**WHORLTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 20TH APRIL 2022**

PRESENT: Jem Beadle, Steve Brisley, Dolly Hannon and Jonathan Skidmore.

ALSO PRESENT Clerk: Angela Livingstone, 4 residents, Mr Maguire, Cllr Griffiths, prospective candidate and Cllr Hugill.

21.108 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES and approve reasons for absence and receive any declarations of interest**

21.108.1 Cllr Wright had sent his apologies for the meeting. These were accepted. No declaration of interests.

21.109 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2022 AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD**

21.109.1 The minutes of the meeting of the 16 March 2022 were proposed as correct and approved, these would be signed by the Chair and the Clerk would add to the council website.  **ACTION: Clerk**

21.110 **PUBLIC FORUM**

21.110.1 It was confirmed that all residents attending had concerns regarding the proposed development at Maguires Country Park. Residents’ views were that the proposed developments had no benefits to residents and they had a preference for the green space to be maintained. A resident stated they had attended the exhibition for residents to see plans and felt that visual aspects had been the main concern, the greed of the owners was felt to be a concern. Further objections were voiced regarding the additional noise and traffic and the removal of trees, it was commented that the hedging in place did not work well as screening and the removal of trees would increase noise. There was a comment that the development would likely grow and eventually fill the entire field. The Chair stated that plans provided did already take up the entire field and that there was the need to maintain the trees which were of a similar age to those of which the Parish Council were needing to have removed at present. It was questioned if residents suffered from noise issues and responded that this was not currently an issue as the homes were a further distance away.

*Cllr Hugill entered the meeting.*

21.110.2 Residents discussed that no local residents had downsized to the site. The site owner stated that he was surprised by the anger from the residents which had not been evident at the recent exhibition. He stated the need for a business to continue to generate income, and that there had been solid enquiries from the consultation evening. He stated that across the country there were people downsizing to free properties for their families. It was questioned if residents would want to downsize. Mr Maguire reminded that this had not previously been possible with the caravans, he informed of two points of concern brought forward at the consultation evening, one regarded a lady with a motorhome and one was regarding owners in breach of the agreement with the park. He confirmed that the motorhome issue had resolved and the caravan owners had been sent a letter along with the same annual requirement to complete information giving confirmation of a main address with a copy of a utility bill and confirmation that they were on the electoral role at that address. It was questioned if anyone had been moved off the site for breach of requirements. Mr Maguire confirmed this had not been necessary at this site, but had happened at other sites.

21.111 **TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters discussed.

21.112 **SWAINBY COUNTRY PARK PROPOSAL –** item moved up the agenda.

21.112.1 The Chair welcomed the owner of the site Mr Maguire and asked for an explanation of the difference between the proposed new homes and the caravans. Mr Maguire advised that the old homes were static holiday homes and the new proposal was for residential homes. He informed that the new plans had been possible following a change of policy from the National Parks and new Government guidance. These were permanent homes with no need for a further address, they would pay council tax on the homes and would be restricted to over 50-year-olds and no children would be allowed. Mr Maguire stated that he hoped for a maximum of ten homes, he stated that he wanted to be a good neighbour. The business had been in Swainby since 2008 and had always looked to support the village. He stated that there had never been any complaints regarding any noise issues. He stated that when the park had been purchased, he could have gone through Hoseasons for holiday hires, but this wouldn’t have complimented the village, of which he had endeavoured to be a good neighbour to. He stated that the company was a family business, with 8 parks and Franks flooring stores. He lived in the North East and wanted to be associated with the parks. He stated that he wanted to compliment the village and could use a small area of the park to lessen the parking issues on a weekend.

21.112.2 Mr Maguire reminded residents and the Parish Council that he had not submitted any proposals to North Yorkshire Moors National Park and had come to the village to consult. He was questioned regarding the result of the consultation. He advised of a 70% positive outcome, the main concern had been parking and volume of traffic. There had been a couple of residents living opposite the area who were against the proposal. Mr Maguire stated that the site would be tastefully completed and the homes could even be turned to a different direction if this was wished. The development on the site was questioned by a councillor and the Chair reminded of policy changes from the new Local Plan adopted around 18 months earlier. She informed that Swainby was classed as a larger village and infill developments were permitted and the size was debated by the planning authority. Cllr Hugill questioned if Mr Maguire had engaged in pre-application consultation with the National Parks. It was confirmed that this had not yet been completed as the residents’ views were still being looked at. Cllr Hugill suggested that Mr France was engaged with to ensure the proposals fit with policy.

21.112.3 The conservation area was questioned and the Chair informed that the park sat outside of the conservation area. The build type was questioned and it was advised that these were prefabricated. The sale conditions were queried with the information stating that the properties would be available only to Swainby residents for 6 months then to NYMNPA for a further 6 months, after this one-year period the homes would be available to anyone to buy. Mr Maguire was asked if it was possible to only site the new properties as they were purchased by local people instead of having them stood waiting for purchasers. Mr Maguire stated that this was a possible clause which could be added if that was what the community feels to be the best option. The lifespan of the properties was questioned. Mr Maguire informed this to be 50 to 60 years, the properties would generally be left in wills but would often be sold on as the occupier needed to be over 50. It was questioned if an application had been made previously for the field to be used for the caravans. Mr Maguire confirmed that there had been an application in 2010 which was refused, but there had been policy changes since this time. It was questioned if the existing road could be used and cabins placed at the top area of the site. Mr Maguire advised that the field narrowed and moved closer to the road and to adjacent properties making this unsuitable. A councillor questioned if there had been interest from local residents as was mentioned at the consultation meeting, Mr Maguire informed that there were three different residents who had shown an interest.

