

WEST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING 9TH MARCH 2017

Present:

Cllr David Brown, Chairman
Cllr John Hunter
Cllr Diana Allen
Cllr Graham Bottley
Tc Harker, Parish Clerk
Amanda Madden, Rural Housing Enabler, RDC
Cllr Caroline Thornton-Berry, RDC
PCSO Don Watson, North Yorkshire Police (NYP)
2 Members of the Public

Apologies:

Cllr Christine Donovan-Brown

1. Approval of minutes of 12th January 2017

The minutes were approved as a true record.

2. Matters Arising;

- 1. Low Cost Housing Update.** Amanda Madden updated the Parish Council on the current status of the plans for the site at the West of the village. A new developer is now on board with the scheme, Swale Valley Construction (SVC) and Broadacres Housing are now in a position to present plans for a mix of 17 open market and low cost, affordable homes on the site. A viability study had been sent to an independent assessor to be verified, Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) have agreed to the use of a mix of stone and render to aid with the financial viability. A community consultation even will be held at the Village Hall on 25th April, where detailed plans can be viewed and representatives from SVC, Broadacres and RDC will be available to answer questions. After this event plans can then be submitted to YDNP planners for approval.
- 2. Local Police Update;** PCSO Don Watson was invited to give an update on local policing issues. We are fortunate to be in an area of very low crime, but he advised us to be vigilant and to keep an eye out for suspicious vehicles or lights in fields, as poaching is sometimes an issue. He spoke about a new community messaging system where NYP can update the community by text, more details of the scheme are available on the NYP website or leaflets are available at Leyburn Police Station. Leyburn Police station are now offering 'Dot Pen Marking' for property such as trailers, mobile phones, tack and tools, this works by engraving a visible tattoo on the item and is free, more details available at the Police Station.
- 3. Telephone Box;** The telephone box is now staying, YDNP confirmed an error was made in the consultation and it is staying for the time being.
- 4. Dog Waste Bin;** RDC are currently doing an audit of all their bins in the area and then they will assess our eligibility, this could take up to 12 months.

5. **Garden of Remembrance;** Calverts have donated some stone edging and volunteers have helped to install it, a sign needs to be made. An interment is booked for the 18th of this month.
6. **Yorkshire Dales Society;** An invitation has been received to join as an affiliate member, after careful consideration it was decided that we will not gain much from membership.

3.Planning Issues;

No new plans have been received, the Yurts at Swinithwaite have received conditional approval, awaiting decisions on the Kennels at Swinithwaite and the conversions at Greystones and Home Farm.

4.Financial Issues;

- **Report of Payments made/received;** £160 has been received from Sandersons re Harker and Brown burials.
- **Payment of outstanding invoices/expenses;** £14.97 Stationery, £72 PKF Littlejohn (Audit) £96 AG Garden services, £79.20 RDC refuse collection, £16.06 Myers (cement, sand, gravel) £15.30 Volunteer refreshments, £24 Web hosting.

5.Swinithwaite news/issues:

Cllr Bottley spoke to the highways about the flooding adjacent to West End Farm, they said it could not be investigated due to build up of cow muck, since then the street sweeper has been and the highways have agreed to come and look to see if the gully/drain can be unblocked. The bank at the top of Pattimer Lane has now been repaired.

6.Any Other Business:

- We have been offered unwanted trestle tables by the electoral team at RDC, Te will pass the details onto Steve Grieve of the Feast Committee.
- The Church clock needs to be repaired and ultimately converted to an electric system, at great cost, the Parish Council are willing to make a donation to the costs of this upon receipt of further information about costs.
- Nanny Well has been tidied up and has been planted with new plants. The bench there is rotten and needs removing.
- Cllr Bottley went to a meeting of Upper Wensleydale Health Watch, the discussion was dominated by the threatened closure of A+E at Darlington Memorial Hospital or Stockton, UWHW and local GP's are going to ask the public to write to MP Rishi Sunak asking for his support, a proforma letter will be available at doctors's surgeries soon.
- Westwitton.net is up and running and needs promoting.

7. Date and Time of next Meeting:

This was confirmed as May 11th at 730 in the Village Hall.