MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGHILL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE WHITE SWAN WIGHILL ON 18 OCTOBER 2023

Present:
Councillors: Mr A Hamilton, Mr J Garside, Mrs A Ward, Mrs L Richardson
Mr L T I Grant (Clerk/RFO)
County Councillor: Mr A Paraskos
1 Member of the Public attended

1.   Apologies for Absence
Ms D Spry

2.   Public Questions and Statements
A member of the public had noted that the Parish Website is no longer working and that the change over to a paid subscription service by the Web hosting Company has not been initiated.

3.   **Matters Arising from the minutes of the Meeting held on 14 June 2023**
The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June2023 were approved as a true record by all Councillors present with no abstentions.
A local resident had drawn attention to the uneven footpath surfaces on Main Street Wighill. Highways area 6 will be advised of this complaint.

4   **Police Matters**
A new NY Police Officer, PC Pierre Olesqui (pierre.olesqui@northyorshire.police.uk) is now in post and responsible for the Parish. He is in post for 5 years until retirement. He is very proactive and keen to hear of any issues in this Parish. He will always respond to emails about Police issues in the Parish and car registration numbers of any vehicles acting suspiciously will be investigated, if reported to him by email.

5.   Financial Matters
5.1   Funds Received
- None received

5.2   Bank Balance
The NatWest bank account balance at 30 September 2023 was £3,875.28.
A copy of the bank statement had been circulated previously to Cllrs. There were no comments or queries about the Bank Account from Cllrs present.

5.3   Internal Auditor's Annual Report
The Auditors annual report had been circulated to all Cllrs. There were no comments or queries from Cllrs present.

5.4   Budget 2024-25 and Precept Request
Cllrs confirmed that the budget for the current year had been satisfactory but agreed to increase the precept by £1,000 to improve the reserves and guard against further inflation in costs.
All Cllrs present without abstention confirmed agreement with the proposed budget and increase in the precept request.

5.5   Allocating costs of local elections

Cllrs noted that in future, any local election over a contested vacancy would incur costs which would be reclaimed from a Parish Council. Coopting of a Cllr to fill a vacancy is the preferred way to fill the vacancy, which does not involve any costs.

5.6   Invoices Received
None received

6.   Planning and Related Matters

6.1   Planning Applications received and to be determined.
- None received

6.2   Planning Decisions Notified
- None received

6.3   Planning Enforcement
- A complaint was received about car sales from a Village property, for which there had been no application for change of use. The NY Council Enforcement Office will be advised of the issue.
- Local residents had questioned whether the number of wedding celebrations held at The White Swan was likely to increase, as music could be intrusive on summer evenings. Cllr Garside confirmed that it was essential to the White Swan's survival, that any contracted celebration functions (wedding or otherwise) were undertaken if requested, as there was insufficient local trade in the Village to support the business. Cllrs noted the comments and expressed concern that the White Swan continued as an essential facility for the community.

7.   PC Administration

7.1   Community Questionnaire Wighill

A further revision to the draft document had been made, following recent comments from Cllrs. A copy of the revised version was circulated for consideration. After further discussion, it was agreed to simplify and revise the document to remove duplication of some questions. The Clerk confirmed that he was happy to use the grant provided by Cllr Paraskos to print 100 copies of the questionnaire and deliver them to Cllr Garside for distribution to all Cllrs.

10   Councillors Business Items for the next Meeting

Next Meeting
TBA