21.112.4 Cllr Hugill informed of planners currently being unable to progress applications until control could be assured regarding contamination into Teesmouth as Natural England were informing of too great a level of algae.

*Mr Maguire and residents left the meeting.*

21.113 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – There had been no applications received in the past month.

21.114 **CLERKS AND CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

21.114.1 The Clerk had forwarded correspondence received: To note – resident request for sign for dog owners. Councillors discussed concerns and were informed of the need to obtain photographic evidence of the perpetrators. **RESOLVED:** Cllr Beadle was asked to make contact with the Dog Warden to progress this matter. Cllr Beadle informed that at the same Broadacre site, residents had made complaints to Broadacres regarding bins being left out at the front of properties. It was reminded that if a resident could not move their own bins the refuse operatives were happy to do this. **ACTION: Cllr Beadle**

21.115 **PLAYING FIELDS** – It was reported that the plans for the Queens Jubilee had progressed and the Sports day would be held at 1pm on Sunday 5th June, there was to be no food only a bar, this would be followed by the Garden Party. The Chair questioned if the Cup had been returned. Cllr Skidmore informed that this was still not obtained **RESOLVED:** Cllr Skidmore to contact Cllr Wright to have this returned. It was confirmed that the Jubilee tree had been planted and was being regularly watered. **ACTION: Cllr Skidmore**

21.116 **POLICE REPORT** – 1 report of criminal damage, chains and locks removed from Whorlton Castle gates. Vehicle spotted at the scene, occupants spoken to, no further action taken.

21.117 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

21.117.1 Cllr Hugill stated that he had already commented on the current planning issue. He added that the new Crematorium was now open. He stated that the Sheepwash Action group needed to be progressed after the Ranger, Simon Bassendale had left. He believed that there was now only one Ranger instead of three.

21.118 **VAS SPEED SIGN**

21.118.1 The Chair had forwarded her report from a meeting with the highway engineer. A suitable lamppost had been identified but the engineer felt that the speeding issues may be just perceived as such and suggested a survey at a cost of £110, which could be analysed to demonstrate if it was worth the spend of £3500. She reminded that the survey previously completed had demonstrated 84% of vehicles travelling within the speed limits. Cllr Skidmore stated that when he had been looking to join the Parish Council and speaking to residents, the speed limit of 30mph was felt to be too high a limit and that cars were felt to be speeding. Cllr Griffiths agreed the need to obtain evidence before any action. He reminded that the 20s Plenty proposals had been disregarded, however there may be a difference of opinion from the new Council, but that evidence was always needed. **RESOLVED:** Clerk to organise survey. **ACTION: Clerk**

21.119 **PLATINUM JUBILEE PLAN**

21.119.1 A draft programme had been circulated. The Chair informed that the £1,000 which councillors agreed to accept from Brierly Homes towards the Jubilee celebrations needed to have items approved but the committee looking at the plans had not yet informed of items required. She informed that mugs for children and a singer for the event were being looked at. It was suggested that mugs were provided for all residents. The road had been approved to be closed for the Sunday afternoon by the County Council.

21.120 **TREE WORKS – phase 2 update** – The Chair confirmed that the contractor was on site and the invoice of £2580 for this phase would be expected at the next meeting.

21.121 **PINFOLD** – The Chair informed that she had submitted proposals for the works, after finding that the Pinfold was a listed building and required consent. Following submission, she was informed of the need for an ordinance survey plan, this was purchased from the planning portal and a response awaited.

21.122 **NOTICEBOARD** – The Clerk informed that she had checked with the company and been informed that the board should be delivered early May.

21.123 **FUTURE PROJECTS**

21.123.1 Sandbag store – Cllr Brisley advised of discussions at the last meeting to change to a plastic unit, as this was more durable and a cheaper option. **RESOLVED:** The Chair to inform the Church of the change and Cllr Brisley to purchase the unit. **ACTION: Chair/Cllr Brisley**

21.123.2 Mole infestation on river banks – Cllr Beadle informed of a discussion with Tom Lawton who was willing to support the Parish Council on this matter with hidden traps to ensure there were no trip hazards. **RESOLVED:** Cllr Beadle to inform to commence work and if this was successful to ask the contact to continue where there was the need in the future. **ACTION: Cllr Beadle**

21.123.3 Toilet painting and repairs – The Chair stated that as informed prior to the meeting, there was a broken toilet flush which Cllr Beadle would purchase and replace. She reminded that the disabled toilet still required painting. Cllr Brisley offered to go to paint the door and would ensure the previous action of completing the benches was finished. **ACTION: Cllr Beadle/Cllr Brisley**

21.123.4 Verge on new bridge – Cllr Skidmore informed that this had not yet progressed. The Chair stated that the bridge was placed for access for all and as a cyclist she was concerned with ideas of a fence being erected. It was agreed that the road was not overly busy and that children would be supervised when using the area. All agreed that the main issue was the mud when the area was wet which could be rectified with grasscrete. **ACTION: Cllr Skidmore**

21.123.5 Playfield Footpath – There was no response from the Ranger but it was hoped that matters would be resolved when the fence was moved back by the Playing Field.

21.124 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

21.124.1 The Clerk presented the financial report, which was approved by all members.

21.124.2 Income to bank – Toilet donations £36.56. Expenditure paid – Clerk monthly salary, EDF Energy monthly direct debit £31.00, Parish noticeboards company £459.96. Expenditure to approve- YLCA £302, Planning portal plan (Pinfold) £13.20. The Clerk reminded of the need to look at the insurance policy and to update the signatories on the bank account. Payments were approved.

21.125 NEXT MEETING - Date of next meeting scheduled Wednesday 18th May 2022. Annual Parish Assembly 7pm followed by May annual Parish meeting.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Chair of Whorlton Parish Council