

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3 March, 2011 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30 pm

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.

In attendance:- Clerk to the Council – Sue Whittam
Councillor N Cartwright – Preston Rural East
PC Chris Banks

186. (10/11) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

187. (10/11) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N Ridding.

188. (10/11) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved:-

That, subject to the inclusion of Councillor N Ridding in the attendance list, that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3 February 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

189. (10/11) Matters arising on the Minutes

Minute 170. (10/11) Traffic Counts – Councillor Mrs Chessell informed the Clerk that it was a new traffic count that was needed for Whittingham Lane as one had not been done for a while. The Clerk agreed to action this.

Minute 178. (10/11) Parish Council Newsletter – Councillor Mrs Tucker asked for this to be put on the next Parish Council Agenda. It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Tucker would circulate an e mail to Councillors to remind them of the suggested topics for inclusion in the newsletter.

Minute 184 (10/11) Matters introduced by Members – The Chairman referred to the Welcome to Grimsargh boundary sign that had been removed. It was agreed that this should be put back in place. The Clerk to action this.

190. (10/11) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation and an update on policing issues in the area. The Chairman welcomed PC Banks to the meeting who gave an update on police activity in the area. He explained that PC Zanelli had moved to the Preston Violent Crime Unit on secondment. He was aware that there had not been a PACT meeting for a while and he was going to speak to PC Zanelli to look how this should be taken forward.

PC Banks also gave an update on Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, he explained that there are around 30 new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes with the onus being on the Watch Co-Coordinators to organise meetings with some support from the Police. It was noted that Councillor Ridding was the Co-Coordinator for Grimsargh. Councillor Mrs Tucker asked who would actually organise the meetings. PC Banks explained that there was a central unit that used to get involved with Neighbourhood Watch but the responsibility had been handed back to local Police, but it was very much up to the local Co-Coordinators to sort out meetings with police support.

Councillor Swarbrick said that he was disgusted with the way that Grimsargh had been treated over the last few years. In particular police were moved all over the place without any consultation with the local parish. In addition a lot of money had been spent on the SPIDs but after one day they need charging up.

PC Banks noted the concerns raised and explained that with regard to the SPIDs they had to keep being repaired. However Preston City Council and Lancashire County Council had paid to have all the rural SPIDs repaired and these were now being used on a regular basis. It was noted that there was a SPID outside Browns Garage at the moment. It was further noted that the SPIDs deployed on main roads would need charging up more than those used on quieter roads because of the volume of traffic.

With regard to the PACT meetings it was suggested that these should be held at the Grimsargh Club.

PC Banks also discussed the inclusion of the crime figures for The Hills in the Grimsargh Parish figures and he explained that for police matters, The Hills comes under the Brookfield station. He had brought some information with him tonight but it was suggested that the Parish Council should contact Inspector Emmett to ask for The Hills to be included as part of Grimsargh. The Clerk to action this.

PC Banks also gave the Parish Council some background information on the work he was doing with the local schools. In particular he was rolling out a road safety campaign to help children understand the dangers of traffic and roads.

PC Banks also gave some information on the latest crime figures in the area. There had been quite a few crimes in the area and in particular there had been a few incidents of brick gateposts and garden ornaments being taken. There had also been an attempted robbery at the Smile Clinic on 23/24 February.

With regard to the crimes committed at the Hills, PC Banks confirmed that these had been a handbag taken from a vehicle on 21/22 February and a shed broken into and a mountain bike and specialised sporting equipment taken on 17/18 January.

PC Banks explained that a lot of people were leaving their premises insecure and that it was easy to become complacent when people live in a nice area. However it was important that people locked up their houses, sheds and cars etc to minimise the opportunist thief.

PC Banks was also looking at delivering a newsletter in the Parish area. He had brought along an example of a newsletter used in Broughton that was delivered to each household every four months. Councillor Neil Cartwright said he helped deliver

the Broughton one and it was well received. The Parish Council welcomed the idea of a police newsletter being delivered in Grimsargh and would support this.

Councillor Hindle asked about the PCSO's and the Special Constables in Grimsargh. PC Banks explained that the PCSO's had now been told that their jobs were safe for at least 12 months. There was a review of policing at the moment and it was likely that there would be some changes, but as a rule all the PCSO's worked together with the local Community Beat Managers.

