

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2011**

Present:- Councillor Mrs E M Murray – Chairman

Councillors

Mrs J Chessell            Mrs L McCann  
A R Ellis                    G T Swarbrick  
D J Hindle                 Mrs P A Tucker  
R G Woollam

Also present were representatives from Hallam Land Management, Councillors N Cartwright and T Davies, Mr M Putsey, Principal Planning Officer at Preston and 1 member of the public

**148. (10/11) DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of Personal and/or Prejudicial Interest.

**149. (10/11) LAND BETWEEN THE HILLS AND CHURCH HOUSE FARM**

Representatives from Hallam Land Management, agents for a major building company, attended to present an overview of their proposals for the future development of the land between The Hills and Church House Farm. The site had been surveyed in early summer 2010 and a copy of the Environmental Assessment report arising from that survey had been presented to Parish Council in July, 2010. Although they accepted that residents of Grimsargh did not wish to see any further major development, they considered that the site was suitable for development and was sustainable.

The proposals aimed at protecting the existing assets of the site and would retain green corridors and existing ponds, yet would still allow for up to 200 dwellings. The land to the west of the railway was not intended for development but would be used for biodiversity. It was intended that there would be a single vehicular access to the site, following discussion with the County Council, although the County Council would still need to consider the cumulative traffic impact. It was hoped to encourage the use of public transport or cycling to work rather than private cars and the need to ensure a safe crossing point on Preston Road would have been considered. The proposals offered the potential to complete the cycleway route into Grimsargh, although serious concerns were expressed by Parish Councillors about this element of the scheme. It was noted that the Company had looked at the proposals to create a footpath link from the Church Car Park to the School and had designed a scheme that met all objections, including the Great Crested Newt problem. This proposal would segregate children and parents from the cycleway.

There were proposals to include 20% as Affordable Housing, although the management of that had still to be considered, as there were several options available, including Housing Associations, discounted Purchase Schemes and local Trusts. The determination of need for Affordable Housing was an issue to be addressed by the local authority, although the Parish Council must have some input to determine if there were local needs for such a scheme. Councillor Cartwright said that Affordable Housing should be open and available to all and but bear in mind local needs. New ideas and innovations to deliver Affordable Housing were regularly being brought forward.

It was emphasised that the development proposals intended to retain a small buffer zone between Church House Farm and that the site would retain many of its existing rural features. It was reaffirmed that they had no intention to develop to the west of the railway. The preservation of

Grimsargh as a rural village as far as possible was seen to be of paramount importance by the Parish Council.

At the close, on behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked the officers from Hallam Land Management for their attendance and they, in turn, expressed a wish to maintain a regular dialogue with the Parish Council regarding the scheme, despite the fact that the Parish Council was likely to oppose any development of the site.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

#### **150. (10/11) CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLANNING CORE STRATEGY - SITES ALLOCATION**

Mr M Putsey, Principal Planning Officer, reported on the Planning Core Strategy and the Local Development Framework which was to be the replacement for the current Preston Local Plan and was to be the basis for all future developments, once it had finally been adopted. The Sites Allocation Plan formed part of the Core Strategy which was part of the Local Development Framework. The closing date for representations had been fixed for the 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2011 and it was hoped that, after completing all the due processes, the Plan would be adopted by 2012.

There were a number of potential sites in Grimsargh, although some had already been discounted, and there were sites that allowed for infill. Representations and comments were needed in relation to all the sites. In addition, development was to be permitted on the edge of the urban fringe of Preston whilst retaining a buffer zone with the rural areas. One of the major issues was the definition of "Village Boundaries" to replace the existing "Limits of Development" and it was noted that The Hills estate had previously been excluded although this was considered to be an omission as the Parish Boundary had been changed to include The Hills as part of Grimsargh several years ago. This would feature in the Parish Council's submission. Sites that were put forward by landowners formed the basis of the Sites Allocation proposals. In addition to the site between The Hills and Church House Farm and the site to the north west (P.20) were still being considered as part of the Core Strategy. Several years ago, this had been proposed as part of a larger development for a Surgery, Pharmacy, Cottage Hospital and housing for the elderly. Exceptions included the Vicarage site and Dixons Lane area which had been suggested as Affordable Housing sites to meet the needs of the local community.

