

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held by ZOOM on Monday 10th May 2021 at 7.10pm.

Present were Councillors Christine Carter (Chairman), Rachel Bell, Andrew Coates, Jolyon Dodgson, John Geldard and Mike Walford, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillor John Holmes and Parish Clerk Kevin Price.

**21/16 Election of Chairman:**

Councillor Christine Carter was elected Chairman for 2021-22

**21/17 Appointment of Vice-Chairman:**

Councillor Andrew Coates was appointed Vice-Chairman for 2021-22

**21/18 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

**21/19 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2021, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**21/20 Casual Vacancies:**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Jolyon Dodgson to his first meeting. There is still one vacancy and Councillors are encouraged to ask around the parish to assess any interest there might be in this position.

**21/21 County and District Councillors:**

Councillor Bland said that quite a lot of work had been carried out on the roads in the parish and more was planned. He has contributed £1,000 from his budget for the B4RN project.

Councillor Holmes had circulated a full report and this will be appended to these minutes in the file.

**21/22 Planning:**

- a. *The following decision, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, was noted:*

7/2020.5811 The Old Vicarage, Witherslack. Single storey extension.  
Granted.

- b. *The Council recommended approval of the following application, via the Clerk's delegated authority:*

7/2021/5007 Palace House Witherslack. Convert redundant workshop to dwelling.

**21/23 Bus shelter repairs:**

Councillor Bell has ascertained that the Parish Council is responsible for the repair and maintenance of the Meathop shelter, but the flag and pole will be provided. Local residents are encouraged to use this shelter and a quotation for repair and maintenance will be sought from Mr Dobson of Grange.

**21/24 Parish notice boards and benches:**

Councillor Walford had met with Mr Clough and some further work had been carried out. The board outside the Village Hall is still to be attended to. The board at Meathop is in a poor condition. The bench at Mill Side needs renewing and Councillor Walford will follow these matters up.

**21/25 Phone box at Mill Side:**

A further consultation is being undertaken on behalf of BT on the future of this box. The Council favour its use for a defibrillator.

**21/26 Woodland leases/parish land:**

The next lease renewal is not until 2023. It was resolved to check if anyone is interested in leasing the other areas/quarries. Councillors Carter and Walford will look into which areas are available and check the lease conditions.

**21/27 Greening Campaign:**

A further meeting is planned for this week. The Clerk has circulated to Councillors all the information he has received from PEAT.

**21/28 Finance:**

- a. The provisional accounts for 2020-21 were noted.
- b. The cash and budget statements were noted and it was resolved to pay the annual grant of £500 to Witherslack Community Shop.
- c. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption, the Accounting Statements and the Annual Governance Statement.

**21/29 B4RN:**

Councillor Geldard updated the Council on the progress of this project. It has been quite encouraging but very challenging. Routes for connecting the service are extending constantly but, all in all, remarkable progress has been made. The problem of connecting distant properties will be addressed in due course.

**21/30 A590 road improvements:**

This is ongoing. Councillors Carter, Geldard and Holmes represent the Council at any meetings.

**21/31 Date of the next meeting:**

***Monday 12th July 2021 at 7pm at Witherslack Parish Hall.***

*The meeting closed at 8.40pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*