

**Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of Witton Gilbert Parish Council held
on 11th April 2022 at 6.30 pm at Witton Gilbert
Community Centre**

22/1 Present: - Councillors D. Lynch (Chair), N. Liddle, G. Brown, L Hope (Vice Chair), K. Johnston, C. Simmons.

Also present: - DC Rider (Clerk), Y. Haydon (Public).

Apologies: -

- L Watts (Unavailable)
- B Coult (County Councillor) (Unavailable)
- A Simpson (Unwell)

22/2 Declarations of Interest: - None

22/3 Questions and comments from electors of the Parish: - Yvonne Haydon of 2 Croft Close, Witton Gilbert wished to talk to members regarding agenda item 21/130 from the March meeting. Ms Haydon wished the Council to reconsider the decision made at the March meeting regarding damage to her fence and provided photographs of the fence for inspection by members. Members agreed that Councillors Brown, Lynch and the Clerk should further inspect the fence and report back to the next meeting.

22/4 Reports: - The Chairman read out a report from County Councillor Coult and from the Neighbourhood Warden. Both reports have been attached to these minutes.

22/5 Minutes: - The minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14th March 2022 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman

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22/7 Matters Arising: - None.

22/8 Correspondence: -

- a) Email from Nicola Barton requesting permission to erect a polytunnel with dimensions of 4x3 metres on her allotment plot. Members agreed to this request.
- b) Email from DCC regarding the provision of Christmas Lighting for 2022. Members wished to look at other possibilities for lighting provision before making a decision.
- c) Email from DCC BACS Remittance Advice Payment of Precept/LCTSS 2022/23. Members noted this.
- d) Email from DCC regarding the Diversion of a Public Bridleway. Members had no objection.
- e) Email from WG Bowling Club requestion a donation. Members agreed to donate £300 subject to the receipt of further documentation from the Bowling Club.

22/9 Accounts for payment.

PWLB	Loan Repayment	2703.50
D Rider	Phone (March)	57.90
EON	Electricity	8.20
CDALC	AGAR Training	10.00
N. Crozier	Maintenance March	203.00
Witton Gilbert Bowls Club	Donation	300.00
DCC	Pest Control Contract	394.62
PWLB	Loan Repayment	2703.50
D Rider	Phone (March)	57.90

- 22/10 Adoption of NALC Model Standing Orders 2018 – Members agreed to defer this item to the May meeting on the advice of the Clerk.
- 22/11 To discuss Broken Glass/Litter at the MUGA – Members discussed possible actions that could be taken to mitigate this problem. This included CCTV, floodlighting, fixing of the holes in the fence and locking the gate at night. Also, the possibility of an item in the next newsletter was discussed.
- 22/12 To discuss membership of Garden/Allotment Association(s) – Members discussed this and Councillor Brown suggested the National Association of Allotment Gardeners. Clerk to look into this further.
- 22/13 Parish Funday/Events Committee meeting - The chairman reported on the latest meeting of the Events Committee which discussed plans for the Parish Funday for 2022. The Chair reported that the date of the Funday had been set at 18th June. This item to be a standing item on the agenda for the near future.
- 22/14 Christmas Tree & Planting Scheme: - Councillor Brown reported the latest on this matter. Planting area discussed by members.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.36 pm. The next ordinary meeting will take place after the AGM which is at 6pm on May 9th.

Signed..... Councillor D. Lynch Chairman 9th May 2022

Report for Witton Parish Council meeting – Monday 11th April

DCC

Successfully through to the final four in the 2025 City of Culture

DLI to be re-opened as a vibrant exhibition centre, gallery and café. State of art design will enable it to host national and international exhibitions

Durham are one of 75 LA' who can apply for funding from the Family Hubs and Start of Life programme - £300,000 to be allocated to eligible LA's over the next 3 years. Aim to improve outcomes for babies, children, young people, parents and carers

Bishop Auckland Food Festival – 23rd and 24th April – celebrity chefs in attendance include John Whaite and Masterchef Finalist Philli Armitage-Mattin

Cabinet declare an Ecological Emergency at their meeting on 6th April – privileged to Chair the committee who recommended this to cabinet.

Scam warning – DCC will not be contacting residents to ask for bank details in order to process the £150 rebate from Central Government. This is a scam and we urge all residents to not give any personal details over the phone.

Consultations: Econ-versation runs until 22 April – have you say on how to shape our inclusive Economic Strategy

LOCALLY

Sacriston Lane – resurfacing works currently being undertaken diversions in place and shuttle buses from Witton to Langley Park. Thank you to the residents for patience during the works

Attended a site visit with Michelle McIntosh (DCC Senior Traffic Engineer) and Maxine Stubbs (Durham Police) around concerns at school drop off/ pick up and also speed on Sacriston Lane. Await the report of proposed actions.

General litter picking - Thanks again must go to all of the volunteers within the Parish who give up their time to litter pick the villages .

Walkabout scheduled for 28th April with NHW

Final collection of donations left Langley Park Primary School on 6th April for transfer to main collection point at Blackhill, then onwards to Poland. Sincere thanks go to everyone who has supported this project, special mention to CHAD for all of their hard work.

ASB issues – we have been working collaboratively with the NHW team and Police. Additional patrols have been put on to monitor / deal with issues at the MUGA

Reporting ASB issues – we are encouraging residents to report all issues to either 101 or DCC ASB teams. This is imperative to try and secure more patrols in the villages.

Planning application live for proposed development behind Snook Acres – residents able to comment on this, if they wish.

Neighbourhood Warden Monthly Report

Action/Notices served	Amount issued/reports
Community Protection Warnings	6
Community Protection Notices	2
Section 79 (noxious matter)	0
Section 46 (refuse/bin issues)	0
Section 47 (business waste)	0
Section 34 (documents/producer)	0
21-day notice (dog microchip)	0
Alcohol seizures	2
FPN – PSPO (dog foul/stray)	0
FPN – Litter	20
FPN – Fail to comply with CPN	1
FPN – Abandoned Vehicle	0
FPN – other	0
Proactive (DASH) reports	5

Any Other News (ASB issues/emerging problems)
<p>2 x Police incidents 4 x Garden / yard cleared after initial contact with occupants 1 x Fly tip connected to waste at a property cleared after initial contact with occupants 1 x Vehicle removed from private land between Witton Gilbert and Framwellgate Moor 1 x Fly tip removed by local Warden at Paxton Mews, Pity Me.</p> <p>* I currently have 4 x active cases / dog foul patrols which will continue going into next month. Locations of these are: (1) Coach Lane, Witton Gilbert, (2) Featherstone Road, Newton Hall, (3) public car park, next to the telecommunications mast, Brasside (4) Bishops Way, Pity Me. I also have 1 x active case for a dog regularly straying and dogs being exercised in the play park area at Carterhouse Road, Framwellgate Moor. 25 x targeted patrols in all areas to date.</p> <p>* Litter issues and youths smoking cannabis to the rear of Newcastle Terrace, Framwellgate Moor - There has been 8 x targeted patrols since the patrol plan was created. Area has been cleared of plastic bottles on 3 of those patrols. Patrols to continue going into April.</p> <p>* ASB issues reported at the Multi Use Games Area, Recreation Ground, Norburn Park, Witton Gilbert. - Patrol plan was re-opened on 29/03/22 after further reported issues. On initial patrol it was noted there was evidence of street drinking and broken glass on the MUGA area, along with an old lawn mower and several wooden pallets. Local Warden arranged for clean and green to clear this. Patrols to continue going into April.</p>

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