

**WEST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING 15TH MAY 2018
INCLUDING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7:30 PM VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT:

Cllr David Brown; Chairman, Cllr Graham Bottley, Cllr Diana Allen, Cllr Christine Donovan-Brown, Cllr John Hunter, Tracy Harker; Parish Clerk
7 Members of the Public

Apologies:

Cllr Caroline Thorntonberry, Richmondshire District Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Election of Chairman:

David Brown was re-elected as Chairman.

Annual Summary of Business:

The Chairman outlined a summary of the year's business:

- The Affordable Housing Scheme at the West end of the village has been approved by the YDNP planning authority.
- Nanny Well has been regularly cleaned and maintained throughout the year by Cllr Allen and her husband, a new bench was donated by Denzil Miles.
- Green Hill has been well maintained by Park Leisure
- Smorthwaite Garden has been well tended this year; volunteers have helped to tidy the borders and plant bulbs, the Wensleydale Heifer made a £200 donation to the Smorthwaite Garden Fund towards it's upkeep. The U3A have used the garden regularly to play croquet.
- A rota has worked well to clean the pond on a regular basis.
- A Christmas Tree was placed on the garden this year and proved popular, lights were bought by the combined village fundraising events, the Wensleydale Heifer provided mince pies for the well attended Carol service around the tree,
- Bulbs and shrubs were donated for the Cemetery and improvements are planned for the Garden of Remembrance.
- The milk stand has been renovated and is looking nice.
- Work continues to find solutions for dog leg lane.
- West Burton School is an ongoing situation and will be discussed in more detail during the normal PC meeting.

Finances:

For the period 30/10/17 to 29/03/18

Opening Balance £5039.46

Income £3078.00

Expenses £3300.67

Closing Balance £4816.79

Open Forum for Residents:

No issues raised.

Closure of Annual General Meeting

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. Approval of minutes of 26th March 2018.

The minutes were approved as a true record.

2. Matters arising;

- **Affordable Housing update:** No further updates since the approval decision.
- **West Burton School update:** Cllr Bottley reported that West Burton parents are writing formally to the governors to request de-federation, with support from the local MP, District, County and Parish Councils within the next few days. It is understood that as few as 4 new children would eliminate future funding deficit and there are believed to be 8 families with up to 10 primary age children who have registered an interest in the affordable housing scheme with the Housing Officer at RDC. The current uncertainty over the future of West Burton School is having an impact on pupil numbers, and parents are concerned that Leyburn primary school is at capacity.
- **Defibrillator event scheduling:** Cllr Hunter will provide the clerk with an email address for his daughter in law so an event can be scheduled in the Autumn.
- **Relocation of litter bin:** The litter bin opposite the green hill has now been moved to the top of back lane, adjacent to the bus stop at the Eastern end of the village. This has been successful as it is being well used. RDC have been notified of it's new location.
- **Dogleg Lane update:** Cllr Brown read out a statement regarding progress with this issue, **see appendix A**. It was agreed that an inspection cover should be sited within the lane so monitoring and regular maintenance can be carried out. Cllr Brown will seek to John Sunter about this. It was agreed that some form of grill could be placed at the top of the stream in John Hunter's field.

3. Planning Issues: The plans for a 3 bedroom dwelling behind Chatsworth Cottage have been approved, applications have been received for a Polytunnel behind Beacon Fields (Mr P Hunter) 2 further yurts at Swinithwaite and revised plans for the slurry lagoon at West End Farm, Swinithwaite. No objections were raised.

4. Financial Issues:

- Report of payments made/received: Precept of £1200 was received, Garden rents of £210, playingfield rent of £15 and grave reservations fees totalling £100 received.
- Payment of outstanding invoices/expenses: Payments were made to Antony Goulthorpe for gardening £85, RDC cemetery refuse collection £82.20 Zurich insurance renewal £257.60 T Harker wages and stationery £422.45 and Cllr Bottley for plants £4.80

A cheque for Garden rents will be sent to the playing field committee for £370 upon receipt of a new chequebook and confirmation of payments received from the gardens.

5. Swinithwaite news/issues: The defibrillator pads will need replacing, the clerk will look into this

6. Any other business.

We have been advised by the YLCA that MP's have accepted an amendment to exempt parish councils from having to appoint a data protection officer under the General Data Protection Regulations, we will be advised of any updates.

Joe McQueen from the Playingfield committee reported a number of improvements taking place to the children's play area and pavilion, and invited people to attend their AGM on 21st May at 7pm.

7. Confirmation of date and time of next meeting:

This was confirmed for Monday September 24th at 7:30 in the Village Hall.

APPENDIX A –Statement re Dogleg Lane, read by Cllr Brown at PC Meeting 15/05/2018