

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3 July, 2014 at 7.30 pm held at Grimsargh Village Hall

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

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council

32. (14/15) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dan Dewhurst; Councillor David Hindle; Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann and Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council.

33. (14/15) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

34. (14/15) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 June, 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35. (14/15) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell adjourned the meeting for public participation. The police were not present at the meeting but reference was made to a recent e mail sent by PCSO David Reid about recent burglaries in the village and advising that the police will inform resident's insurance companies if they are robbed and their property is insecure. Councillor Peter Burton mentioned a recent robbery that he was aware of where a family had opened their back door to let out their cat and in the time the family were upstairs someone had come in the property and taken a few valuables. It was agreed that the Clerk should e mail PCSO Reid and ask him about the e mail in particular on whose authority and in what circumstances would the police inform people's insurance companies.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell referred to the recent excellent Field Day and that it was sad that Nicky Baylis had now resigned as she had done an excellent job. It was agreed that the Clerk should send a letter to the Field Day Committee congratulating them on an excellent event and the superb organisation by Nicky Baylis. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said she would let the Clerk have Nicky's address.

Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer reminded the Parish Council that the Strawberry Tea event would be held on Sunday 17 August between 1-4pm and that she would appreciate some help with this.

Councillor Neil Cartwright referred to the recent Planning Application relating to Cow Hill and the concerns raised by Houghton Parish Council. It was noted that there had been a number of objections and the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that for any condition there will be some at the top end of the spectrum. However, the Parish Council had made their decision at the last meeting based on the information that was available. It was further noted that some of the concerns raised by Houghton Parish Council did not appear to be relevant planning concerns but issues that would be covered by other regulations.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell then reconvened the meeting.

36. (14/15) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

The Parish Council gave consideration to the following Planning Applications:-

- 06/2014/0412 - 34 The Hills Grimsargh. Erection of first floor extension to side and two storey and single storey extension to rear of dwelling following demolition of existing conservatory.
- 06/2014/0419 - 75 Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh. Change of use of vacant land to extend residential cartilage of no 75 Ribblesdale Drive and erection of 1no detached garage.
- 06/2014/0452 - Land South of Whittingham Road, Whittingham Preston. Variation of condition no 2 (Approved Plans) attached to planning approval 06/2012/0544 Residential development consisting of 78 no dwelling houses with associated site access, open space, landscaping, new pumping station and supporting infrastructure on land south of Whittingham Road and west of Green Nook Lane, Whittingham.

It was noted that the Wainhomes appeal for land off Ribblesdale Drive had now been received and unfortunately the Planning Inspector had allowed the appeal. This was a disappointing result.

Resolved

1) With regard to planning applications 06/2014/0412; 06/2014/0419 and 06/2014/0452, the Parish Council had no comments to make on these applications.

37. (14/15) Report of the Grimsargh Wetlands Working Group

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray presented the report from the Grimsargh Wetlands Working Group held on 25 June 2014. Details of the proposed drop in exhibitions to be held on 16 July and 17 September 2014 were presented to the Parish Council.

The first drop in exhibition on 16 July would be held between 4pm-8pm at the village hall. Experts would be on hand to answer questions and only those properties immediately adjacent to the proposed new houses and those properties potentially overlooking the new built houses on the opposite side of the road had been invited to this first exhibition. Their comments would be taken into consideration and the plans amended as appropriate in time for the second exhibition to be held in September and, which would be open to the village to attend. This second exhibition could also be combined with consultation on CCTV in the village.

It was noted that a further meeting had been arranged for Wednesday 9 July to finalise the arrangements for 16 July.

It was reported that the Working Group had also considered the next stages in the process. United Utilities were now looking at moving the project forward and it was felt that this was now an appropriate time to appoint a solicitor to represent the Parish Council. With regard to the budget for the project the Parish Council had already committed £2,000 towards the project and the Working Group were now recommending that this should be increased to £5,000.

With regard to the maintenance of the wetlands and looking at the schedule and cost of works that needed to be carried out, the Working Group had arranged a site visit with Groundwork Trust and they were currently preparing a formal proposal to be presented to the Parish Council.

Advice was also needed on the setting up of a Charitable Body/Trust and it was felt that Groundwork Trust would also be able to give advice on this.

The Working Group was also recommending to the Parish Council that Groundwork Trust was agreed as our preferred partner for taking forward this project as they had the relevant expertise and experience to achieve the aims and objectives of this initiative.

It was also noted that on the site visit on 25 June the Clerk had fallen and damaged her ankle. The Clerk had arranged for an accident book to be purchased so that any accidents could be recorded appropriately.

Resolved

- 1) That the proposals for the drop in exhibitions to be held on 16 July and 17 September 2014 as presented to the meeting are agreed, and the cost of using the village hall for both exhibitions and additional meetings as required with United Utilities are approved.
- 2) That the Parish Council appoints a solicitor with the relevant expertise, to act on our behalf and that they should be appointed as soon as possible but definitely within the next month – six weeks.
- 3) That the budget for the project is increased from £2,000 to £5,000 with immediate effect.

4) That Groundwork Trust is appointed as our preferred partner for taking this project forward as they have the relevant expertise and experience to achieve the aims and objectives of this initiative.

5) That the report is received and noted.

38. (14/154) Training

The Clerk reported that she had received the latest information from LALC with regard to training courses for Councillors and Clerks. It was agreed that Councillor Keith Middlebrough, Councillor Peter Burton and Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson should attend the Chairmanship course to be held on 13 November and the Finance course to be held on 4 December. As the 4 December course clashed with the December meeting of the Parish Council it was agreed that the Parish Council December meeting should be changed to the following week. It was noted that the cost of the courses would be £25 each per course.

Resolved

1) That approval is given to Councillor Keith Middlebrough, Councillor Peter Burton and Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson to attend the Chairmanship course on 13 November and Finance course on 4 December organised by LALC at a cost of £25 each person per course.

2) That the December meeting of the Parish Council is changed to allow three members to attend the Finance training course. The Clerk will check dates and availability of the village hall and e mail the Parish Council to confirm.

39. (14/15) Parish Council Store

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell had asked for the Parish Council store to be put on the agenda as the doors were in need of some attention. The Clerk confirmed that this had been budgeted for and she would speak to the Lengthsman about replacing the doors.

It was also agreed that Councillor Keith Middlebrough, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and the Lengthsman would look at tidying out the stores now that Field Day was over for this year.

40. (14/15) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update on the work of FoGG. This had been circulated by e mail to the Parish Council.

It was noted that work on the GG's on the village green had been delayed as there had been issues with the purchase of soil. Tape had been placed around the proposed bed to keep people away and the area protected during Field Day. It was noted that Preston City Council had moved the wrong bin.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

41. (14/15) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £43,809.82 in the bank as at 1 June 2014. (We were still awaiting the July bank statement).

Resolved

1) That, the following invoices be approved for payment:-

a) Sue Whittam – Clerk – 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 June 2014 = 5 weeks at £96.80 per week = £484 (Cheque no 688).

b) Adam Cooper – 83 hours at £12.25 = £1016.75 + weedkiller £48.00 add VAT @ 20% (£212.95) – overcharge of £2.39 for May. Total £1275.31. (Cheque no 689).

3) Donna Kidd – Internal audit fee £60 (Cheque no 690).

4) Cheques 691-694 signed to cover the Summer break.

42. (14/15) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk had nothing further to report.

43. (14/15) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 4 September 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.