

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

On Thursday 20th November 2025 at 6:30pm

Present: Cllr George Stastny (Chair) Cllr H Haughton, Cllr S. Dickinson, Cllr P Tallentire, Cllr J Peat,

Also Present: (Residents) C Simpson, A. Long, A. Woodward, I. Wilkinson, C.J. Connolly, M. Lockyear

Clerk: Alan Dixon

84/25 Representation by residents

Ann Woodward asked Councillors to contact DCC about a section of the Teesdale Way that is dangerous due to soil erosion.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to contact the Public Rights of Way Department at DCC about this matter.

85/25 Apologies & Interests

Apologies: Cllr I. Pollock,

Interests: None

86/25 Minutes of Meeting 18th September 2025

RESOLVED: that the minutes be approved.

87/25 Whorlton Parish Council Cemetery update / Cemetery bench

Amanda Long informed Councillors that the final grass cut has been carried out. Two graves have sunk and need to be topped up with spare soil.

Clerk contacted Northern Powergrid after the incident where a power cable was found. There is a 12 to 18 month waiting period for Northern Powergrid to move this cable without cost but if it was required sooner the Parish Council would need to request this. The Clerk informed members there is a grant of £500 available for community projects.

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Northern Powergrid to ask for a price to re-route the power cable. Clerk to apply for a grant to create a bench, as it fits the criteria. Chairman to contact Atkinsons Joiners to get a price to cut down the spare timber from Whorlton Bridge to make a bench..

88/25 Repair of Whorlton Bridge

There will be a meeting in the village hall on the 10th December attended by Cllr Jillian Campbell, Paul Anderson DCC Highways Department.

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

89/25 Speeding traffic

Barnard Castle school have replied to an email from the Chairman stating they will inform parents that they need to drive slowly through Whorlton. New 30mph signs have been installed, without a contribution from the Parish Council, after a site meeting with Adam Davidson from DCC Traffic Assets. Adam has emailed the Clerk giving an estimate of the price to install red box road markings and white gates.

Councillor Haughton informed members of 9 serious incidents involving a group of cyclists and HGV vehicles that have been logged mainly by Malcolm Lockyear. Data from such incidents will continue to be collected and could be sent to Durham County Council and the Police as proof of the need for traffic calming measures. Councillor Haughton proposed that at the meeting on the 10th November traffic calming measures be discussed as well as the completion of the bridge.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to ask primarily for red box road markings and then if there is other funding available to have white gates. Clerk to contact Cllr Campbell to ask if funding is available for the above traffic calming measures.

90/25 The Bridge Inn – planning appeal

Councillor Peat asked if there could be a joint submission from the community group and the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that there should be separate submission from the community group and the Parish Council.

91/25 Redevelopment of Whorlton Hall

This planning application is still under consideration.

92/25 Road repairs in front of Bridge Inn

A resident has complained that the road has been repaired without using the same materials and the colour does not match. The materials that have been used will last longer and the colour will fade over time.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to monitor the repair.

93/25 Village Hall Christmas Tree

Chairman asked that a risk assessment be carried out before the tree is placed on the village green.

RESOLVED:

Councillors agreed to allow the tree to be placed on the village green by putting in a post.

94/25 .gov website and email addresses

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to contact other Parish Councils to see who they use to provide a .gov.uk domain and email service before deciding on a provider.

95/25 Planning applications arising at late notice.

T1 - Ash - Fell T2 - Silver birch - Reduced 3M T3 - Silver Birch - Fell

Whorlton Croft Cottage Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8XD

Ref. No: DM/25/03177/TCA | Received: Tue 11 Nov 2025 | Validated:
Wed 12 Nov 2025 | Status: Decided

Felling of self-seeded goat willow tree. It is part of a group of three self-seeded goat willows of which two came over during storms in January 2025 and this third tree is now leaning towards a neighbouring property. Now considered to be dangerous.

Whorlton Hall Hospital Whorlton Barnard Castle DL12 8XQ

Ref. No: DM/25/03091/TCA | Received: Mon 03 Nov 2025 | Validated:
Wed 05 Nov 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration

RESOLVED: Councillors neither agreed with or objected to the above planning application.

96/25 Financial Statement and Report

A Receipt and Payments Account dated 31st October 2025 was reviewed by Councillors.

Payment of the following invoices was agreed by Councillors:-

302 – Clerk Salary – October 2025	£ 351. 02
303 - Clerk Salary – November 2025	£ 298. 30
304 - The Flyer	£ 60. 00
305 - Bench Ends	£ 75. 00
306 - Royal British Legion	£ 25. 00
307 - NCM Paving	£ 150. 00
308 - CDALC	£ 40. 00
309 - Wel Medical	£ 75. 18
310 - Wordpress	£ 100. 80
311 - A R Toward	<u>£ 540. 00</u>
Total	<u>£1715. 30</u>

RESOLVED: All financial matters agreed as being correct. Councillors agreed to request a raise in the Precept by 3.6% (£286.27), the current rate of inflation.

97/25 Clerks correspondence

Nothing to report.

98/25 Members Reports

The Chairman reminded Councillors that there is still a Councillor position to be filled.

Date for the next Parish Council Meeting:

RESOLVED: The date of the next ordinary meeting is 15th January 2026.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 8 pm.

15th January 2026, Chairman