

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 7TH MAY, 2009

Present:-

Councillors

R E Chapman	S G Sellers
Mrs E M Murray	G T Swarbrick
Mrs L McCann	Mrs P A Tucker
N F Ridding	B G Woodburn

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

1. RESOLVED:- That Councillor N F Ridding be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year. (Councillor Ridding then took the Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman of the Parish Council.)

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

2. RESOLVED:- That Councillor Mrs E M Murray be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year. (Councillor Sellers then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.)

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs J Chessell.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 2ND APRIL, 2009

3. RESOLVED:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 3rd April, 2008 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising on the minutes.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

It was reported that the G.V.C.A. Constitution did not now allow for representation from other organisations and representatives on the Village Hall Committee were now full committee members.

4. RESOLVED:- That the undermentioned persons be appointed to represent the Parish Council on the organisations listed for the forthcoming year:-

- i) L.A.P.T.C./Preston City J.C.C.
(Councillor G T Swarbrick plus the Clerk (One vacancy)
- ii) L.A.P.T.C. Preston Area Committee
(Councillor B G Woodburn plus the Clerk (One vacancy)
- iii) Boylton, Houghton and Farrington Charity
(Councillor G T Swarbrick)
- iv) The Education Charity of John Farrington
(Councillor Mrs J Chessell)
- v) British Red Cross Society
(Councillor S G Sellers)
- vi) The Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland
(Councillors S G Sellers and B G Woodburn)

APPOINTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

5. RESOLVED:- That the undermentioned members be appointed to serve on the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee for the ensuing year:-

Councillors R E Chapman, Mrs J Chessell, S G Sellers, B G Woodburn
and the Chairman (Ex-Officio)

APPOINTMENT OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

6. RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be re-appointed as the Responsible Financial Officer for the Parish Council for the forthcoming year.

REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's existing insurers, Allianz Insurance plc, were still the most cost-effective insurers for the Parish Council's purposes.

7. RESOLVED:- That the Parish Council continues its insurance arrangements with Allianz Insurance plc for the forthcoming year.

REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

The Clerk reported that the Current and Business Reserve Accounts with NatWest Bank were running smoothly and bank charges were minimal.

8. RESOLVED:- a) That the Parish Council continues to operate its banking arrangements with the NatWest Bank Ltd and the National Savings and Investments Bank Ltd; and
b) That all Councillors be nominated as signatories to the Current Account with NatWest and the account with the National Savings and Investment Bank with three members to sign withdrawal instructions on each account.

POLICING ISSUES

An apology was received from PC Ian Zanelli who was on leave. A total of 7 incidents had been reported during the past month, 3 of which were assaults (1 resolved) 3 incidents of criminal damage (2 to one property and 6 people have been arrested) and 1 theft from a garden. PC Zanelli would also be attending the Young at Heart meeting in May. It was noted that Ian regularly sent email updates to residents in the area and Councillors would provide him with email addresses to receive those updates. The next PACT meeting was to be held on the 14th May, 2009. Councillors were also asked to keep a look out for an old White Transit Van and a Red Flat-bed Pick Up truck that had been seen in the area.

9. RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1990

There were no planning applications for consideration.

REDROW PLAY AREA PROVISION

It was reported that Mr D Linley and Mr M Kelly were reviewing the costings provided by Redrow relating to the savings that would accrue by not providing play areas in the development and their

response would be sent back to Redrow within the next week. Further questions needed to be answered about how the funding would be managed and by whom, and also to ensure that it would be used for the benefit of Grimsargh.

10. RESOLVED:- That the report be received

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Clerk reported that Ms R Green was attending a meeting at Broughton addressing what provision was required for young persons and she also had asked for anyone with any suggestions to notify her and she would then be able to put together a co-ordinated approach. The Chairman said that a suitable location for a “dog/litter bin” was on the path leading from Blackleach Avenue into the Redrow estate. Ms R Green would be asked to arrange for a bin at this location. It was also reported that dog fouling was taking place between Waingate and Old Railway Walk and a sign was required.

11. RESOLVED:- That the report be received

PRESTON ROAD (B. 6243) – SPEED LIMIT REVIEW

A copy of the report presented to the recent Ribble Valley Lancashire Local meeting was presented and it was noted that the recommendation from the meeting backed the Preston Locals decision to seek a reduction to 40 m.p.h. between Longridge and Back Lane and a further reduction to 30 m.p.h. on the length from Back Lane to the Grimsargh Boundary to cover Alston Lane School. The Clerk also reported that the survey relating to speeds and volumes of traffic had now commenced. This would cover the full length of the main road through Grimsargh from boundary to boundary.

12. RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

GRIMSARGH PARISH STORE

It was reported that a meeting had been held with Mr M Mason of Nook Cottage about the appearance and use of the Parish Store building. The Clerk reported that stone to surface the access drive would cost between £32. 00 to £58. 00 per ton and approximately 5 tons would be required. It was thought that tarmac would produce a better and cleaner job.