With regard to the Specials there had been a massive revamp of their roles and there was now only one unit covering the City Centre. Specials were not allowed to drive police vehicles so their use in rural areas was limited.

The Chairman thanked PC Banks for attending the meeting and updating the Parish Council.

Councillor Neil Cartwright informed the Parish Council that he was attending a meeting on 21 March at County Hall to discuss the cycle path between the church and school. The Chairman asked if the Parish Council would be able to input into any of the plans being put forward. Councillor Cartwright said he did not know but it would be good for us all to work together. Councillor Cartwright said he would mention at the meeting that the Parish Council should be involved in such matters, wherever possible.

Councillor Cartwright also confirmed that Preston City Councillors had agreed to have regular meetings with Ribble Valley Borough Councillors to discuss possible development proposals that could have an impact on both our Boroughs and in particular the Longridge and Grimsargh areas. This was very much work in progress.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

191. (10/11) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

The following planning applications were presented:-

- 06/2011/0089 - School House Farm, Preston Road, Grimsargh. Erection of 2no detached dwellings with attached garages and construction of new vehicular access (following demolition of existing dwelling).

Resolved

That, Grimsargh Parish Council strongly objects to planning application 06/2011/0089 – School House Farm, Preston Road, Grimsargh on the following grounds:-

That, School House Farm is the last farmstead remaining in Grimsargh village. It is an important building of historical interest and it dates back to 1726. The Parish Council has applied for Listed Building Consent on School House Farm because of its importance to the village.

It was further agreed that the Clerk should find out how the Listed Building Consent has progressed.

- 06/2011/0105 - 266 Longridge Road, Grimsargh. Erection of two storey extension to side and single storey extensions to rear of dwelling (following demolition of existing garage, car port and rear annexe).
- 06/2011/0143 - 311 Preston Road, Grimsargh. Erection of single storey Building to rear of dwelling.

Resolved

That no observations be offered in respect of planning applications 06/2011/0105 and 06/2011/0143.

It was further noted that the following planning permission had been granted:-

- 06/2010/0910 - 23 Alexander Place, Grimsargh. Erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling.

192. (10/11) Report from the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee

The notes from the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee from their meetings held on 17 and 22 February were circulated to the Parish Council.

The Chairman reported that the main focus of the meeting had been to respond to the submissions made by Sigma Planning Services on behalf of Hallam Land Management Ltd in respect of the Sites for Preston Consultation. A copy of the response by Grimsargh Parish Council to Preston City Council Planning Department was also circulated to the Parish Council.

The Chairman explained that with regard to the Nellie Carbis woodland – Councillor Mrs Chessell was to provide details of groups and bodies that can be approached with regards to grants and funding, and another separate meeting between Councillor Mrs Chessell, Councillor R Woollam and Councillor D Hindle would be arranged shortly.

With regard to the Old Railway Walk, it had been agreed that an interpretative board towards the Plough end would be most appropriate. Funding was needed for the board and this was being looked at.

With regard to the Blue Plaque for The Plough, Councillor Hindle would approach The Plough to check if they are in agreement with the idea and then to look at what was involved.

It was noted that Ken Maylor and David Small were keen to get involved with the Reservoirs. It was further noted that Preston City Council did have the reservoirs down as a project in their “Infrastructure Delivery” – Appendix 5 of the Issues and Options Discussion Document, and Councillor Neil Cartwright agreed to check that Preston City had nothing planned on this. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Pete Wilson at United Utilities to enquire about the possibility of the Parish Council taking on responsibility for the reservoirs.

With regard to the heritage walks it was agreed that Councillor Hindle would draft up details of the walks to go on the Parish Council website.

Resolved

That, the report be received and noted.

193. (10/11) Quality Status

Councillor R Woollam, Councillor Mrs P Tucker and the Clerk gave an update to the Parish Council on the Quality Status training that they had attended at LALC on 2 March 2011.

Councillor Mrs Tucker circulated a report on the Parish Council's position with regard to Quality Status and what would be needed to achieve this. Councillor Mrs Tucker felt the workshop was useful and informative and was encouraged that the Parish Council had already met many of the criteria and – apart from one or two issues – it would not be too difficult to meet all the required criteria for Quality Status.

Councillor R Woollam also felt that it had been a useful course and that it would not prove too difficult to achieve Quality Status if the Parish Council wanted to do this.