There was a discussion about the Employment Areas shown on the Sites Map and it was suggested that, before developing any new Green Field sites, existing vacant sites and Brown Field Sites should be utilised in the first instance in the Preston area. Mr Putsey pointed out, however, that several of the Employment Sites had already been granted planning permission but that there was an oversubscription of these types of site.

A discussion then followed about the limited time allowed for the submission of responses and the Christmas holiday break meant this was only about 6 weeks. The Core Strategy had been in the course of preparation for a number of years and it was felt, therefore, that more time should have been allowed. It was intended to hold a Public Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 to allow Grimsargh residents to come along and put forward their views which could then be incorporated into a Parish Council submission and/or into a submission by residents.

RESOLVED:-

- a) That the report be received; and
- b) That the Chairman and Councillors D J Hindle and R G Woollam plus the Clerk be authorised to formulate a response to the Core Strategy on behalf of the Parish Council; and
- c) That The Hills estate be recommended for inclusion in the plan detailing the "Limits of Development" for Grimsargh Village.

**151. (10/11) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2010**

The Chairman clarified the minute relating to gritting the Village Hall car park and, although no decision had been taken by the GVCA in this respect, confirmed that there was no liability to grit/salt the car park.

RESOLVED:- That, subject to the above point of clarification, the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2010 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**152. (10/11) MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES**

a) The Clerk indicated that the traffic count near to The Hills had been carried out for Hallam Land Management and not the County Council. That was the reason why it was not possible to receive a copy of the traffic figures.

**153. (10/11) POLICING ISSUES**

The Clerk reported that there had been one 2 reported incident of criminal damage and two reported incidents of theft in December, 2010. There were also no Anti-Social Behaviour incidents during the month.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

**154. (10/11) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1990**

The following planning applications were presented:-

006/2010/0910	-	23 Alexander Place Grimsargh	-	Erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling
006/2010/0914	-	Land to west of Clarksons Fold Cow Hill Haighton Preston	-	Construction of a control kiosk with attached davit kiosk, pressure relief column, access junction with associated road and change of use of land as part of a larger sewer upgrade scheme

Brief details of the applications were presented. It was noted that application 0914 was part of a much larger water quality scheme in the Preston area.

RESOLVED:- That no observations be offered in respect of planning applications 006/2010/0910 and 0914.

**155. (10/11) THE LOCALISM BILL**

A summary of the Localism Bill, prepared by NALC, was presented.

RESOLVED:- That the Localism Bill be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

**156. (10/11) PROPOSED PHARMACY**

The Chairman commented that there had not been a proper discussion regarding a request for support for the opening of a Pharmacy in Grimsargh. Generally, it was considered that there was no

particular need for a Pharmacy as the village was well served from Longridge and Ribbleton, and there were also delivery services available. Other concerns included access and parking.

RESOLVED:- That the Parish Council does not support the request for the provision of a Pharmacy in Grimsargh, as now reported.

**157. (10/11) FRIENDS OF GRIMSARGH GREEN**

There was nothing to report on this item.

RESOLVED:- That the report be received.

**158. (10/11) PARISH LENGTHSMAN**

The Lengthsman's timesheet for December, 2010 was presented. The Clerk reported that the Lengthsman had indicated that the Nativity Crib had now become beyond repair, being rotten in places and was letting in rain. In addition, the Christmas tree lights had been damaged and would require replacing.

RESOLVED:- a) That the report be received; and  
b) That a replacement Nativity Crib and Christmas Tree Lights be sourced whenever convenient.

**159. (10/11) PARISH COUNCIL BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Clerk reported that the bank signatories would have to be amended particularly in the light of recent resignations from the Parish Council. It was also felt that two signatories were adequate n cheques but that they should continue to be signed only at Parish Council meetings.

