

## Minutes of Witton Gilbert Parish Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014 in the Boardroom Cooper Hall

- 13/151 Apologies were received from Councillors Hillary.  
Present: - Councillors Reynolds, Simpson, Harries, Waller, Woodmass, Guy, Liddle, Cowan  
County Councillors B Armstrong & J Armstrong.
- 13/152 Village Wardens: - The Clerk presented the Village Wardens reports on mobile patrols in the village in January 2014.
- 13/153 Minutes: - The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 were approved as a true record.
- 13/154 I Dixon: - The Council received an application from I Dixon to erect an 8ft x 6ft shed on allotment garden 3.  
The Council resolved that I Dixon be granted permission to erect an 8ft x 6ft shed on allotment garden 3.
- 13/155 Witton Gilbert Playgroup: - The Council discussed a letter from Witton Gilbert Playgroup requesting financial assistance.  
The Council resolved that this matter be placed on the agenda for their next meeting when the Playgroups accounts are available.
- 13/156 BDO Audit: - The Council received a letter from BDO, their external auditors, informing them that the date for the annual audit for 2013 – 2014 was to be 15<sup>th</sup> July 2014.
- 13/157 Witton Gilbert Dancing Club: - Councillors Guy & Simpson declared an interest in this item & left the meeting taking no part in the decision reached by the Council. The Council discussed a letter from Witton Gilbert Dancing Club regarding match funding raised by themselves towards celebrations for their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.  
The Council resolved to make a donation of £500.00 to Witton Gilbert Dancing Club towards celebrations for their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Councillors Guy & Simpson returned to the meeting.
- 13/158 Witton Gilbert Bowling Club: - The Council discussed a letter from Witton Gilbert Bowling Club requesting financial assistance.  
The Council resolved to make a donation of £300.00 to Witton Gilbert Bowling Club.
- 13/159 S Thurston: - The Council received an application from S Thurston to erect a 6m x 3m polytunnel on allotment garden 21a.  
The Council resolved that S Thurston be granted permission to erect a 6m x 3m polytunnel on allotment garden 21a.
- 13/160 Durham County Council: - The Council discussed a letter from Durham County Council regarding a survey of War Memorials in their area.  
The Council resolved to confirm to the Durham County Council that the Village War Memorial at Sacriston Lane was owned and maintained by the Durham County Council
- 13/161 Durham County Council: - The Council discussed a letter from Durham County Council regarding consultation on their review of Fixed Play Provision in the Village.  
The Council resolved that the Clerk attend a meeting at County Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> April as part of their consultation on their review of Fixed Play Provision in the Village.
- 13/162 Durham County Council: - The Council received a Planning Application from Durham County Council for a proposed dwelling at the rear of Thorndale Front Street Witton Gilbert
- 13/163 Accounts for payment
- |                             |                        |         |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| H M Customs                 | NIC & Income Tax April | 125.20  |
| G Thompson                  | Telephone March        | 21.17   |
| Durham County Council       | Christmas Tree         | 1332.00 |
| Durham County Council       | Pest Control           | 360.00  |
| N Power                     | Electricity Supply     | 84.38   |
| G Thompson                  | Ink Refill             | 39.99   |
| Papercraft                  | Newsletter             | 249.00  |
| Witton Gilbert Dancing Club | Donation               | 500.00  |
| Witton Gilbert Bowling Club | Donation               | 300.00  |
- 13/164 Reports: - Councillors J Armstrong reported on County Council matters. The Clerk reported on requests for a post box on Front Street since the removal of the post box from the recently relocated Post Office.

The Council resolved that the Clerk contact the Royal Mail regarding a request for a post box on Front Street.

13/165 Neighbourhood Plan: - The Council received a report from Councillor Reynolds & the Clerk regarding progress of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee for the provision of a Neighbourhood Plan.

13/166 Allotment Gardens: - The Council discussed a report by the Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman after discussions with residents of Acorn Croft regarding allotment management issues and practices on the allotment gardens at Sacriston Lane.

The Council resolved that the following changes to rules and practices be adopted to assist both residents and allotment tenants.

That the Parish Council place an embargo on any new applications on hens on the allotment gardens until May 2015 to enable a full assessment of the planned maintenance contract on pest control on the allotment gardens which began on 1st April 2014.

That the Parish Council write to all allotment holders informing them that no fires are to be lit on allotments during the hours of 6.00am & 6.00pm.

That when fires are lit outside these hours due notice of prevailing winds be taken into account and that under no circumstances fires are to be left unattended.

That the Parish Council write to all allotment holders informing them that any vehicles brought to the allotment gardens through Acorn Croft must be parked on the allotment car park and no vehicles are to be parked on Acorn Croft.

That the Parish Council to assist the clearance of rubbish accumulated on some allotment plots which may have been inherited from previous tenants make a skip to enable removal of rubbish in a supervised manner.

13/167 Councillor Simpson gave notice that at the next meeting he will propose that the Council purchase a supply of dog poo bags for distribution in the Village.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.05 p.m.

Signed.....

Councillor

Chairman

May 12<sup>th</sup> 2014