

WHALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Members of the Parish Council are summoned to the digital Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to be held at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 18 May 2021**

Stephen Rickitt.

Clerk to Whalton Parish Council

Parishioners are welcome to attend and should email the clerk at whaltonlocalcouncil@gmail.com for the log-in details.

Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held later in the year when physical meetings can safely be held

AGENDA

- 1: Election of Chairman
2. Receive Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office
- 3: Election of Vice-Chairman
- 4: Public Questions
- 5: Apologies for absence and the grant of any extensions of time for the signing the declaration of acceptance of office and discussion of how to co-opt to the two vacancies
- 6: Declaration of any interests and the grant of any dispensations
- 7: Report from the Beat Manager
- 8: Report from the County Councillor
- 9: Minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2021
- 10: Any matters arising from the minutes
- 11: Planning
 - 11.1 *To consider any applications (none at the time of preparation)*
 - 11.2 *To consider any planning policy issues (none at the time of preparation)*
- 12: Environmental Matters

Including any tasks for the Parish Caretaker
- 14: Highway Matters

Including any issues relating to rights of way

15: Finance

15.1 To approve any payments

15.2 To review and adopt the Risk Assessment and Assets Register

16: Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2020/2021

16.1 To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor (copy attached)

16.2 To approve the Annual Governance Statement (draft copy attached)

16.3 To approve the draft annual accounts for 2020/2021 (draft copy attached)

16.4 To approve the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances (copies attached)

16.5 To confirm and approve the Certification of Exemption (draft copy attached)

17: The General Power of Competence

To consider adopting the General Power of Competence (for details please see the annex)

18: Correspondence

19: Any other business

20: Time and date of next meetings

Every Third Tuesday at 7.30 pm is reserved for meetings but normally meetings are held every alternate month.

It is anticipated the next meeting will be on Tuesday 20 July 2021 followed by

- Tuesday 21 September 2021*
- Tuesday 16 November 2021*

Annex

Item 17 - The general power of competence

Part 1 Localism Act 2011 gives local authorities a general power of competence. Section 1 Localism Act 2011 provides that "a local authority have power to do anything that individuals generally may do". Previously local authorities had to identify a specific statutory power before carrying out a function.

A local council may only use the power if they satisfy the criteria for eligibility set out in the *Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012* (SI 2012/965):

- At least two thirds of the members of the Council were elected (i.e. not co-opted)
- The clerk has a one of a list of qualifications and has had relevant training – I now have the Certificate in Local Council Administration (one of the specified qualifications)
- The Council resolved that it meets the order's conditions.

A local council must confirm eligibility at subsequent annual meetings.

Before the Council can use the power, it has to consider, inter-alia,

- no other statutory power sets out restrictions,
- the proposed use is not prohibited,
- it is not altering the Council's governance arrangements
- any charging complies with the detailed rules.

Possible uses of the power:

- creation of a flood insurance scheme
- having prayers at the start of a meeting
- paying a larger grant than be permitted under section 137 Local Government Act 1972.