

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5 July 2018 at
7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall

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

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Ron Woollam – Preston City Council
PC Paul Geldard

33. (18/19) Apologies for Absence/ Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ian Liptrot, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and City Councillor Neil Cartwright. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

34. (18/19) Declarations of Interest

Councillor Peter Burton declared a personal interest in item 14 – Trophy for Young Photographer Competition due to the fact his wife was involved with the Grimsargh Flower, Produce and Handicraft Show.

35. (18/19) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 June 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

36. (18/19) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed PC Paul Geldard to the meeting.

PC Paul Geldard informed the Parish Council that he had been a Policeman for around 15 years and had recently covered the Ribbleton area. He explained that there was currently a review of policing and it was likely that the Clerk and Chairman of each Parish Council would be invited to a briefing by the Police on how policing would be managed in the rural areas.

PC Paul Geldard informed the Parish Council that they were still getting up to speed with the rural boundaries and that crime continued to be low in the rural areas.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell asked if the police had managed to obtain a vehicle for use in the rural areas. PC Paul Geldard said that they were still waiting to obtain a vehicle and it was therefore agreed that the Clerk should write to Superintendent Wendy Bower at Preston Police station to express the Parish Council's concern at the lack of transport for the rural police and ask if this could be resolved as soon as possible. It was also agreed that Preston Area Committee (PAC) should be asked to discuss the lack of police transport in the rural areas at their next meeting to be held in September.

Councillor David Hindle also informed PC Paul Geldard about the recent vandalism on the Wetlands and PC Paul Geldard agreed to keep an eye on this. PC Paul Geldard also explained that he was a qualified Wildlife Officer.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay thanked PC Paul Geldard for attending the meeting and then asked if anyone had any further issues to raise under this item.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell mentioned about the possibility of having a bus shelter installed close to the Plough pub possibly on their car park. It was noted that a number of bus shelters were very slim in design and ones made from resin would be long lasting. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson agreed to speak to the Landlord about this.

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

37. (18/19) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

It was noted that there were no Planning Applications for consideration at tonight's meeting. However, the Clerk reported that the Parish Council received a consultation from Preston City Council on Planning Application 06/2018/0650 relating to Beacon View, Dixons Lane, Preston. However, this was sent in error as it was a none material amendment not subject to consultation, and basically the applicant was changing the type of materials being used for the replacement garage.

The Clerk also reported that we had received from Preston City Council a consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement. It was noted that the Statement of Community Involvement was an important part of the Local Plan. It set out how Preston City Council would involve all sections of the community with an interest in the planning process in the planning of future development, through the preparation of planning policy documents and in processing planning applications.

It was noted that the closing date for comments on the draft Statement of Community Involvement was 30 July 2018. The Parish Council agreed to let the Clerk have any comments on this consultation by 26 July 2018 to enable the Clerk to respond on behalf of the Parish Council by the closing date of 30 July 2018.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson gave feedback on the briefing

session that had been held with Parish Councillors and City Councillors prior to the Parish Council meeting, regarding the proposed development on Whittingham Lane for 70 homes. Two representatives for the applicant had attended to discuss their proposals and it was noted that the planning application had been submitted to Preston City Council but still needed to be validated.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson explained that the applicant was looking at providing 4/5 bedroom homes that were built to a high standard. However, feedback from the questionnaire relating to the proposed Grimsargh Neighbourhood Plan had indicated that residents preferred bungalows and more affordable homes. A discussion had also been held regarding the possibility of some community support being provided by the applicant for the benefit of residents and there was a brief discussion about improving sports facilities in the village and also footpaths on the village green and on Whittingham Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the applicant's representative to state that the Parish Council would welcome the general enhancement of sports facilities in the village.

