

**Minute 228**

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 20th February 2019 - 7:30pm**

Attendance: Parish Councillors – J Hanslip, K Hiscock, A Lee, R Smith (Chairman), Clerk- Sue Porter and 5 members of the Spinney Management Group

**1. OPENING PROCEDURES**

**1.1 APOLOGIES** – A Gilbert, J Melling, M Thomas from the PC, Justin, Shirley and Greg from the Spinney Management Group (SMG)

**1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** – Personal or Prejudicial - Nil

**2. PUBLIC TIME** – Nil

**3. BUSINESS**

**Meeting involving the Parish Council and Spinney Management Group**

3.1 Opening remarks – The Chairman has reached out for a Chairman and Secretary to the SMG via the parish newsletter and e-mail distribution list. This has not brought forward any volunteers. There is now the decision to make for the future of the management of The Spinney, as several members of the SMG also want to step down.

3.2 Future Plans for the Spinney – It is proposed that the Management Group now comes under the Parish Council, with part of the PC meeting allowing for a separate agenda item to deal with The Spinney. The Clerk and Chairman will take on the respective roles for The Spinney. This will be included initially for 6 months during the handover period, and will then go to 3 times a year. The monthly reports will continue to be undertaken by the volunteers on the rota, with reports e-mailed to the Clerk and Chairman, along with the next person on the rota and the pre-school. There are no hunting or shooting rights across the land. There is permission in place with a local landowner to drive the Spinney 3 times a year for pheasants. A risk assessment is in place and is due for renewal in June 2020.

3.3 Spinney Management Group finance status – The current treasurer for the SMG will remain, however the bank mandate will need to be updated to include the PC Chairman and Treasurer. The insurance will need to be checked to see if this can be included in the PC's insurance policy. The bank balance as at 19/02/2019 is £1,452.70. The only costs which The Spinney incurs is £84.00 for the insurance and the village hall hire for the meetings, which will now be incorporated into the PC. The donors of the monthly contributions to the SMG will be contacted to advise of the change of management.

3.4 Working Party status – K Hiscock will continue to arrange the working parties with the volunteers.

3.5 Grant funding application update – Confirmation has been received that DDC have approved a grant of 50% of the total costs of the works for the new boardwalk extension in The Spinney. Three quotes have been received to undertake the work. The lowest quote has not responded to any communication following the quote therefore the quote submitted from Simons & Sons of £4,445 (including VAT) be accepted. This was proposed by R Smith, seconded by A Lee and all voted in favour. Payment will be made up from the funding from DDC (£2,000), the Parish Council (£1,500) and The Spinney (£1,000).

**Meeting Closed: 8:20pm**

**DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday 13th March 2019 – 7:30pm**