

Whiston Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 20th November 2023 at 6.30 pm at Whiston Parish Hall.

Present: Councillors, Tim Stevenson (Chair) and Clive Davis, Deborah Davis, Haroon Rashid, Elaine Reynard and Genaya Smales.

In Attendance: Simon Oldham - Clerk to the Council, Angela Harrison - RFO, Jordan Arno- Youth Club Manager. No members of the public present.

140/23 Non-attendance of Councillors – a) To receive and note apologies from councillors who are unable to attend the meeting & b) To consider reasons for absence provided by councillors who cannot attend and resolve the council's acceptance of these if felt relevant.

RESOLVED : to receive and accept apologies for absence from Councillors David Fisher (holiday), Tony Griffin (personal commitment) and Colin Taylor (illness).

141/23 To consider any motion to vary the order of business (if any) – None.

142/23 To receive declarations of interest – None.

143/23 To identify items for which the press and public may be excluded (if any) - None

144/23 15 Minute public speaking session – No items raised.

145/23 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council annual meeting – 16th October, 2023.

RESOLVED : To approve the minutes as a true record.

146/23 To approve the monthly accounts – November 2023

RESOLVED : To approve the monthly accounts as presented and schedule of payments as appended to these minutes.

147/23 To receive the bank reconciliation @ 31st October 2023

RESOLVED : To note the bank reconciliation @ 31st October 2023.

148/23 To receive budget monitoring statement @ 31st October, 2023

RESOLVED: To note the budget monitoring statement @ 31st October, 2023.

149/23 Salary reviews – living wage increase & NJC Pay award notification from YLCA/NALC.

RESOLVED : to approve the uplifting of the Youth Club Manager and Youth Worker roles pay rates per hour in accordance with the recent national living wage increases to £14.10 and £12.00 respectively from 1/1/24.

(Councillor Genaya Smales arrived at the meeting at this point).

150/23 Youth Club update.

RESOLVED : To note the following update from Jordan Arno advising that :-

- Three or four new attendees had been attracted over the last month or so, resulting in an average weekly turnout of around twenty five young people
- The new staff member Emily had settled in well and was proving invaluable

- A meeting with Lee Middleton the CEO of the National Youth Agency was held last week which was very fruitful and there were identified routes for attracting funding in support of the Youth Club activities
- He was going out on an outreach visit around Whiston on the evening of Friday 15/12/23 with PCSO Abby to survey the local area and to identify anyone who may require support
- The parents meeting re the forthcoming Hagg Farm residential trip was to be arranged shortly.

151/23 Whiston Christmas Lights Switch On event 2/12/23 – final preparations & publicity.

RESOLVED : (1) to note the updated project plan on preparations that had been made thus far/were underway to progress preparations for the event, including the budget profile with spend allocation to date and (2) that the Clerk to arrange to purchase 16 cases x 24 selection boxes from Cadbury's for the Santa's Grotto as gifts.

152/23 De-brief on Remembrance commemorations & Remembrance Sunday Veteran's Event in the Parish Hall.

RESOLVED : To note that (1) both the display of Poppies draped on the Whiston sign supplied by the Church Women's Craft Group and the poppies displayed on lamppost columns in the heart of the village had been very well received, the latter having received positive publicity in the Rotherham Advertiser and (2) the Remembrance Sunday Veteran's event proved very successful with pie & peas refreshments supplied & served by Sheila's Shack and entertainment provided by a Singer plus a selection of raffle prizes awarded.

153/23 To consider a Christmas tree donation to Whiston Parish Church.

RESOLVED : To supply a selection of mince pies and biscuits/chocolates to the Natter Community Group as opposed to the Church for all their support and assistance in crafting poppies for display on the village sign.

154/23 Brook Street garage – review of lease terms/renewal .

RESOLVED : to defer this matter for reconsideration at next months' meeting.

155/23 Cowrakes field/play equipment – (i) annual inspection report by RMBC's external play inspector 4/10/23 & (ii) to progress remedial repairs and re-consideration of existing & updated quotations from contractors.

RESOLVED : That (1) to note the annual play inspection report prepared by RMBC's external play inspector; (2) approval be given to the quotation from Lightmain Ltd to carry out a range of remedial repair works at Cowrakes Play field play area to address the defects set out in the inspection report, whilst noting the quotations also received from two other Groundwork suppliers; (3) to note the concerns expressed by the Responsible Financial Officer in relation to the primary repair item to the Tower slide in tiger mulch membrane, had not had comparative quotes for this method of repair from the two other contractor quotations which quoted for alternative forms of treatment and (4) in relation to treating the fire damaged bench and trimming of trees/shrubbery encroaching the play area, a quote be obtained from MM Gardening as an extension to the Parish Council's existing gardening tender.

156/23 FOI request response from the Environment Agency - Environmental Permit (Discharges to water and groundwater) number NE/WRA8239/002 – Yorkshire Water Services Ltd.

RESOLVED : To defer this item to next months' meeting in the presence of the Drainage/Flood Adviser.

157/23 The Events Foundry – Events proposal for 2024.

RESOLVED : That this matter be referred for further consideration at the Member Strategic Priorities brainstorming session/workshop on 23/11/23.

158/23 Oh Yeah Autumn/Winter newsletter – completion of delivery.

RESOLVED : To note the successful delivery of the Autumn/Winter Oh Yeah newsletter to all Whiston households in the new extended 8 page form that was completed last week.

159/23 Parishioner enquiry re maintenance responsibility for the steep steps from Hollowgate to Church.

RESOLVED : That the Clerk make further enquiries with RMBC Streetworks Team to enquire whether they had maintenance responsibility for these steps.

