

Minutes of the Meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in the Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms, Whitley Chapel Parish Hall

1. Present – Marge Rastall (Chair), John Austin, Nicola Matthews, Roger Rutherford, Gill Whatmough, Ed Parker, Hillary Kristensen, Susanna Nixon (Clerk)

Apologies for Absence – Davy Short, Lauren Kristensen, Greg Finch, County Cllr Colin Horncastle.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Approved

3. Declarations of Interest – None

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Lilswood Caravan Park complaint

Colin Horncastle, although unable to attend the meeting, emailed explaining he continued to chase the Lilswood situation. He stated that legal action will definitely be taken, but the relevant paperwork was still with the Legal department and this will take time.

5. Public Participation

Ruth Marlee attended on behalf of Whitley Chapel Basketry Club following a letter received from the club regarding changes to the public footpath near the Willow Field in the wetlands. It was agreed that we would ask the County Council footpaths officer to attend a site meeting to discuss options regarding the location of the footpath and invite people from neighbouring properties and the Basketry club.

6. Matters for discussion with the Unitary Councillor

None as Cllr Horncastle was not in attendance.

7. Resilience Hub

Daniel Nixon Chair of Trustees for Whitley Chapel Parish Hall wrote to the Parish council with questions after receiving enquiries during the recent storm and power outage as to the procedure of the Resilience Hub during a power outage. The Parish Council will write to Daniel explaining, who is responsible for opening the Resilience Hub and how information will be circulated in the event of a storm.

The Parish Council will create a flyer that will be circulated in the Parish Magazine, and posted to residents, explaining the procedures. The Parish Clerk will contact Northern Powergrid to enquire whether they will notify residents by text message or email when the Hub has been opened.

## 8. Correspondence

8.1 Parish website - WordPress has been redesigned and Gill Whatmough has been able to add council minutes etc to the website now with success.

8.2 – A letter was received from Whitley Chapel Basketry Club. Refer to Public participation Para 5.

## 9. Finance

9.1 – Whitley Chapel Parish Hall £67.50 was approved.

9.2 – Mazars Audit invoice £300 was approved.

## 10. Planning Applications

10.1 25/00288/FUL – Mrs E Hadaway extension to provide bedroom at Stable Cottage Dotland – Supported.

## 11. Highways, footpaths and BOATS

11.1 BOATS - Definitive Map Modification Order (No2) 2024 – Amended and received.

## 12. Reports

12.1 School - The school achieved a “Good” rating in their recent Ofsted inspection and are holding an ‘Osted Celebration Party’ as decided by the children in the Parish Hall.

12.2 Wetlands – None

12.3 Hall - The murder mystery evening took place to raise funds for the Parish Hall on the 1st of February. The feedback has been very positive, with the evening described as very sociable with superb pie & peas.

Whitley Chapel Young farmers will be performing their winning performance of The Jungle Book on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at the Parish Hall.

12.4 Dukesfield Arches - None

12.5 Sportsfield & Play Area - None

13. Any Other Business

13.1 Houses at St Helens Gate – 2 have become available and will be advertised in the coming weeks.

13.2 Windy Hill Road – It was requested that the Highways department is contacted asking when works will begin. The road was chosen as a Priority, however no repairs have begun yet.

*Meeting closed at 9.15pm*