

## Minutes of Witton Gilbert Parish Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 6.30 pm at Witton Gilbert Community Centre

21/77 Present: - Councillors D Lynch, N. Liddle, G. Brown, K Johnston.

Also present: - DC Rider (Clerk), G Thompson (Deputy Clerk).

Apologies: -

- County Councillor B. Coult (Meeting at County Hall)
- A. Simpson (Meeting at County Hall)
- L Watts
- L Hope (Personal matter)

21/78 Declarations of Interest: - Councillor D. Lynch declared an interest in item 10 on the agenda.

21/79 Questions and comments from electors of the Parish: - None.

21/80 Minutes: - The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

21/81 Matters Arising: - None

21/82 Correspondence: -

- a. Email from Kevin Crane of 14 Dene Court, Witton Gilbert requesting to be added to the allotment waiting list. Members approved this request.
- b. Email from Stephen Templeton Electoral Services officer, Durham County Council regarding a Casual Vacancy due to the resignation of Amanda Hillary. Members noted this email and resolved to discuss the vacancy at the next meeting.
- c. Email from D Young of 6 Almoners Gardens, Witton Gilbert requesting to be added to the allotment waiting list. Members approved this request.

21/83 Accounts for payment: -

NWG Business Ltd	Water Bill	49.28
Royal British Legion	Donation	25.00
Kate Hardy	Christmas Fayre	180.00
Chester le Street Riverside Band	Donation	100.00
Eon	Electricity	11.30
N. Crozier	Maintenance (November)	189.00
Durham County Council	Event Licence (Fireworks)	50.00
HMRC	Income Tax	53.45

21/84 Reports: - County Councillors Simpson and Coult were unable to attend but provided a written report with items from the report related to the Witton Gilbert Parish read out by the Chairman. This included CCTV Cameras in Nor Lane to deter fly tipping and the completion of the Wood Carvings on the new path adjacent to Morrisons.

21/85 Parish Precept 2022-2023: – The Deputy Clerk presented the draft precept for the next financial year with copies handed to all members by the Clerk. Members discussed the regular donation to the Community Centre and resolved to continue to provide a donation for administrative assistance but to delete the other donation. As members felt they needed more information before considering the rest of the draft it was resolved to have a working party discussion via Zoom on 20<sup>th</sup> December to further discuss the matter before presenting the final version to the January meeting. At this point Councillor Liddle left the meeting.

21/86 New Litter Bins for Witton Gilbert: - Members discussed this (See November minute 21/71 for further background information) and resolved to recommend to Councillor Coult that litter bins be placed in the area between Chester Gardens and Fair View, Briar Lea and the Clink Bank Field.

21/87 Allotment Gardens – The Clerk reported that at the time of the meeting allotments 12b, 18b and 22a & 22b have been cleared and that three had been re-let with arrangements in progress to let the fourth.

- 21/88 Christmas Tree and Environmental Works: - Councillor Brown reported that he had been in contact with DCC and that due to a shortage of bulbs it wasn't possible to proceed with the Environmental Works at the present time.
- 21/89 Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Committee: – The Chairman read out a report from the Committee on the proposed Sniperley Park development. Councillor Brown asked if it would be possible to source a boundary map of the proposed development. Members suggested contacting other Parish Councils that may be affected by the development and exploring the possibility of a joint approach. The Clerk was instructed to action this.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.30 pm.

Signed..... Councillor L. Hope Vice Chairman 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2022