

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4 February, 2016 held at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall

Present:- Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson (Chairman); Councillor Peter Burton (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council
Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council
PCSO Sarah Catterall

116. (15/16) Apologies for Absence/ Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Keith Middlebrough . The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson also explained that with the agreement of the Parish Council there would be an item of Urgent Business to be considered later in the meeting.

117. (15/16) Declarations of Interest

None.

118. (15/16) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Meeting held on 14 January 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

119. (15/16) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed PCSO Sarah Catterall to the meeting. PCSO Catterall informed the Parish Council that there had been one burglary at Silver Birches where keys to a JCB, diesel and gloves had been stolen. There had been one sexual offence and also two incidents of anti-social behaviour which had involved two former partners. PCSO Catterall said that people leaving doors and windows unlocked was still an issue in rural areas. PCSO Catterall also said that PCSO David Reid had confirmed that the CCTV signs had now arrived. Councillor Terry Cryer updated PCSO Catterall on the CCTV project and explained that the Parish Council was in the process of registering under the Data Protection Act with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) and we would make sure this covered the

CCTV for the village. PCSO Catterall said that PCSO Reid would contact Councillor Terry Cryer to progress the project.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson thanked PCSO Catterall for updating the Parish Council and then asked Councillor Neil Cartwright and Councillor Tom Davies if they had anything they wished to raise with the Parish Council. Councillor Neil Cartwright said he had attended the Gladman Appeal hearing and had been impressed with the case put forward by the City Council Team and also by local residents including the Chairman who had presented excellent statements against the proposed development. The Parish Council also thanked Councillor Neil Cartwright for attending and speaking at the hearing.

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray took the opportunity to mention an email that had been sent by Julie Buttle as Secretary to PAC giving an email link to a change.org petition for Parish Council to be given the right of appeal against a planning decision made by a District Council. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said she had signed the petition and agreed to send the email link to Councillor Neil Cartwright.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson informed the Parish Council that the Rotary Club had said thank you for the cheque received from the Parish Council towards the footpath project for the children to walk safely to school.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson then reconvened the meeting.

120. (15/16) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

There were no Planning Applications for consideration at tonight's meeting. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson gave an update to the Parish Council on the Gladman Appeal. She reiterated the comments made by Councillor Neil Cartwright and said that the local residents – Jonathan Heaton, Mark Goodwin and Tony Ingham had put forward excellent cases against the Planning Application as did the Officers from Preston City Council. The Chairman also said that the Planning Inspector was very knowledgeable and both Barristers put forward convincing cases but she remained optimistic that we would be successful in defeating the appeal. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should send a thank you to those residents referred to above for their contribution to the appeal. All present also thanked the Chairman for representing the Parish Council so excellently at the appeal hearing and putting forward the Parish Council's objection to the Planning Application.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson also referred to the Wainhomes Development and ongoing problems with flooding. It was noted that the Planning Enforcement Officer was looking into problems as the site and at the moment the Parish Council would keep an eye on the problem and would work to ensure that residents' concerns about flooding were dealt with quickly and efficiently.

121. (15/16) CCTV Project Update

Councillor Terry Cryer gave a brief update to the Parish Council on the CCTV project. He explained that Stephen Snape had confirmed the maintenance costs for the project which were £110 per site per visit and it was recommended that two

maintenance visits were carried out. This would mean that the maintenance costs for the CCTV would be £660 per year. This was agreed by the Parish Council.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson thanked Councillor Terry Cryer for updating the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted and that approval is given to the maintenance costs associated with the CCTV project totalling £660 per year.

122. (15/16) Bench for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland

The Clerk circulated information on options for the different benches available for the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland. It was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase a Balmoral Bench and plaque as this was similar to the last bench purchased by the Parish Council and it had been a good quality bench. This would cost approximately £500 including delivery. It was agreed that the Clerk should progress this matter and agree the wording for the plaque with David Leech's family.

Resolved

That approval is given to the purchase of a Balmoral Bench and plaque from Cyan at an approximate cost of £500 including delivery and, that the Clerk should progress this matter and agree the wording for the plaque with David Leech's family.

123. (15/16) Best Kept Village Competition 2016

The Parish Council was asked to consider entering this year's Best Kept Village Competition at a cost of £25. This was agreed.

Resolved

That, the Parish Council agrees to enter the Best Kept Village Competition 2016 at a cost of £25.00.

124. (15/16) Parish Council Newsletter

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson asked members of the Parish Council to think about items for our next newsletter which would be our June edition. It was agreed that the Community Engagement Working Group would meet to discuss contributions to the newsletter.

125. (15/16) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we had an estimated £41,996.90 in the bank as at 31 December 2015. We were still awaiting January's bank statement.

Resolved

1) The following invoices were agreed for payment:-

i) Clerk, Sue Whittam, Salary 4, 11, 18 and 25 January 2016 (4 weeks £677.60 – tax and NI total £545.60 (Cheque no 765).

ii) Adam Cooper, Lengthsman's Salary January, 47 hours @ £13 total £611.00 (Cheque no 766).

126. (15/16) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk reported on the following matters:-

Letter received from Preston City Council regarding the Band D equivalent properties for Grimsargh Parish for 2016/2017. It was noted that the Parish had 966 properties net of estimated exemptions, discounts and collection rate.

Letter received from Preston City Council regarding two Parish Council Representative Seats on the Local Standards Committee – closing date for applications Friday 26 February 2016.

127. (15/16) Item of Urgent Business – Grimsargh Solar Farm

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson proposed that the Grimsargh Solar Farm should be considered as an item of Urgent Business as it could not wait until the next meeting of the Parish Council due to financial implications. This was agreed by all Parish Councillors present at the meeting.

The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by Anesco who had taken over the Solar Farm at Grimsargh as TGC were no longer involved and had sold the project on due to financial difficulties. The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that we had signed an agreement with TGC to receive a Community Benefit as part of the project being carried out in Grimsargh. Unfortunately the agreement had never been finalised and Anesco as the current owners had no obligation to honour an agreement that had not been technically agreed. However, Anesco were prepared to make a one off payment to the Parish Council of £25k. This was based on the size of the solar farm of 2.9MW and as per the original agreement this would mean an annual payment of £2,900 for the next 10 years (£29k in total).

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray expressed concern about this as the original project had been for two phases of 5.81kw and 6.5kw which would mean that in theory the Parish Council would receive around £100k. On looking at the Planning Applications on the Preston City Council website there had been no indication that a revised application for a smaller scheme had been received.

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would find out if the scheme had been reduced and would look to negotiate on behalf of the Parish Council for a suitable one off amount.

Resolved

That with regard to the one off payment proposed by Anesco of £25k in respect of the Solar Farm, Grimsargh that the Clerk is given authority by the Parish Council to deal with this matter, to ascertain if the project is being reduced in size and to negotiate the final details of the one off payment.

128. (15/16) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 3 March 2016 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.