RESOLVED:- a) That all Parish Councillors be nominated as signatories on the Parish Council's current account with NatWest; and  
b) That 2 signatures be required each cheque only to be signed at meetings of the Parish Council; and  
c) That all Parish Councillors be nominated as signatories on the Parish Council's Investment Account with National Savings.

**160. (10/11) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

a) Adam Cooper (Payment to Lengthsman – December, 2010. 44 hours @ £11. 50 per hour. Includes £88. 55 V.A.T. @ 17.5%)	-	£594. 55
b) Adam Cooper (Hire of Wood Shredder for Millennium Woodland Inc £11. 37 V.A.T. @ 17.5%)	-	£76. 37
c) Peter J Croft (Purchase of 10 foot Christmas Tree plus Millennium Woodland quarterly water charges)	-	£57. 33

d) Preston City Council (Printing 1000 Planning Core Strategy Leaflets)	-	£62.50
e) G.V.C.A. (Grant towards cost of Senior Citizen's Christmas Party in the Village Hall)	-	£150.00

#### **147. (10/11) MATTERS INTRODUCED BY MEMBER**

##### a) Councillor Mrs J Chessell

Informed the Parish Council that Whittingham Lane was now being partially resurfaced following severe frost damage in the winter of 2009/10.

##### b) Councillor Mrs L McCann

Commented on various problems regarding the dog bins on the cycleway between The Hills and Bluebell Way. These had been taken on board by Councillor T Davies.

##### c) Councillor Mrs P A Tucker

i) Reported that the Preston Consultative Forum had been cancelled once again. Apparently there had been no response to the call for agenda items. The Clerk indicated that he had not received any letter as asking for items.

ii) Reported that "Wireless Broadband" was now available in Grimsargh. Approximately 50% of households in Grimsargh had been circulated by the supplier. She was now using it and was getting very good speeds.

##### d) Councillor D J Hindle

i) Reported that David Leech and Steve Hutson were prepared to continue with work in the Millennium Woodland to support the Lengthsman. He was also prepared to take on the role of Secretary to the Millennium Project Group. Councillor Woollam agreed to become the Project Leader.

ii) Reported on concerns raised by a local resident about the Lengthsman parking his van on the grass verge. It was noted that, due to the nature of work being carried out, that he needed to park close to where he was working. In addition, it was noted that residents also regularly parked their vehicles on these verges.

##### e) Councillor R G Woollam

i) Commented about the Valpak Recycling Centre at Longridge Road which was very unsightly and there was often litter around the site and the surrounding areas, including in the trees. There were also reports of smells from the site. The partly built extension had a current planning permission and there was little that could be done to press for its completion, although the concerns regarding this and the site and litter, etc., would be passed on to the County Council.

ii) Commented about the Christmas Tree at Browns, which had been very well received. It was agreed to write letters of thanks to Alan Coar for supplying the tree and to Browns for erecting and supplying power for the lights. The Chairman would also inform the Longridge News.

iii) Referred to the 6 monthly Review of Items. The Chairman confirmed that she had agreed to defer this item due to the amount of business at this meeting.

##### f) Councillor A E Ellis

i) Commented that the grassed area fronting Valpak had now been cut back.

ii) Reported on a telephone call from a resident to the effect that the Parish Council was not addressing road safety issues at Alston Lane School. It was reported that the traffic calming scheme and other works were to be carried out shortly, although there had been a delay by the County Council.

iii) Reported that a letter had been sent to the Clerk from the Playgroup in the Village Hall requesting financial assistance towards the cost of their Christmas Party. The Clerk said that he had only recently received the letter, which had been left at the Village Hall and had been addressed to the GVCA. He would seek clarification from the Playgroup as to their requirements.

iv) Commented that the surface to Preston Road between Grimsargh and Nook Glade had broken up very badly in the recent severe snow and icy weather. The Clerk had already reported this to the County Council.

g) The Chairman

Reported that she had met with Dr Rossall who had explained his proposals for Grimsargh from approximately 12 years ago. They had also spoken about the current Sites for Preston and had held a general discussion relative to issues relating to Grimsargh.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10. 15 p.m.

Chairman

3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2011