

WHALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 21 September 2022 in Whalton Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors Martin Grix, Ms Nicola Robson (Chair), Andy Shaw and Stephen Trobe

Stephen Rickitt – Retiring Clerk (Actions are marked SER)

Jayne Clayton – New Clerk (See item below)

1: The Chair's opening remarks

The Chair welcomed Cllr Shaw to his first meeting of the Council. She reported that Councillor Mrs Judith Rushmer had tendered her resignation. The Council formally resolved that there was a vacancy. Mr Rickitt will prepare the formal notice for the website and the County Council's Elections Team. **Action SER**

2: Public Questions & Participation

No Parishioners were present nor had any questions been received by the clerk.

3: Apologies for absence

All Parish Councillors were present.

4: Declaration of any interests and the grant of any dispensations

None

5: Death of HM The Queen

5.1 Parish Councillors were saddened to note the death of HM The Queen, clearly mourned across the Parish. The Village Show had been cancelled sooner after the formal announcement as delay would have incurred more costs.

5.2 The Chair reported that the Council was to receive ten native tree saplings for planting from the County Council. It was agreed these should be planted on Whalton Village Green and in Ogle. The Chair was authorised to obtain two commemorative plaques at an approximate cost of £150 each. **Action Cllr Ms Robson**

6: Appointment of a new clerk

6.1 Mr Rickitt was thanked for his service as the clerk.

6.2 Jayne Clayton was appointed as the new clerk with effect from 1 October 2022 at an initial monthly salary of £120.00.

6.3 The Council agreed that Cllr Ms Robson and Ms Clayton should be full signatories on the bank accounts. Mr Rickitt will retain his power to make internet payments until the bank has approved the new mandates. **Action SER**

7: Report from the Police

No report had been received prior to the meeting. Cllr Shaw offered to make contact and see if the agendas had been received. **Action Cllr Shaw**

8: Report from the County Councillor

No report had been received prior to the meeting. Cllr Shaw offered to make contact and see if the agendas had been received and to raise a number of highway issues with him. **Action Cllr Shaw**

9: Minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2022

The draft minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.

10: Any matters arising from the minutes if not minuted elsewhere

10.1 The Chair reported that the County Council had renewed of the registration of The Beresford Arms as an *Asset of Community Value*.

10.2 Mr Rickitt will email the School about the parking problems. **Action SER**

11: A defibrillator in Ogle

The clerk reported the purchase the Defibrillator, Cabinet, rain canopy, and plinth. Delivery is awaited. **Action SER**

12: Planning

12.1 The Chair had been approached by the owners of Cluannie, Walton about the proposed construction of an orangery. On examination of the plans, Councils did not identify any concerns.

12.2 There were no formal planning applications to consider. The clerk reported that the Close House applications discussed at the previous meeting had been withdrawn.

13: Highway issues

13.1 Councillors remain concerned at vehicles parking close to the Meldon Road Junction and asked this be raised with the County Council as a safety concern.

13.2 The carriageway holes at the corner by the school have not yet been repaired and Councillors were concerned these will develop into large defects. The clerk will write to the Highways Dept.

13.3 Mr Rickitt will prepare a list of the various highway issues within the Parish for Cllr Shaw to raise with Cllr Darwin. [See item 8 above] **Action SER & Cllr Shaw**

14: Village Hall issues

There was nothing of substance to discuss.

15: Parish Caretaker and Environmental Matters

There were no new issues for the Caretaker.

16: Financial Matters

16.1 The current accounts were noted (a copy is attached to the signed minutes) and authorised the following payment

- SE Rickitt – Admin Expenses for 1 January to 30 September 2022 - £81.86 – to be paid by BACS

16.2 There having been no objections to the draft accounts for 2021/2022 notified by the external auditors, the Council approved those accounts as final. [Copies were circulated with the papers for the annual meetings]

17: Correspondence

Significant emails had been circulated by the clerk upon receipt

18: Time and date of next scheduled meetings

The Council agreed that they would meet at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 19 October 2022 in The Village Hall, Whaton

Confirmed as a true record

and signed by the Chair Date