

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2010

Present:- Councillor Mrs E M Murray –Chairman

Councillors

Mrs J Chessell G T Swarbrick
A R Ellis Mrs P A Tucker
B G Woodburn

Also present were Councillors N F Cartwright and T Davies together with Rosie Green.

64. (10/11) DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were declared.

65. (10/11) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apoloiges for absence were received from Councillors Mrs L McCann, N F Ridding and S G Sellers.

66. (10/11) CLERK OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that the Clerk had given notice of his intention to retire as Clerk of the Parish Council as soon as practicable. He did intend to continue with FOGG and the Village Hall Committee if that was acceptable. Councillors G T Swarbrick and T Davies expressed their appreciation of the work that the Clerk had carried out on behalf of the Parish Council over the past 32 years.

RESOLVED:- That a Special Meeting of the Parish Council be convened on Wednesday, 15th September, 2010 at 7.30 p.m. to consider the way forward to appoint a new Clerk of the Parish Council.

67. (10/11) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 1ST JULY, 2010

Councillor Ellis commented that Central Government Funding Rules had changed and the minutes should reflect this. Minute 57 (10/11) should, therefore, be amended to the following:-

"Councillor A R Ellis reported that NWDA was due to be discontinued by the Government but that funding might now become available through a County Council mechanism. He reported that BT still seemed keen to get a package together for Grimsargh village in relation to Broadband. It was noted that Central Government Funding Rules now seemed to be aimed towards funding only the installations of "Fibre Optic Networks" although there was a need to know if the village was prepared to back such a proposal and cost. It might be necessary to convene a public meeting on that issue."

RESOLVED:- That, subject to the aforementioned amendment, the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 1st July, 2010 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

68. (10/11) MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

a) The Chairman enquired whether the Pre-Planning Report relating to the land between The Hills and St Michael's had yet been considered by the City Council. Councillor Cartwright indicated that this would be a confidential matter if it was presented. He then indicated that the Regional Spacial Strategy had now been abolished and he also reported that the consultation on sites put forward by landowners as potential development sites was to be considered by the City Council later this year.

b) It was noted that the Rural Broadband meeting scheduled for the 7th September, 2010 had been cancelled and was being reconvened on the 8th October, 2010.

c) The Clerk reported that the applications to List the Grimsargh Vicarage and School House Farm had now been registered with English Heritage.

69. (10/11) POLICING ISSUES

The Clerk reported that there had been 28 reported incidents in the area during July and August, including 1 case of fraud, 2 assaults and 1 drugs incident. It was also noted that the next PACT meeting was to be held on the 16th September, 2010.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

70. (10/11) BMX/SKATEBOARD PARK PROPOSALS

It was reported that a letter had been sent to Mr D Lemmings summarising the views of the Parish Council in July and asking him to consider management, etc., of his proposals. Nothing further had been heard from him by way of reply. United Utilities had also been asked about the possible sale of a piece of land fronting Preston Road for use as a BMX/Skateboard Park and no reply had been received from them.

Councillor Woodburn indicated that the area to the rear of the Church had been used unofficially as a BMX circuit and had been well managed by the youths, although there was very little available space. However, it had not caused any problems. The Parish Council was reminded that Preston ideally wanted resources to be channelled into a central based facility, possibly at Moor Park. It was again noted that a facility already existed close by in Longridge.

The Council was of the view that Mr Lemmings should be asked to establish a Group to try to move the matter forward, carry out the necessary research, obtain costings, etc., and then come back to the Parish Council with their results to enable the Parish Council to fully consider the matter further.

RESOLVED:- That Mr Lemmings be asked to establish a Group to try to move the matter forward, carry out the necessary research, obtain costings, etc., and report back to the Parish Council in due course.

71. (10/11) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1990

The undermentioned planning application was presented:-

006/2010/0569	-	6 Brindle Place Grimsargh	-	Erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling
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The Clerk presented details of the application.

RESOLVED:- a) That no observations be offered in respect of planning application no. 006/2010/0569.

72. (10/11) RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH - PLANNING CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION

The Ribble Valley Planning Core Strategy had been released for consultation and 3 Options all included Longridge as a centre for development, although Option 2 had proposed 450 dwellings in Longridge. This would, of course, have a significant traffic impact on Grimsargh, plus Goosnargh and Broughton. The Consultation document was open for comment until the 20th October, 2010 and the concerns would be raised at the Rural Area Forum on the 9th September, 2010.

RESOLVED:- a) That publicity be given to the Ribble Valley Planning Core Strategy in the press and on the Parish Council Notice boards; and

b) That the Planning Core Strategy be discussed further at the next meeting.

73. (10/11) DRAFT JOINT LANCASHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

A copy of the draft Joint Lancashire Local Transport Plan was presented. The Plan covered all of Lancashire but there appeared to be little regard given to issues affecting adjoining Borough and Parish Councils.

RESOLVED:- That the cross boundary issues arising from the Ribble Valley Planning Core Strategy be raised with the County Council as a matter for consideration in the Joint Lancashire transport Plan.

74. (10/11) PARISH NEWSLETTER

Councillors were asked for suggested items for the next edition of the Parish Newsletter. It was agreed that items on the Website, Flower Beds, Free Fun Friday, Field Day, FOGG, Village Hall, BMX/Skatepark, Broadband and Preston Guild would be prepared.

RESOLVED:- That items for the Newsletter be drafted and passed to the Clerk within the next two weeks.

