

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 4 April, 2024 held at Grimsargh Village Hall starting at 7.00 pm.

**Present:** - Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor Trevor Haines (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Simon Rusling and Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam.

**In attendance:** - Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council  
Councillor Stephen Whittam – Preston City Council.

### **1. (23/24) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

### **2. (23/24) Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 6 April 2023**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 6 April 2023 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

### **3. (23/24) Chairman's Report 2023/2024**

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton gave his report as Chairman for 2023/2024. He said he would like to start by thanking my fellow Councillors for the time and effort they have put in during the year to help make Grimsargh a safe and thriving place to live.

The Chairman reported that during the year the Parish Council had reviewed numerous planning applications, and listened to the concerns of residents affected by them. We have always listened with open ears, and supported them where appropriate. The Chairman said that fortunately this year we had only seen minor applications within the village. The Parish Council had however towards the end of the year met with Preston City Council, and was looking to reinstate its efforts into producing a Neighbourhood plan for the village.

The Chairman said that the Parish Council had organised village events with a successful Ceilidh for the Kings Coronation, and the newly combined carols round the crib & Xmas tree switch on. We had also continued to enter the Best Kept Village Competition, helped by some excellent planters maintained by their villager "parents". We had also given out small grants to Grimsargh PTFA to assist with their "colour run" event, and we were sponsoring resident Jake Higham as he competes in the world Duathlon Championships in Australia later this year.

The Chairman said that we had also supported the Wetlands when required, and the Wetlands Trust would be using the biodiversity grant in assisting nesting for Terns.

The Chairman reported that our busiest working group had been the Road Safety Working Group, who had been working to find ways of improving road safety, particularly on Whittingham Lane, between the village boundary, and around the park.

The Parish Council had also completed the purchase of land adjacent to the Wetlands from United Utilities as a community asset for years to come. We also had other village projects in progress, which unfortunately were taking slightly longer than anticipated due to circumstances beyond our control.

#### **4. (23/24) Matters raised by the Electors**

Councillor Stephen Whittam, Preston City Council reported that the overhead barrier had now been replaced on the village green. He was still chasing the replacement/repair of the solar lights and with regard to the proposed footpath through the village green, Preston City Council were looking at the legalities on how this could be progressed. Councillor Stephen Whittam also said that he had seen the car that had got stuck on the village green and likewise a recovery vehicle had also got stuck. The police had spoken to the driver.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam asked if we had received any information regarding the data captured by the pollution monitors. The Clerk agreed to chase this. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam also said that she had contacted all the “planter parents” to see if they wished to continue looking after their planters.

It was noted that the author of the Grimsargh Walks book had contacted the Parish Council about having details of the walks on the Parish Council website. The Parish Council agree that the website could signpost people to the book, but at present the books needed to be reprinted. Information about the walks could also be included in the new residents’ packs.

There being no further matter raised the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30 pm.

Councillor Peter Burton  
Chairman Grimsargh Parish Council