

At a Meeting of
**WHORLTON AND WESTWICK
PARISH COUNCIL**

On Thursday 19th September 2024 at 6:30pm

Present: Cllr T. Honeyman (Chair), Cllr M Saville, Cllr H Haughton

Also Present: (Residents) M Lockyear, A Long, C Simpson, A Woodward

Clerk: Alan Dixon

64/24 Representation by residents

Residents mentioned that the road closed sign is still missing from the cross roads at the A67. The road closed sign within Whorlton is broken and therefore won't stand up. A bridge closed sign would be more useful.

65/24 Apologies & Interests

Apologies: Cllr I. Pollock, Cllr I. Fox, Cllr George Stastny, Cllr S. Dickinson,

Interests: None

66/24 Minutes of Meeting 18th July 2024

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

67/24 Whorlton Parish Council Cemetery update / sign

Amanda Long informed Councillors of the work that she has carried out and asked permission to plant a bush. She also asked if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for the service of a lawnmower used in the cemetery. Clerk informed Councillors that he is waiting for permission to put a sign on the church wall.

RESOLVED: Councillors asked for an estimate for how much it would cost to service the electric lawnmower. Councillors are happy for a bush to be planted. Amanda Long said she would speak to the vicar about the sign.

68/24 Repair of Whorlton bridge – missing road closed sign

The repair of the bridge is still underway. The Clerk informed Councillors that he has contacted Durham County Council asking for a new road closed sign and has been informed that one will be provided when one becomes available.

[Whorlton Bridge refurbishment updates - Durham County Council](#)

69/24 Speeding traffic

Residents have been putting up signs around the entrance to Whorlton notifying motorists that they are in a 30mph zone. A letter has been sent to local haulage companies asking that their drivers stick to the speed limit when they pass through Whorlton. A resident has also written to the headmaster of the local school notifying them of speeding traffic problems within the village.

The Clerk has received a reply from Sam Rushworth MP who has promised to write to Durham County Council asking what further traffic calming measures can be put in place.

Durham Police have offered to have the speed watch van in situ within Whorlton around the times that parents drive to and from school.

From information provided by Councillor Honeyman Durham County Council have carried out work to remove foliage from in front of road signs and one sign has been straightened.

70/24 Grass cutting – parish paths

The curbs around the village green have been sprayed to kill weeds.

71/24 Redevelopment of Whorlton Hall

No planning decision has as yet been made.

72/24 The Teesdale Way

Clerk informed Councillors that he had not heard from the public right of way department at Durham County Council regarding this matter. The manager responsible for making any decisions may still be off sick.

73/24 Village pub tidy up

Residents approached Councillors asking whether the owners of the pub could be contacted to ask if the front of the pub could be tidied up. The Clerk has emailed the owners has not received a reply. A freedom of information request has been received by the Clerk asking for a summary of the costs incurred by the Parish Council as a result of the litigation with Geo A Carter Limited.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write a follow up email to Mr Carter asking whether he would be willing to tidy up the front of the pub.

74/24 Street lighting

One of the streetlights within Whorlton was enveloped by branches of a tree. The owner was asked to cut back the branches and this work has been carried out to some extent.

Councillors expressed concerns as to the number of streetlights within Whorlton stating that more lights were needed. Durham County Council have upgraded the streetlights to LED in recent years and in some places the number of streetlights have been reduced.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to discuss this matter again at the next meeting.

75/24 Wheels 2 work

Clerk has been made aware of a scheme called Wheels 2 work allowing residents to have access to bicycles and scooters to enable them to travel to work.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to put the leaflet on the Parish Council notice board.

76/24 Planning applications arising at late notice.

None

77/24 Financial Statement and report

A Receipt and Payments Account dated 31st August 2024 was reviewed by Councillors

Payment of the following invoices was agreed by Councillors:-

265 – Clerk Salary – August 2024	£ 278. 88
266 - Clerk Salary – September 2024	£ 293. 33
267 - AR Toward	£ 630. 00
268 - The Flyer	<u>£ 30. 00</u>
Total	<u>£1232. 21</u>

RESOLVED: All financial matters agreed as being correct. Clerk to contact Natwest Bank to apply for a deposit account which could hold some of the cemetery account funds.

78/24 Clerks correspondence

Nothing to report

79/24 Members Reports

Nothing to report

Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

RESOLVED: The date of the next ordinary meeting is 21st November 2024.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 7:09 pm.

21 November 2024, Chairman