

Minutes of the Meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 9th September 2021
in the Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms, Whitley Chapel Parish Hall.

- 9.1 Apologies for Absence - Alison Tweddle, Councillor - Colin Horncastle.
Present – Marge Rastall (Chair), Nicola Matthews (Vice Chair), Hilary Kristensen, Greg Finch, Gill Whatmough, Roger Rutherford, Edward Parker, Davy Short, Clerk Gaynor Scandle
- 9.2 Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 8th July 2021
It was agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting.
- 9.3 Declarations of interest
None
- 9.4 Matters Arising
- 2.8.2 Rushwood – NM replied to NCC on 1st July 2021 with information regarding the details of the owners of the site. On 2 Sept 2021 we received the following reply from Alex Campbell
“I have been advised by our legal department that unfortunately we are now out of time to serve a Tree Replacement Notice, as there is a 4-year time limit to do so (please see **section 207(2)** of the Town and County Planning Act 1990). I appreciate that this is very frustrating.”
- Paper work including emails have been found back to 2009 regarding the complaints for this site, and everyone feels that these should be sent to the Leader of the Council to show we have been addressing these issues for many years. NCC have passed on the concern for the welfare of the horses on site to the Welfare Officer, but the WO did not even know which vets had been out and did not enter the site to see there was no water.
- 12.4.2 Lilswood Caravan Site –This will be addressed at the full planning committee in Sept
- 12.14 Lighting at the Church Gates – still ongoing.
- 6.13.2 The Ammunition store - more investigation needed on the history.
- 9.5 Neighborhood Plan - Retrospective approval of invoice for Ludman Planning for £2250 (was previously approved by email).
- 9.6 Public Participation – A very informative presentation was given by Christopher Porter (Mire House) on a proposal for the reform of the Wetlands Area, (full presentation attached). Also present, Buzz Hilton – Whitley Chapel School and Derwent and Kate Gibson from Moss House.
This follows on from a site meeting held on 6th July.
- 9.7 Correspondence
- 9.8 Finance
- 9.8.1 Balances as at 5th July 2021
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Treasurer’s Account | £17287.88 |
| Sportsfield Account | £3663.31 |
| Dukesfield Account | £13364.92 |
| Wetlands Account | £672.46 |

- 9.8.2 Invoices approved for payment
Whitley Chapel Village Hall £30 for one Parish Meeting
Doonan Architects Invoice £1440 this invoice needs to be resent to Gill for payment.
Parish Online subs for £36.00
- 9.9 Matters for discussion with the Unitary Council - Cllr Horncastle was not present
- 9.10 Planning – none
- 9.11 Highways, footpaths and BOATS
- 9.11.1 Pot Holes at Dipton Mill, Lambshield, which have previously been reported, need another remainder as they are in a very poor state.
- 9.11.2 Meeting with Police, Council, off-road vehicle groups and public is being arranged for mid-October, to be held in Whitley Village Hall.
- 9.12 Reports
- Wetlands – the presentation by Christopher Porter and Buzz Hilton was outlined and their proposal is to dig a large pond in the wetland for which funding could be available from the AONB. Buzz highlighted how advantageous it would be for the school. The PC acknowledged that it could be a huge asset to the area, but after a lengthy discussion it was unanimously agreed to turn the proposal down. The main concerns were the safety aspects of a large unattended pond adjacent to a public footpath, and the ongoing maintenance costs which would not be covered by the grant. It was agreed that more should be done with the existing bird hide and the area as a whole, including replacing the fencing, and it was agreed that this should be investigated.
- Dukesfield Arches – The remedial work is meant to be taking place now but the builders are behind schedule due to COVID, Greg suggested that work is delayed until next Spring so there is no frost risk. No financial support was available from Colin Horncastle's budget. Suggested to look at other grant options to see if anything available.
- Hall – Request to ask if the field hedges next to the village hall could be trimmed as vehicles being scratched as they are parked. Chair to contact.
- Sportsfield – Equipment still needs to be viewed and inspected by Cllrs – GS has assessed the equipment but feels that it needs other PC opinions on the state of the equipment.
- 9.13 Any Other Business
- 9.13.1 Marge has approached a local husband and wife regarding joining the Parish Council, one of them will hopefully attend next month's meeting.
- 9.13.2 Request for a seat to be positioned at the end of Leazes Lane, past the end of the Sportsfield.
- 9.13.3 GS has requested 90 trees as part of the NCC 'Free Trees' - it will be decided where to plant them when we see how big they are, they may need to be 'brought on' before planting. A large selection of the trees will be used around the Sportsfield.

The meeting closed at 9.30