Mr Mason had also asked the Parish Council if he could be permitted to use the front section of the Store rent free and in return he would repair and maintain the building at his own cost. He suggested that he could be permitted to use the building in this way for the period of time that he lived at Nook Cottage. The possibility of extending the front section internally into the rear was also discussed, but the rear was well used and an assessment would need to be made to see if any space could be relinquished. This would be looked at again after Field Day.

13. RESOLVED:- a) That the report be received; and
b) That an estimate to tarmac the access drive to the Parish Store be obtained; and
c) That a decision about permitting Mr Mason the use of the front section of the Parish Store, as now reported, be made following an assessment of the amount of the space that was required for Parish Council purposes.

"FRIENDS OF GRIMSARGH GREEN"

The Clerk reported on the ongoing work being carried out by the “Friends”. He also reported that an application for a Lancashire Gateway Grant had been refused. Meetings continued to be held to discuss other ongoing projects.

14. RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Lengthsman's time sheet for April, 2009 was presented. The Clerk reported that the Lengthsman had been asked to carry out repairs to the two damaged bus shelters. It was suggested that he be asked to litter pick the length of road from St Michael's Church to the boundary with Preston on Longridge Road.

15. RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

THE NELLIE CARBIS MILLENNIUM WOODLAND

Councillor Sellers commented that the Lengthsman had carried out some work in the Woodland, but more time was required at this time of the year. This could be offset by reducing any time spent in the Woodland in Autumn and Winter. This was felt to be reasonable.

16. RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS, 2008/09

The Clerk reported that the Audit of the accounts for 2008/09 was to be held in July, 2009. The Parish Council would be required to have a Risk Assessment in place for the Audit. He had carried out an Assessment, which was circulated for comment and approval.

17. RESOLVED:- a) That the report be received; and
b) That the Risk Assessment, having been duly presented and discussed, be accepted as adequately covering the requirements of the Parish Council

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2008/09

A copy of a statement setting out the Parish Council's financial account position at the 31st March, 2009, was presented. . (A copy of the accounts is contained in the Minute Book)

18. RESOLVED:- a) That the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March, 2009 be approved and authorised for submission to the Council's Auditors; and
b) That the Council confirms that requirements of the Statement of Assurance required by the auditors have been complied with during the past year.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

19. RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be approved for payment:-

a)	Adam Cooper (Payment to Lengthsman – April, 2009. 65 hours @ £10. 00 per hour. Includes £97. 50 V.A.T.)	-	£747. 50
b)	Friends of Grimsargh Green (Grant to support the work of the Friends of Grimsargh Green. Grant approved in November, 2008 – Resolution No. 79 (b))	-	£5,000. 00
c)	Peter J Croft (Subscription renewal for Norton Internet Security; purchase of seed/cell trays and potting compost for Parish Council plug plants. Includes £11. 63 V.A.T.)	-	£96. 83

- d) Allianz Insurance plc - £691.88
(Parish Council's Insurance Requirements - Premium
Renewal for 2009/10. Year 5 of a 5 year agreement)

MATTERS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS

a) Councillor Mrs E M Murray

Commented about the large tarmac area to the rear of the new Spar development. It was reported that this area would eventually be part of the large Distribution Centre warehouse.

b) Councillor B G Woodburn

He said that the Farmers' Market held monthly in the Village Hall was a major asset and was well run and advertised. He suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to the organisers and this was agreed.

c) Councillor Mrs L McCann

i) Reported that the entrance to the Church Car park from Preston Road was still potholed and that the surface of the car park itself was very poor. The potholed access would be reported for attention. No work was intended to be carried out to the surface until a resolution had been found to issues along the former railway and the construction of the pedestrian access to School.

ii) She also asked about the former railway track to the rear of The Hills. A survey had been carried out for Greater Crested Newts. The Clerk said that this was now private land and did not form part of the Cycleway.

c) Councillor R E Chapman

Thanked Councillors for inviting him on to the Parish Council. He was looking forward to working with Councillors in the future.

d) Councillor Mrs P A Tucker

Reported that a number of service covers were loose in the carriageway on Preston Road. The Clerk said that these were ongoing problems and had been reported, together with a defective cover on Longridge Road. The repairs would be carried out by United Utilities in due course.

e) The Chairman

i) Requested information about the lights on Old Railway Walk and problems with loose stones. The Clerk said that United Utilities would be connecting the lights in the near future. The problems with the loose stone would be passed to the County Council for speedy attention.

ii) Expressed his thanks to Councillors for re-electing him as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk reported that the Elections would be held on the 4th June, 2009 and there were also difficulties with the meeting on the 2nd July, 2009 due to holidays. It was agreed that these meetings would be held on the 11th June and the 9th July, 2009 respectively.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman
11th June, 2009