

Great and Little Whelnetham Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 21 November 2022 at the Community Centre

Present

Cllr Peter Royce, Chairman, PR

Cllr Howard Singh, HS

Cllr June Attwood, JA

Clerk, Elaine Gorman, EG

1. **OPENING** – the Chairman, PR, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.
2. **APOLOGIES** received from Cllr Tim Webber, and council consented to accept.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS** – Cllr Howard Singh stated an interest in planning application DC/22/1943/FUL so did not take part in the discussion on this at item 7 on the agenda. Chairman PR stated an interest in planning application DC/22/1692/FUL so did not take part in discussion on this at item 7 on the agenda.
4. **MINUTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 2022** (minutes as detailed on website). The minutes were approved and signed by PR as a true and accurate record, proposed by HS and seconded by JA.
5. **PUBLIC FORUM** – Chairman’s report - PR mentioned there were a couple of issues with the play equipment that were being sorted and thanked the community centre chairman for his efforts in bringing this project to a successful end. The play and gym equipment are being well used. PR confirmed that WSC are responsible for carrying out street cleaning. SCC are responsible for drains. The fencing and gate issues are being reported in the monthly play inspection report and will need to be addressed.
County Cllr Karen Soons’ report has been circulated prior to the meeting. There was no report from WSC Cllr Nick Wiseman. The Clerk’s report was circulated prior to the meeting and details noted. There were no questions from the public and no written correspondence. Email correspondence had been circulated along with the monthly play inspection report.
6. **STATUTORY BUSINESS** – the Clerk reported notification had been received from the SAAA confirming PKF Littlejohn will continue to be the external auditor for 2022/2027.
7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** decided upon by PC since the last PC meeting,
DC/22/1674/TCA Trees in a conservation area notification – one Copper beech (T1 on plan) overall crown reduction by up to 2.75 metres. Location, Flints, Hawstead Lane, Sicklesmere, IP30 OBY. Unanimously support.
DC/22/1692/FUL Planning application – one dwelling and associated access, land at Grove Cotts, 10 Stanningfield Road, Gt Whelnetham. Unanimously object.
DC /22/1470/VAR Planning application – variation of condition 2 (approved plans), conditions 4 (details of access to be approved), 5 (means to prevent discharge of surface water), 6 (parking), condition 7 (contamination), 13 (tree protection). 14 (arb method statement), 15 (soft landscaping – ecology enhancement) and 19 (boundary fencing) of application DC/19/1356/FUL to allow use of revised plans to reposition dwellings. Unanimously object.
PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED – **DC/22/1587/FUL** Planning application, Land on North Side of Water Lane, Lt Whelnetham, change of use from agricultural land for the siting of six holiday units (class C1) b. new access road and parking. Unanimously object.
DC/22/1943/FUL Planning application – single garage to the front of plot one, Location, The Garage, Plot 1 Sudbury Road, Sicklesmere, IP30 OTJ, F Goldsmith (Sicklesmere) Ltd. Cllr HS abstained from voting. Object.
DC/22/1981/HH Householder planning application – a. replacement doors and windows to front elevation b. installation of roof lights to front and rear elevations. Location,

Sicklesmere House, Lt Whelnetham Rd, Gt Whelnetham, IP30 0BX, Mr & Mrs Churchill.
Unanimously support.

DC/22/1982/LB Proposal application for listed building consent – a. replacement windows and doors to front elevation b. installation of rooflights to front and rear elevations c. storage area converted to bedroom d. bathroom enlarged e. existing bedroom 2 converted to kitchen area, Sicklesmere House, Lt Whelnetham Rd, Gt Whelnetham, IP30 0BX, Mr & Mrs Churchill. Unanimously support.

DC/22/2012/TCA Trees in a conservation area notification – two sycamore (within group G1 on plan), five Poplar (within group G1 on plan), one Elm (T1 on plan), one Yew (T2 on plan) and one Sycamore (T3 on plan) fell, Sicklesmere House, Lt Whelnetham Rd, Gt Whelnetham, IP30 0BX. Unanimously support with request that new trees be planted to replace trees to be removed.

8. FINANCE

- a) Payments since last meeting and bank reconciliation. Balance of current account is £22,664.86 less cheques of £74.55 to be issued. Total in current account is £22, 590.31.
- b) Bi-monthly statement received and approved. The following cheque was approved and issued.

Detail	Cheque No.	Net (of VAT)	VAT	Total
E Gorman exps	870			74.55
Total				74.55

- c) The Clerk confirmed the Zurich Insurance schedule includes cover for all the new play and adult gym equipment.
 - d) The updated Asset Register was received and approved. JA proposed and HS seconded.
 - e) To receive and consider details of the SALC subscription increase wef 2023/2024. The Clerk explained the value of SALC; it's relevance and importance re updates, training, and policy. Council unanimously decided to continue with subscription. JA proposed and HS seconded.
 - f) To receive and consider budget for 2023/2024. Council discussed spending for next year. PR expressed concern about the current and future financial situation noting with inflation at just over 11% now costs are going to increase significantly. Budget proposes 7.5% increase in costs.
 - g) Council considered the precept for 2023/2024 allowing for an increase on all expenditure and resolved that an 8.5% increase in the precept will cover future expenditure.
 - h) Council reviewed the Reserves Schedule. Council approved to allocate funds to earmarked reserves for VAS, £8000, noticeboards £3000, election expenses £1500 for 2023/24, a total of £12,500, to be reviewed May 2023.
9. **UPDATES** – Railway Walk. The Clerk explained that work was due to start 11/11/22 but SCC had requested further information re health and safety. SCC have offered to fund half of the amount of the cost of the work. The resident is now making some enquiries re cost and will report back to the Clerk.
10. a) **COUNCIL TO CONSIDER NEW PROJECTS.** PR suggested Councillors consider some options for the January 2023 meeting.
- b) Council to consider new VAS. PR agreed to research and get some prices.
 - c) Council to move forward with purchase of new noticeboards. Clerk will research.

d) Councillors to consider suggestion of bulb planting for the village to report back at Jan 2023 meeting.

e) Councillors discussed idea of providing pupils at Gt Whelnetham primary school with Coronation commemorative mugs. Clerk to contact school and discuss.

f) Discussion took place re a village sign. As one councillor was absent it was agreed to discuss this further and report back at Jan 2023 meeting.

11. **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING** – village projects as above and councillors agreement to report back at Jan 2023 meeting.

12. To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed – it was resolved that members of the public be excluded from the meeting to progress confidential staffing matters

a) To consider an HR issue.

13. **CLOSE OF MEETING** – 9pm

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING, Monday 9 January 2023 at 7.30pm.**

Signature of Chairman.....

Date.....