160/23 Signing up to the Civility & Respect Pledge.

RESOLVED : That support be given in principle to sign up to the Civility & Respect Pledge subject to the Clerk presenting a supporting "Dignity at Work" policy for further consideration and endorsement at next months' meeting.

161/23 Parish Council representation - Penny Hill Windfarm Liaison Committee and Funding Panel.

RESOLVED : To note that Councillor Clive Davis be re-endorsed as the Parish Council's representative and the Wind Fam administrator be advised accordingly.

162/23 Delivery of new noticeboard – siting outside Co-op store, Worrygoose roundabout.

RESOLVED : To note that this had now been delivered and was erected on site last Friday 17/11/23.

163/23 RMBC – Ward councillor report – No Ward Councillors present.

164/23 Members items – a) Reminder of Member Strategic Priorities brainstorming session/workshop Thursday 23/11/23 6.30pm.

RESOLVED : To note the scheduling of this workshop session this coming Thursday evening.

b) Drainage/Flooding adviser – to receive a briefing & advice.

RESOLVED : That this matter be deferred to next months' meeting pending a wider number of Parish Councillors being in attendance.

c) Storm Babet 20/10/23 – update on flooding impacts on Whiston and actions taken in consultation with RMBC Emergency Planning Team.

RESOLVED : (1) to note the summary report from Councillor Tony Griffin on the impacts locally on 20/10/23 from Storm Babet and the actions that he had taken on the day and subsequently with RMBC Emergency Planning Team by way of mitigating action and (2) that

in addition to Councillor Griffin's offer to respond to RMBC's e-debrief, that nothing further be added at this stage without the information and advice of the local Drainage/Flood adviser, due to attend next months' meeting.

d) The Department for Health £1 million Defibrillator Fund.

RESOLVED : That the availability of this funding stream be duly noted but no further action be taken at this time.

165/23 Correspondence/Information Items.

RESOLVED : to note the following information, previously circulated by e-mail:-

1	YLCA	White Rose Bulletin – 20 th October & 3 rd & 17 th November 2023
2	YLCA	Law & Governance Bulletin October 2023
3	YLCA	National Joint Council Cost of Living Increase/pay award
4	YLCA	NALC briefing analysis of Council Tax levels on local precepting authorities 2023/24

166/23 Items for future agenda.

- Budget and Precept for 2024/25
- Feedback from the Strategic Priorities brainstorming session/workshop Thursday 23/11/23
- Drainage/Flooding adviser – briefing
- Parish Hall – car parking provision.

167/23 Planning Applications

RESOLVED : to raise no objections in respect of the following applications :-

1	RB2023/1354	Demolition of garage and erection of detached outbuilding	Old School Yard The Millstone School Hill Whiston
2	RB2023/1418	Application to undertake works to a tree(s) within Whiston Conservation Area	38 Dale House The Green Whiston
3	RB2023/1533	Conversion of existing garage to form office for business activities	Cornerstone Guilthwaite Hill Pleasley Road, Whiston
4	RB2023/1546	Application to undertake works to trees protected by RMBC TPO No. 1 1976	The Old Rectory Rectory Drive Whiston
5	RB2023/1530	Application to undertake works to a tree(s) within Whiston Conservation Area	32 Alma Row Whiston
6	RB2023/1531	Application to undertake works to a tree(s) within Whiston Conservation Area	4 Well Lane Whiston

168/23 Planning determinations.

RESOLVED : to note the following Planning decisions :-

1	RB2023/0558	Erection of two storey side and rear extension, single storey rear extension,	Granted conditionally
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		render to rear elevations and pitched roof over existing, 4 Moorhouse Lane Whiston	
2	RB2023/1221	Erection of two storey side and rear extensions and single storey front/side extension, 30 Reresby Crescent Whiston	Granted conditionally

169/23 Date & time of next meeting - Monday 18th December, 2023 6.30pm

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.27 pm

Signed

Dated

NOVEMBER

PAYEE	ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Sheilas Shack	Pie & Peas deposit remembrance event	250.00
R Power	Tuneless Choir - Christmas event fee	50.00
RMBC	Christmas Event licence fee	25.00
HSBC	Monthly bank charges (CUR/RET)	27.00
Business Stream	Water rates - hall	129.92
Various	Staff Salaries October	2285.77
HMRC	Tax & NICs October	577.64
Peoples Partnership	Pension Contributions	102.67
British Gas Lite	Triangle electricity	11.12
EDF	Hall -Gas/Electric	951.00
Get Loos Ltd	Toilet hire - Christmas	600.00
Chic Cleaning	Cleaning- hall	2526.53
Chic Cleaning	Cleaning products	121.47
S Oldham	Reimburse cabe ties	6.00
BT	Broadband/telephone	157.56
O2	Mobile phone	31.44
Mark Middleton	Garden contract inc Cowrakes	466.70
Mark Middleton	Jet washing village sign area	300.00
RMBC	Land & garage rent	29.33
Sheilas Shack	Pie & Peas balance remembrance event	230.00
Elaine Reynard	Remembrance expenses	27.18
Christmas Plus	Nativity Perspex	432.00
RMBC	Road Closure fee- Christmas event	400.00

Santas Village Entertainment Ltd	Snow globe	1434.00
Chic Cleaning	Clening products	79.16
Notice Board Company UK Ltd	Notice Board	1113.60
Swift Groundworks	Notice Board Installation	600.00
Victoria May	Remembrance - singer	145.00
PHS Group	Sanitary disposal contract (6 months)	533.59
Microsoft	Microsoft 360 subscription	88.20
O2	Youth Club - Phone (reimburse JA) Oct	7.96
TOTAL		13739.84