Nov 2021 was well attended but that concerns were raised over the safety issues of the event being held on the

pavement. Council asked to consider the option to move the short service to Mill Dam for 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Council agreed to the hosting of a short Remembrance Service at Mill Dam on 11 Nov 2022 at 11am.

The following items were suggested to be purchased for the Remembrance Service 2022:

- A dozen poppies to decorate the street posts in West Witton and Swinithwaite
- Small wooden crosses from the British Legion to be sold in the village shop.
- A Royal British Legion Remembrance 'Tommy' statue has been purchased to be displayed in the village

RESOLVED: That the Council agreed to the ordering poppies (cost tbc) and small wooden crosses (cost tbc). The invoices would then come to the next council meeting for approval and payment. The Council agreed to ratify the ordering of a 'Tommy' Sculpture (at a cost of £174). The invoice will be presented at the next council meeting for approval and payment.

3.9 Update on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022

A Jubilee bench celebrating the Queen's Jubilee celebrations (at a cost of £1,338 to be divided between the Smorthwaite Trust, Smorthwaite Garden, The United Charities and West Witton Parish Council) has been purchased for Mill Dam and that the existing bench at Mill Dam will be moved to inside the playground.

RESOLVED: That the Council agreed to ratify the ordering of the Jubilee bench and for the existing bench at Mill Dam to be moved to the playground.

3.10 Mill Dam flooding issues

No updates have been received since the last meeting.

3.11 Parish Council website

No updates to report since the last meeting.

4. Planning Issues

No applications have been received since the last meeting.

5. Financial issues

5.1 Payments

RESOLVED: That the Council approved payments of the following invoices:

Amanda Lambert	West Witton Pottery Class	£300.00
Royal British Legion	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bench	£1,338.00
Yorkshire Local Councils Associations	YLCA Annual Membership	£137.00
Richmondshire County Council	Cemetery Refuse Collection	£71.50

5.2 Income

No income had been received.

5.3 Online banking for account

The Council considered the proposal for setting up an online bank account.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Clerk will look into this matter and present findings at the next meeting.

5.4 Investment in Hawes Garage

The Council considered a proposal to invest in the community run Dales Head Garage, Hawes, as part of the Upper Dales Community Partnership.

RESOLVED: That further information was required and would be presented by a Councillor at the next meeting.

5.5 Update on garden rents/Outstray – Chantry

A discussion took place regarding garden rents and the request to purchase the gardens, owned by the council.

RESOLVED: That the Council would not sell the gardens and the rent invoices would be issued as usual.

Chantry has new owners and the General Manger has contacted the Parish Clerk regarding taking on an active role in supporting the area.

RESOLVED: That the Council express their welcome to the new Chantry General Manager and that the Clerk would contact the General Manager proposing a meeting to discuss how he could become more involved.

5.6 Other (to consider the appointment of the Internal and External Auditor)

A new Internal Auditor was proposed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange an appointment for the Internal Auditor to meet with the Council to complete the Internal Audit for 2021/2022 at a cost to be agreed and presented at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That PKF Littlejohn be appointed as the External Auditor for 2021/2022.

6 Swinithwaite News/Issues

It was reported to the Council that the issue with Hargill Lane has been fixed and the lane has not flooded recently. Also that Highways North Yorkshire are looking to resolve the flooding issues on the A684.

RESOLVED: That a Councillor will present further updates at the next meeting.

7.1 Parish Clerk laptop

The Council agreed that the Parish Clerk should have a designated laptop for Parish Council work and that this laptop should be backed up.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Clerk will organize the purchase of the computer and backup. Invoices will be presented at the next council meeting for approval and payment.

7.2 Benches on Mill Dam:

The Council was informed that the benches on Mill Dam have been re-stained at a cost of £40.

RESOLVED: That an invoice for the cost of the re-staining will be presented at the next council meeting for approval and payment.

7.3 Parish Council Elections

Elections will be held on Thursday 5 May 2022. Publication of Notice of Election has been displayed on the Village Noticeboard. The Parish Clerk circulated forms of nomination to the Councillors at the meeting and reminded Councillors that receipt of nominations must be received by Richmondshire District Council by Tue 5 April.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will send Publication of Statements of Persons Nominated to be circulated and placed on the noticeboard in West Witton on 6 April 2022 and Publication of Notice of Poll will be circulated and placed on the noticeboard in West Witton on 26 April 2022.

8. Confirmation of date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 21st May 2022** in the Village Hall, West Witton. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and will start at 7.00 pm the Village Hall, West Witton.

The meeting closed.

Signed as a True Record.

Date: 12-04-2022

Name: Alyson Jones (Parish Clerk)