

Minutes of Witton Gilbert Parish Council held on 10th January 2022 at 6.30 pm at Witton Gilbert Community Centre

21/90 Present: - Councillors A. Simpson, C. Simmons, N. Liddle, G. Brown, L Hope, L Watts.
Also present: - DC Rider (Clerk), G Thompson (Deputy Clerk).

Apologies: -

- County Councillor B. Coult
- D Lynch (Illness)
- K Johnston (Personal matter)

21/91 Declarations of Interest: - Councillor Simpson declared an interest in agenda item 4 Minute 21/94 the Sniperley Development (He is member of the DCC Planning Committee).

21/92 Questions and comments from electors of the Parish: - None.

21/93 Minutes: - The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 6th December were approved as a true record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

21/94 Matters Arising: - Sniperley Development – The Deputy Clerk reported on the discussions about this in the Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Committee. The Clerk reported that he had contacted Esh, Lanchester and Sacriston Parish Council's regarding a joint approach to this matter and had received a positive response from Sacriston. Councillor Simpson provided some background information on the application. Councillor Brown suggested that traffic problems be the main discussion point for a future meeting with other Council's.

21/95 Accounts for payment: -

N. Davison	Newsletter Delivery	80.00
Lintons	Printing of Newsletter	195.00
D Rider	Telephone (October)	57.90
D Rider	Telephone (November)	57.90
D Rider	Telephone (December)	57.90
HMRC	Tax	48.23
G Thompson	Telephone (December)	40.09
Eon	Electricity (November)	11.35
Eon	Electricity (December)	11.70

21/96 Reports: - County Councillor Simpson reported on recently installed CCTV Cameras in Nor Lane to deter fly tipping, the Police Commissioner Survey and discussions within DCC Cabinet regarding the Council Tax for the coming Financial Year. The Chair read out a report from the Neighbourhood Warden.

21/97 Parish Precept 2022-2023: – Members resolved that the Parish Precept for the period April 2022 – March 2023 will be £34,384.00.

21/98 Risk Assessment 2021-2022 – The Council carried out its annual financial risk assessment of its accounts and audit procedures and found all in order.

21/99 To consider the setting up of a Finance Sub Committee – Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk on this matter and after discussing it came to the conclusion that they do not wish to have a Finance Sub Committee at the present time.

21/100 Vacancy for the office of Parish Councillor – The Clerk reported that the notices for co-option had been placed on the notice boards and the website the day after the December meeting and that there had been no expressions of interest in the position. It was suggested that a Facebook post may be helpful in getting word out about the vacancy and the Clerk agreed to provide the wording for this.

21/101 To consider the adoption of a Policy for Freeman of the Parish of Witton Gilbert – The Clerk reported on this matter and members resolved to adopt the Policy as put forward by the Clerk.

21/102 Christmas Tree and Environmental Works: - The Clerk reported that the favoured choice of tree from the public consultation was Nordmann Fur. Councillor Brown to continue to liaise with Officers at DCC on the tree and the proposed bulb planting.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.31 pm. The next meeting will be on February 14th at 6.30 pm.

Signed  Councillor D. Lynch Chairman 14th Feb. 2022

The Council resolved that this section of minute being confidential be not displayed with the public minutes