75. (10/11) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillor Mrs Tucker presented a report on the last meeting of the Community Engagement Sub-Group, which included the Parish Council website, Public Consultations and the Newsletter amongst others. The Parish Council would also have a display at the Village Hall Open Day on the 19th September, 2010 to advertise itself.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

76. (10/11) PRESTON GUILD

It was reported that a Pre-Planning Meeting on matters relating to Preston Guild 2012 was to be held on the 7th September, 2010 with representatives from Village based organisations. Mr P Walsh from Preston City Council would also be attending to present an overview of the Guild 2012.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

77. (10/11) FRIENDS OF GRIMSARGH GREEN

The issues discussed at a meeting with Matt Kelly on the 13th August, 2010 were presented. The Pond/Wildflower sign was now in place and the Village Green had also been nominated and inspected as part of the Entrust Scheme Awards. The Village Green Clean Up had taken place on a very wet Sunday. Preston City Council was now preparing a design scheme for the Children's Play Area, which would utilise the S.106 funding. It was noted that this funding had still not been finalised. Councillor Davies would look into this aspect in an attempt to move it forward.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

78. (10/11) COMMUNITY PROJECTS

i) Free Fun Friday

Rosie Green presented a feedback report from the events that had taken place, in particular in Grimsargh. Councillors felt that the event was an excellent exercise involving young persons and had been extremely well organised and managed. A lot of work had gone into the event which had been well supported and had been considered to be a great success.

ii) Britain in Bloom

Rosie Green reported that the judges had been positive about the Grimsargh Village Green entry. The awards were to be presented at Southport on the 20th October, 2010. In addition, support was being offered by the organisers for the future.

RESOLVED:- a) That the reports be received; and
b) That a letter be sent to Mrs L Norris, Chief Executive at Preston expressing the Parish Council's appreciation for all the work that had been put into the "Free Fun Friday" events and particularly the amount of time and effort spent by Rosie Green in this regard.

79. (10/11) THE NELLIE CARBIS MILLENNIUM WOODLAND

Councillor Woodburn reported that the Woodland AGM would be held in November, 2010 on a date still to be agreed. The Chairman commented on the superb display of wild roses in the Woodland.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

80. (10/11) PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Lengthsman's time sheets for July and August, 2010 were presented

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

81. (10/11) COUNCIL TAX REFERENDUMS CONSULTATION

A report on proposals for Referendums being required for excessive increases in Council Tax was presented. The implications for such Referendums were significant and they would in themselves lead to addition costs being imposed.

RESOLVED:- That the Parish Council's concerns about the financial implications of Referendums be passed on as part of the Consultation.

82. (10/11) CLERK'S SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

The Clerk presented details of his salary, expenses and allowances totalling £540. 02 for the period June to August, 2010, inclusive.

RESOLVED:- That approval be given to the payment of the Clerk's salary, allowances and expenses totalling £540. 02 for the period June to August, 2010, inclusive.

83. (10/11) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:- That the undermentioned accounts be approved for payment:-

a)	Adam Cooper (Payment to Lengthsman – August, 2010. 60 hours @ £11. 50 per hour. Includes £120. 75 V.A.T. @ 17.5%)	-	£810. 75
a)	Adam Cooper (Materials for Bus Shelter repairs, Woodstain and Varnish for Shelters and Planters Includes £14. 00 V.A.T. @ 17.5%)	-	£94. 00
b)	Peter J Croft (Clerk's salary, allowances and expenses June to August, 2010, inclusive)	-	£540. 02

84. (10/11) MATTERS INTRODUCED BY MEMBER

a) Councillor Mrs J Chessell

Commented on grass cuttings being tipped in various locations on the Village Green. The Clerk reported that Mr R Wallbank had spoken to a Garden Contractor from Grimsargh Manor about tipping cuttings on the Green. The Clerk also reported that arrangements had been made with Preston for bins to be provided at the Council Store for cuttings. These would be emptied by Preston City Council.

b) Councillor Mrs P A Tucker

Referred to transporters delivering to Browns Garage continuing to offload on the road, instead of on-site in the garage. It was noted that offloading on the road now happened infrequently.

c) Councillor A R Ellis

i) Commented that a hedge near to school was overgrown on to the footway. The hedge was owned by Dr Rossall. It was noted that Dr Rossall had also offered to gift a piece of land to the school as a safety issue. The Council was reminded of previous issues with Dr Rossall and his attempts to develop in Grimsargh. A letter would be sent about the overgrown hedge.

ii) Reported that the speed camera markings had still not be put on Preston Road. The County Council would be asked to carry out this work as soon as possible.

iii) Commented on parking on the Preston Road footway near to school, almost totally obstructing the footway. PC Zanelli would be asked to deal with this problem.

d) Councillor B G Woodburn

i) Reported that the frontage to Rough Hey Trading Estate was now extremely overgrown. Preston City Council would be asked to cut and tidy the area.

ii) Reported that Geoffrey Loxham was to retire shortly as Vicar at St Michael's and the vacant post would then be advertised. The Rev. Loxham had carried out a great amount of good work in the village and he would be difficult to follow. It was agreed that a letter be sent to him expressing the Parish Council's appreciations for all that he had done in the Parish and surrounding area and wishing him well in the future.

e) Councillor G T Swarbrick

Commented that, as the majority of hedgerows had now been cut back, a great deal of litter had been uncovered at the base of the hedgerows. The Lengthsman would now be asked to clear this litter, etc.

f) The Chairman

Commented on the unsightly condition of the grass at the Church Car Park. It had now become an eyesore. A letter would be sent to the Parochial Church Council requesting that the area be tidied.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9. 55 p.m.

Chairman

7th October, 2010