

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF WHITTON AND TOSSON

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 9th October 2018 at 7.30pm at the Parish Rooms, Rothbury

Present: Hilary Dunn (Chair), Alan Winlow (Vice Chair), Val Burwood (Councillor), Peter Henry (Councillor) and Sarah Winlow (Clerk).
Also present: County Cllr Steven Bridgett; Tom Burwood

1. APOLOGIES for absence There were no apologies for absence

2. MINUTES of the meeting held on the 13th of August 2018 were considered. AW proposed that the minute was a true record of the meeting and this was seconded by VB. The minute was signed by the Chair.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i. Highways and Footways: AW has submitted the Highways and Footpaths report to NCC Highways and Technical Maintenance. He has been informed that the new signage for Lordenshaws is on order. The drainage at the limekilns has been repaired. AW noted that the Whitton Bank Road, in particular outside the hospital, is in a poor state of repair. Whilst outside the parish, this section of road is regularly used by all parish residents. Cllr Bridgett confirmed that Rothbury PC have selected this section of road as a priority for NCC's Local Transport Plan Programme 2019-2020. Tom Burwood raised concerns over lack of right of way road marking and signage at the junction of Whitton Bank Road and the Bridge. VB asked if NCC had made any provision for road repairs through the planning system, given the increased volume of traffic with the change of use for the doctors' surgery. *AW to investigate the junction and add Whitton Bank Road to the October Highways and Footpaths report. A copy of the Highways and Footpaths report can be found on the [WTPC website](#).*

ii. Support for local charities: Following on from last meeting's discussion of the types of charities WTPC should consider supporting, all agreed local, community-based transport charities were a good fit along with charities such as the Air Ambulance and Mountain Rescue. The reasoning for this is that parishioners may require the assistance of such charities. PH asked if there was a budget set aside for charitable donations. HD responded that donations have been made at the request of the charity. AW stated the PC needed to consider the mechanics of funding charities e.g. setting a budget, making a regular donation to preferred charities. HD concluded it would be appropriate to do this when considering the level of precept. *All to forward a preferred local charity to Clerk.*

iii. WTPC Newsletter: VB apologised she had been too busy to work up the first newsletter however will aim to write one as soon as possible. She thanked AW for sending copy for the first newsletter.

iv. Vacancy on the PC: The time period for the call for by-election due to Katy Nickolls standing down has expired. Fran Tait has expressed an interest in being co-opted the PC. *Clerk to forward forms and dates of next meetings to Fran Tait.*

Signed – Hilary Dunn (Chair)

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4. MATTERS ARISING

i. Joint Burial Committee: HD reported that a tenant for the Cemetery Lodge has been found and a tree surgeon has been appointed. The Clerk of the JBC has contacted WTPC in regard to the precept for the JBC. It appears the JBC will no longer be able to raise its own precept and, in future, each parish will have to include provision for the JBC in their precept request. The JBC will work out what budget it needs and this figure will be broken down per parish. HD confirmed that this change is only in the way the JBC's precept is collected and will not impact financially on parishioners.

ii. Rothbury Community Hospital update: Katie Scott from the Save Rothbury Community Hospital has contacted AW in regard to MP Anne Marie Trevelyan's parliamentary questions to Matt Hancock, Secretary for Health, scheduled for the 23rd of October. At the Conservative Party conference, Matt Hancock expressed his support for community healthcare. Councillors agreed it was important to show support for Anne Marie Trevelyan's efforts to reopen the 12-bed inpatient ward at Rothbury Community Hospital. SB noted that the report from the Independent Review Panel on the ward closure still has not been released. *Clerk to write to MP on behalf of WTPC.*

5. FINANCE

i. Adoption of accounts 2017-2018: Auditors PKF Littlejohn have raised no issues with the Parish Council's 2017-18 accounts. AW proposed the accounts be adopted. VB seconded this.

ii. Balance of Accounts: Community Account **£1423.75** and Savers Account **£1201.91**.

iii. New signatory: PH agreed to be a signatory on the Parish Council bank account. *SW to forward mandate.*

iv. Joint Burial Committee – change of funding: As per 4i, the amount required by the JCB will be requested as part of the WTPC precept.

v. Hire of meeting room £12: Approved

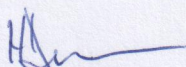
vi. Clerk's honorarium £60: Approved

vii. AW expenses for noticeboard repairs £5.95: Approved. Due to change required to the mandate for account signatories, AW has in this instance signed the cheque to reimburse his expenses.

viii. AW expenses for bench repairs £11:29: Approved. Due to change required to the mandate for account signatories, AW has in this instance signed the cheque to reimburse his expenses.

ix. Request for financial support from Hospice Care North Northumberland: Declined. It was felt the parish as a whole has supported this excellent cause through open garden scheme.

x. Request for financial support from Community Action Northumberland: Declined



Signed – Hilary Dunn (Chair)

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xi: Request for financial support from the Great North Air Ambulance: Donation of £100 to be forwarded to the GNAA. *Clerk to action.*

6. PLANNING

i. TPO Application 18/03513/PRUTPO at Pine Trees, Whitton: No action considered necessary as all supportive of this arboreal maintenance work.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Scam mail awareness letter and poster from Royal Mail:** noted
- ii. Joint NCC and Town / Parish / Community meeting – 18th October:** noted
- iii. NCC Council Tax consultation – ends 2nd November:** noted

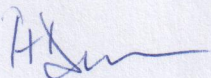
8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

i. Tom Burwood expressed an interest in running the Parish Council's facebook page. TB also interested in adding content to the Parish Council's website. *Details of Facebook and website logins to be sent to TB.*

ii. Next PC meetings: 7.30pm, Tuesday 27th November 2018 (note this has been changed from Tuesday 4th December 2018). Meetings will be held on the 5th of February and the 9th of April, 2019.

All meetings to be held at the Parish Hall, Rothbury.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.04pm.



Signed – Hilary Dunn (Chair)

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