Resolved

- i) That with regard to the consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement , it was agreed that Parish Councillors should let the Clerk have any comments on the consultation by 26 July 2018, to enable the Clerk to respond on behalf of the Parish Council by the closing date of 30 July 2018.
- ii) That with regard to the potential development for 70 homes on land south of Whittingham Road, Grimsargh that feedback from the briefing session is noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the applicant's representative to state that the Parish Council would welcome the general enhancement of sports facilities in the village.

38. (18/19) Grimsargh Wetlands - update

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson updated the Parish Council on progress with the Wetlands. She explained that the last meeting involving the Parish Council and the Trustees had now been held, however, if the Trustees needed any help on a particular issue involving the Parish Council then the Chairman or a representative from the Parish Council would be happy to attend a meeting with the Trustees. It was noted that the Wetlands Trust would hear the decision regarding their LEF bid shortly. It was further noted that the next meeting of the Wetlands Trust would be held on 23 July 2018. With regard to the encroachment onto the Wetlands by properties close to the site, it was agreed that this should be added to the September meeting of the Parish Council for further discussion.

Councillor Terry Cryer as the representative for the Parish Council had attended the inaugural Annual General Meeting. Councillor Terry Cryer said that excellent work had been undertaken by the Wetlands Trust over the last year, however personally he would have liked further information on each individual Trustee, just so that people were aware of whom they were and their backgrounds.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

39. (18/19) Report from the Finance Working Group

The Clerk presented the report from the meeting of the Finance Working Group held on 13 June 2018. It was noted that the Finance Working Group had considered both the Financial Risk Assessment and the Financial Rules and Regulations and these would be considered separately on the Agenda.

A copy of the Q4 budget for 2017/2018 was also presented to the Parish Council for information. A copy of the Q4 budget is presented in the Minute Book together with a copy of the notes from the meeting of the Finance Working Group held on 13 June 2018.

Resolved

That the report from the Finance Working Group from their meeting held on 13 June 2018 is received and noted.

40. (18/19) Report from the Community Engagement Working Group

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson presented the notes from the Community Engagement Working Group from their meeting held on 21 June 2018. A copy of the notes are presented in the Minute Book.

With regard to the Christmas tree the Community Engagement Working Group were recommending that a solar tree on the Village Green close to the GG's may be appropriate. Councillor Keith Middlebrough reported that he had spoken to a local electrician and that it would cost around £300 for the solar unit and with the tree it would cost a total of around £450. It was suggested and agreed that the tree should be a permanent planted tree but this would be subject to the agreement of Preston City Council who owned the Village Green. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that Fogg would be happy for a tree to be placed there.

With regard to the delivery of the Parish Council newsletters, it was noted that a local lady had offered to help with the delivery and that Councillor Terry Cryer had offered to source some delivery tongs for the hard to open letterboxes.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

41. (18/19) Financial Risk Assessment

The Parish Council gave consideration to the updated Financial Risk Assessment to ensure that it was adequate and up to date. This was agreed by the Parish Council and a copy of the Financial Risk Assessment is presented in the Minute Book.

Resolved

That the updated Financial Risk Assessment is approved by the Parish Council and a copy is presented in the Minute Book.

42. (18/19) Financial Rules and Regulations

The Parish Council gave consideration to the updated Financial Rules and Regulations and these were agreed by the Parish Council. A copy of the updated Financial Rules and Regulations are presented in the Minute Book.

Resolved

That the updated Financial Rules and Regulations are approved by the Parish Council and a copy is presented in the Minute Book.

43. (18/19) Report from Preston Area Committee

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson gave a verbal update on the meeting of Preston Area Committee held on 20 June 2018. It was noted that there had been a discussion on the lack of five year housing supply.

Resolved

That the report from the Preston Area Committee held on 20 June 2018 is received and noted.

44. (18/19) LALC AGM – Saturday 17 November 2018

The Parish Council gave consideration to sending a representative to the LALC AGM on 17 November 2018. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should ask Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray if she wished to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Resolved

That Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray is asked to attend the LALC AGM on Saturday 17 November 2018 on behalf of the Parish Council.

