Minutes of Westlinton Parish Council held in Blackford School at 7pm on Tuesday 6th February 2024.

1. Apologies; None

Present: David Coulthard, Alex Forbes, John Wharton, Fiona Kay, Ian Hewson, Stephen Nicholson and the clerk.

2. Declaration of Interest: None

3. Minutes of Last Meeting: Agreed.

4. Matters arising: JW had contacted the firm about the lights at Sandysike but nothing has happened. It was decided that it would be better to write to Tuers about the parking congestion outside their premises and invite them to come to a meeting with the parish council to see if a solution to the problem could be found. The clerk will do this.

5. Accounts: These were presented and cheques were authorised for PAYE admin £42, clerk’s wages £600, headstone grant £2000, hand over grant for play tower to the school £20,000 and hire of the school for meetings £49.

6. The clerk had been advised by Highways that the bus shelter on the north carriageway of A7 didn’t comply with new regulations on visibility at junctions and that it should be removed even though we were led to believe at the time it complied with the regulations. After a discussion it was felt that if the PC did not comply and there was an accident then the PC could be liable. DC said he would contact the highways dept. and discuss the situation and get a resolution one way or the other.

7. Wind farm Grants: no new ones in at the minute. There will be more money coming into the PC when the Battery Storage facility at Blackdyke Farm is constructed, £10,000 per annum. DC had been contacted by the firm handling this, Innova, to ask about signatories for the money. It was felt that DC should be one and the clerk/RFO the other. Innova also wanted to use the school to make people aware of another local project, a proposed solar panel on land next to the church and school. It was felt that local views on how to spend future sums of money should be sought. One suggestion was a 3g pitch on the school playing field.

8. PC has been asked to object to the proposed altered application at Whamtown on the same grounds as before. Jock’s Cottage is almost finished despite no plans having been produced. The clerk to contact the case officer for an update and to query the access. Tewthwaite Green have applied for a riding arena. No one had any objections. Green Meadows has put in 2 more applications to have conditions removed from the development.. It was felt there had been so many u-turns on this development that there should be a complete new application. The clerk to reply as such to the case officer and to ask our local councillor to back us up.

9. Highway Issues: potholes.

Meeting closed at 8pm.