

Minutes of Witton Gilbert Parish Council held on 12th April 2021 at 6.30 pm virtually through Zoom

- 20/138 Apologies: - County Councillor B. Coult, Councillor P. Guy
Present: - Councillors F Reynolds, G Brown, D Lynch, N Liddle, L Hope, A Simpson and A. Hillary.
Also present: - DC Rider (Clerk) and G Thompson (Deputy Clerk).
- 20/139 Declarations of Interest: - None
- 20/140 Questions and comments from electors of the Parish: - None
- 20/141 Minutes: - The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8th March 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 20/142 Matters Arising: - The Clerk reported that he had been unable to schedule a meeting of the allotment committee due to problems finding a suitable time and date and would attempt to do so again after the upcoming elections.
- 20/143 Correspondence: – The Clerk reported on the following: -
- a) Email from Chloe Charlton - *Good evening Apologies on the late email. I have contacted the Police and Durham County Council and don't seem to be getting anywhere. I live in Rose Lea and we are having a massive issue with cars speeding along whilst children play. I am at a complete loss as to what I can do next to try and get some help with either having signs erected, speed humps installed or even potentially a one-way system. The safety for all children within the street is becoming increasingly concerning by the day. I truly believe it is only a matter of time before a serious accident will take place. I would greatly appreciate a response in regards to the above if you are in any kind of position to help and support me in making it a safer street for all residents.* County Councillor Simpson agreed that he and County Councillor Coult would take this matter up further with the relevant DCC Officers.
 - b) Email from Matt Stephenson requesting permission to erect a 6x3 poly tunnel on allotment plot 10. Members agreed to this request.
 - c) Email from J Barrett requesting permission to install a 15x10 foot polytunnel on allotment plot 7. Members agreed to this request.
 - d) Email from Johnny Williams of Witton Gilbert requesting to be placed on the waiting list for an allotment. Members agreed to this request.
 - e) Email from Susan Wymer of Witton Gilbert requesting to be placed on the waiting list for an allotment. Members agreed to this request.
 - f) Email from Lyndsey Ward of Witton Gilbert requesting to be placed on the waiting list for an allotment. Members agreed to this request.
 - g) HMRC Important Information for all Employers. The Clerk reported on the latest information received from HMRC regarding finalising the old and starting the new tax year.
- 20/144 Accounts for payment: -

Public Works Loan Board	Loan Repayment	2740.50
Durham County Council	Pest Control	391.51
N Crozier	Maintenance March	224.00
G. Thompson	Telephone March	56.98
SLCC	Membership	154.00
D Rider	Purchase of Dog Poo Bags	57.85

- 20/145 Reports: - County Councillor Simpson reported on the latest matters relating to Durham County Council.
- 20/146 Christmas Tree and Environmental Works: - Councillor Brown had no further update on this matter.

- 20/147 Allotment Gardens: - The Deputy Clerk reported on the latest developments on the ongoing purchase of the Allotment Gardens.
- 20/148 Review of extra powers granted to the Clerk during the Coronavirus Pandemic (See minute 19/119 from March 23rd 2020 Agenda) and the makeup of future meetings going forward: - At the request of the Clerk Members discussed this and decided that it would be prudent to keep these powers in place until it was clearer when it would be safe to hold face to face meetings again.
- 20/149 Parish Council Newsletter: - At the request of the Clerk members discussed the continued policy of publishing exclusively on the website due to delivery concerns because of Covid 19 and decided that it would be prudent to continue this policy for now.
- 20/150 Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Committee (Sale of Land at 53 South Lea): - Members discussed this matter and unanimously resolved to oppose the sale of this land to the owner of the property at 53 South Lea on the basis that the area of land in question forms part of a Protected Green Space site (reference G5) within Policy 9 of the Witton Gilbert Neighbourhood Plan and also falls within the Green Belt.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

Signed..... Councillor D Lynch Chairman 19th May 2021