

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held at the Dean Barwick Hall, Witherslack on Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 8pm.

Present were Councillors Christine Carter (Chairman), Andy Coates, John Geldard and Brian Wilson, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillors John Holmes and Brian Rendell, and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Mike Walford and received from the Revd. Michael Woodcock.

The Chairman welcome newly elected District Councillor Brian Rendell to his first meeting.

**19/42 Election of Chairman:**

Councillor Christine Carter was elected Chairman for 2019-20. She then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**19/43 Appointment of Vice-Chairman:**

Councillor Andy Coates was appointed Vice-Chairman for 2019-20.

**19/44 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Coates declared an interest, as a Governor of the Dean Barwick Primary School, should any matter relating to the school be discussed.

**19/45 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2019, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**19/46 Casual Vacancies:**

There was one expression of interest received and this is being followed up. Councillor Wilson gave notice that he would be retiring from the Council after the next meeting.

**19/47 Police Report:** None.

**19/48 County and District Councillor's Reports:**

Councillor Bland spoke of the plans for upgrading of the A590 and proposals for a roundabout at Gilpin Bridge.

Councillor Holmes spoke of the 'Customer Connect' being brought in at SLDC, redundancies, and the recent Elections.

**19/49 Community Governance Review:**

It was resolved to ask for Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha to comprise one Ward, rather than the present two Wards.

### **19/50 Planning:**

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

7/2019/5160 Birks Farm, Witherslack. Agricultural worker dwelling.

Granted.

7/2019/5195 Bowes Lodge, Witherslack. Proposed all-weather riding arena. Granted.

- b. *The following application was considered and approval recommended:*

7/2019/5279 3 Blea Crag, Witherslack. proposed side conservatory.

### **19/51 Proposals for a Play Area:**

There was nothing further to report at present.

### **19/52 Film Festival 2020:**

Councillor Wilson had attended the first advertised meeting and it is understood that another will follow in due course. Otherwise, there was nothing further to report at present.

### **19/53 Strategic Long Term Plan for the parish:**

Councillor Wilson spoke of ways in which the Council might become proactive rather than reactive. It is a concern that there is now no Police Report supplied at each meeting, as formerly, nor at any of the other parishes in the 'Two Valleys' group.

It was agreed that the delayed Community Survey would be carried out and then consider what feedback is received. The aim would be to bring the parish together as one community, rather than the seven different ones that make up the parish. Councillor Wilson felt he had done all he could on this project.

Councillor Coates agreed to copy the forms ready for distribution.

### **19/54 Bus shelter repairs:**

Councillor Holmes agreed to speak to Jonathan Reade at the next 'A590' meeting on 29th May as it was understood that Highways England had offered to deal with the repairs.

### **19/55 Parish Handyman:**

This post is now vacant and it was agreed to advertise it in the Community Survey.

## 19/56 Finance:

- a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts but it was noted that the cheques cannot be released until Barclays Bank have completed their verification of new signatories:*

Witherslack Community Shop		
	£500.00	Grant from Precept
Zurich Municipal		
	£257.60	Insurance premium
Treble 3 Design Ltd		
	£42.00	Website training
Witherslack Parish Hall		
	£62.00	Hire of Hall
Society of Local Council Clerks		
	£20.93	Annual subscription (7% of £299.00)
Christine Carter	129.50	Reimbursement for J Blamire invoice.
CALC	£170.97	Annual subscriptions
K M Price	£113.56	Quarterly expenses to 31st March, including use of home office and travel.

- b. The provisional accounts for 2018-19 were noted.
- c. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption.
- d. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement.
- e. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Accounting Statements.
- f. A quotation from Solway Direct for a bench was accepted, the final details to be agreed. The concrete base would cost a further £129.50.

## 19/57 Date of the next meeting:

As only three Councillors could attend on the proposed date of 22nd July, the Clerk will try other dates and let everyone know.

*The meeting closed at 9pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*