45. (18/19) NALC Consultation – Shaping Our Future

The Parish Council gave consideration to the NALC Consultation – Shaping Our Future. Although they did not have any particular comments to make they hoped that any future changes would be implemented and not just aspirational.

46. (18/19) Trophy – Young Photographer Competition

Councillor Peter Burton declared a personal interest in this item and left the room during the discussion.

The Parish Council gave consideration to the purchase of a trophy for the Young Photographer Competition as part of the Grimsargh Flower, Produce and Handicraft

Show. It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund a trophy up to £50 and that the Show Committee purchase a suitable trophy and provide a receipt so that the Parish Council could reimburse them for that amount. This was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Peter Burton returned to the meeting.

Resolved

That approval is given to the purchase of a trophy for the Young Photographer Competition as part of the Grimsargh Flower, Produce and Handicraft Show up to a maximum of £50. It was further agreed that the Show Committee should purchase a suitable trophy and provide a receipt so that the Parish Council could reimburse the amount.

47. (18/19) Planter Competition Prizes

The Parish Council agreed to authorise expenditure of up to £100 for the purchase of prizes for this year's planter competition and for refreshments for the winners. This was unanimously agreed. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson would make the arrangements for the purchase of the prizes and the refreshments as in previous years.

Resolved

That approval is given to the purchase of prizes and refreshments for this year's Planter Competition at a maximum expenditure of £100.

48. (18/19) Maintenance of the Village Green

The Clerk reported that in order for the drainage works to be undertaken on the Village Green the Parish Council had to formally agree to pay for the ongoing maintenance works of the football pitch only once all works had been completed. It was noted that at the moment it was difficult to provide a costing for the maintenance works as the Parish Council were still awaiting a report on the pitch. However, to enable Preston City Council to commence the tendering procedure for the drainage works they needed a resolution from the Parish Council with regard to paying for the maintenance.

The Parish Council therefore agreed to pay for the ongoing maintenance of the football pitch only on the Village Green once the drainage works had been undertaken. It was further agreed that the Clerk should contact Preston City Council to find out if the maintenance costs could be funded from CiL, and if this was the case then the Parish Council agreed that CiL monies would be used for the maintenance of the pitch. This was unanimously agreed.

Resolved

That approval is given to pay for the ongoing maintenance of the football pitch only on the Village Green once the drainage works have been undertaken, and that this should be funded from CiL monies if possible.

49. (18/19) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £273,683.56 in the Nat West bank as at 5 June 2018. We were still awaiting the July bank statement. This included the precept of £39,000 which was credited to our bank account on 11 May 2018 and the VAT reimbursement of £1,253.33 which was credited on 22 May 2018.

It was further noted that since the last meeting the following invoices had been paid:-

- i) Investment £200,000 (cheque no 941).
- ii) Nellie Carbis – water bill £4.43 paid by direct debit on 1 June 2018.

Resolved

1) The following invoices were agreed for payment:-

- i) Clerk Sue Whittam salary – 4,11,18 and 25 June 2018 four weeks at £284.37 per week = £1,137.48 – tax, NI and pension contribution = £833.42 + stationery, ink and postage £51.03 = total £884.45 (cheque no 942).
- ii) Greenspace maintenance contribution to Preston City Council £3,190 (cheque no 943).
- iii) Bang the Drum – Sally Gorton for website admin Feb – June 2018 £146.25 (cheque no 944).
- iv) Village Hall hire for meetings December 2017 – May 2018 £195 (cheque no 945).
- v) Adam Cooper contractor – 90.5 hours @ £13.75 per hour total £1,244.37. (cheque no 906).
- vi) Adam Cooper contractor – materials bus shelter paint/stain and wood for repairing bus shelter damage - £143.30. (cheque no 907).

50. (18/19) Clerk's Report – for information only

There was nothing further for the Clerk to report.

51. (18/19) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 6 September at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.