

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

held on Zoom on Wednesday 14th July 2021 – 7:30pm

Attendance: Parish Councillors – A Gilbert, J Hanslip, K Hiscock, M Hampson, A Lee, J Melling, R Smith (Chairman) and S Porter (Clerk) and 7 members of the public

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES – Nil

1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – K Hiscock – Planning Application WND/2021/0307 (Personal & Prejudicial)

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on **WEDNESDAY 19th MAY 2021** and the **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** held on **Tuesday 1st June 2021** – It was proposed by R Smith, seconded by M Hampson and all voted in favour that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and will be signed and dated by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Dog Fouling Issues – The problem dog has been identified and the owner's written to by the Dog Warden. Improvements have been made on the paths and around the Church, but there is still an issue in the fields.

3.2 Whilton Mill – Planning Conditions/Noise Issues – Affected residents are being asked to contact Environmental Health (WNC) with a diary of noise disturbances. Attempts to arrange a site meeting with the management team have not been successful. A Gilbert suggests contacting the site owner, Roger Ashby, to discuss the problems.

3.3 Village Name Sign Replacement – Confirmation from Highways, there have been delays with the sign being installed, however this is expected to now take place within the next few months.

3.4 Speed Limit at Whilton Locks – Following delays, the PC have been advised by Highways that the signage is expected to be in place by the end of July 2021.

3.5 Brington Lane – Road Condition – Following an inspection by highways, the PC were advised that no areas were showing signs of concern therefore no action is deemed necessary. There is still the problem with water draining from the field, which needs addressing, therefore the Clerk will continue to chase Highways for a solution to this ongoing issue.

3.6 Anglian Water Pumping Station – The repairs have been undertaken.

3.7 Village Parking – The problem still remains on Main Street, the Chairman will draft a letter for approval by the PC before sending to the residents.

3.8 Parish Path Warden - Richard Bunce has volunteered for position of Parish Path Warden.

4. PUBLIC TIME – Anthea Hiscock advised that the Local History Committee will be holding an event on Saturday 11th September 2021 from 10-4pm. The whole community will be involved, and the Church will be open.

Concerns with regards to planning application WND/2021/0307 and the proposed rendering of the property, there are no issues with the planned extensions and porch, but feel that the rendering would be totally out of keeping with the Close.

(The planning application was moved to being discussed after public time due to the interest at the meeting)

5. WEST UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORT – No report received.

The Chairman advised that he attended the Parish & Town Councils Forum online and was told that the Unitary Council is still developing after 90 days. The customer services and phone system is causing an issue. Reporting problems and contacting staff is currently very difficult as the new teams adjust to the updated systems. The latest changes to the planning system for parish councils is that any objections submitted need to have the support of three unitary councillors, who are not on the Planning Committee to force this to be discussed at a WNC Planning Meeting. This has raised concerns with many parishes and the constitution is now being looked into by WNC.

6. THE SPINNEY – Two working parties have taken place in May and July.

6.1 Tree Maintenance Quotes – K Hiscock has received three quotes for the tree maintenance works identified in the Tree Report undertaken in April 2021. These have been circulated to the councillors prior to the meeting. It was approved by all that the quote from Stanford Tree Care be accepted which includes the following works; Removal of 9 trees, all brash to be left on site formed into habitat piles. Timber to be left in neat stacks, with the site left clean and tidy. All for the sum of £5,250.00. K Hiscock will discuss the proposed start dates with the contractor so that parishioners can be advised of the works being undertaken as the footpath through The Spinney will be closed. These dates will be published on the noticeboard, circulated on the e-mail distribution list and an article added to the next newsletter.

7. VILLAGE HALL – There will be a meeting held this Friday to discuss the re-opening of the Village Hall now that government restrictions are being lifted from 19th July.

8. BUSINESS

8.1 Plant a Tree for Jubilee – There are suggestions that parishes plant a significant tree in a prominent location to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and arrange village celebrations for the weekend in June 2022.

8.2 Internal Audit Report 2020-21 – The Internal Audit has been completed and the Certificate of Exemption has been accepted by the External Auditor.

Items identified are as follows: No decisions, especially financial, should be made under Matters Arising, only under Business. This was noted, and agreed that outstanding items remain on the Agenda under Business. The budget and precept discussions should be two separate Agenda items. Standing Orders must be reviewed annually, this has been undertaken in May 2021, and was only missed in May 2020 as no Annual Meeting was held due to Covid.

9. FINANCE

9.1 Income/Expenditure Update & Bank Reconciliation from May & June 2021 – Approved by M Hampson, seconded by J Hanslip and all voted in favour

All accounts approved by R Smith, seconded by A Lee and all voted in favour:

9.2 Accounts Paid (May to July 2021):

Online	S Porter – Clerk's Salary May 21	£ 266.46	LGA 1972 s112
	S Porter – Clerk's Expenses May 21	£ 21.60	LGA 1972 s112
Online	S Porter – Clerk's Salary June 21	£ 266.46	LGA 1972 s112
	S Porter – Clerk's Expenses June 21	£ 21.60	LGA 1972 s112

Online	123 Reg – E-Mails x 6	£ 258.36	LGA 1972 s111
Online	123 Reg – E-Mail x 1	£ 43.06	LGA 1972 s111
Online	Calico – Website	£ 24.00	LGA 1972 s111

9.3 Accounts to be Paid

Online	Steers Printing – Newsletter	£ 175.00	LGA 1972 s142
--------	------------------------------	----------	---------------

9.4 Payments Received (May to July 2021)

Nat West	Interest	£ 0.27
WNC	½ Year Precept	£7,532.50
HMRC	VAT Refund 2020-21	£ 538.81

Bank Balance (as at 30.06.2021)

Current Account	£ 5,383.63
Reserve Account	£ 17,277.48

10. PLANNING

WND/2021/0307 – Single storey extension between kitchen and garage, single storey rear extension, replacement porch and first floor extension – **The Ridings, 3 Langton Rise, Whilton**
The Parish Council have no objections to the proposed extensions to the property or the replacement porch but do object to the rendering of the property which will be totally out of keeping with the street scene. It was asked that the access for other residents remains unobstructed at all times whilst any works are being undertaken.

PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

The Parish Council noted the following planning permission granted:

DA/2021/0316 - Conversion and external alterations to the existing storage/garage building to a dwelling and change of use of paddock land to residential garden - **Home Farm, Manor Lane, Whilton**

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday 8th September 2021- 7:30pm

Meeting Closed: 8:50pm