It was agreed that there were a few things that needed looking at in order to work towards Quality Status. To put things in a logical order it was agreed to start with procedural matters - in particular the Standing Orders needed reviewing as they did not include any delegated powers for the Clerk and there were some typing errors and generally ones that needed updating. The names of Sub-Committees and Working Groups and their roles also needed reviewing and likewise the Agenda/items.

Resolved

That the report on Quality Status be received and noted, and that the Clerk looks at revising the Standing Orders, the names of Sub-Committees and Working Groups and Agenda/items and report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

194. (10/11) Review of the Parish Plan

It was noted that the Parish Plan was now 7 years old and it was important to regularly review and update the plan to make sure it was current and useful. There was general discussion about this and the Chairman felt that the Parish Council should put a list of updates on progress with the Parish Plan on the website.

Councillor Ellis felt it was time for a new Parish Plan to reflect the changes that had happened in the village. However, all members were conscious of the cost of producing a plan.

It was therefore agreed that all members of the Parish Council think about what is needed to update the current plan and to look and see if a further plan should be produced. This would be discussed further at the May meeting of the Parish Council.

195. (10/11) Grant Requests

The following grant requests were presented to the Parish Council:-

a) Gabby Moriarty – 22 World Scout Jamboree

Resolved

That the Parish Council is unable to award a grant in this instance to an individual but would help in any way by publicising fund raising to help Gabby Moriarty attend the 22 World Scout Jamboree.

b) North West Air Ambulance

Resolved

That in accordance with S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, a grant of £200 is awarded to North West Air Ambulance to support their valuable work.

c) Grimsargh Toddlers Group

That in accordance with S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, that £100 is awarded to Grimsargh Toddlers Group towards play equipment, and that the Toddler Group is advised of further grant sources to help them fund the hire of the village hall.

d) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FOGG)

That in accordance with S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, that £1,000 is awarded to Friends of Grimsargh Green (FOGG) towards their valuable work and that this should be paid after the receipt of annual precept in April.

196. (10/11) Community Projects

The Chairman reported that the Refreshingly Rural Event had been a great event with market stalls, workshops and presentations. It showed that the “Big Society” was alive and well. However it was noted that people had mainly looked at the stalls rather than going to the workshops, so there were lessons to be learned from the event.

Resolved

That the report be received and noted.

197. (10/11) Longridge Road – Toucan Crossing

The Chairman reported that she was meeting Alan Walters about the Guild Wheel on Wednesday to see if the proposed Toucan crossing could be moved nearer to The Hills.

Councillor R Woollam expressed concern about the amount of money that was being spent on the Guild Wheel when most Council's were facing severe cutbacks.

Resolved

That the report be received and noted.

198. (10/11) Friends of Grimsargh Green

Councillor Mrs Chessell reported that the lights were now working, but with regard to the sunken car park she had not had any response on this. With regard to the S106 monies this was still being dealt with by Preston City Council but progress was slow.

It was noted that the hedge laying would now take place in October. It would cost about £150.00 to train a group of volunteers in hedge laying skills. The total cost of hedge laying would be around £1,500 and sponsorship was being sought.

Resolved

That the report be received and noted.

199. (10/11) Old Railway Walk

There was nothing further to report on this item other than what had been discussed under item 192 (10/11) Report of the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee.

200. (10/11) Grimsargh Reservoir

There was nothing further to report on this item other than what had been discussed under item 192 (10/11) Report of the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee.

201. (10/11) The Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland

Councillor Hindle reported that a meeting had been held with David Leach. There had been a problem with a dangerous tree and this had been dealt with by the Tree Surgeon. The bill for this was outstanding as both Councillor Hindle and Councillor Woollam were trying to find out what had happened with the bank account and the situation with regard to funding. It was important that a copy of the accounts were obtained and the Clerk agreed to look at the accounts to see if they were all in order, if that would be helpful.

Resolved

That the report be received and noted.

202. (10/11) Parish Lengthsman

The Lengthsman's timesheet for February 2011 was presented. It was agreed that the Clerk would monitor the Lengthsman and that there was no need for the timesheet to be presented at each meeting unless there were any issues that needed resolving.

Resolved

That the report be received and noted.

203. (10/11) Accounts for Payment

Resolved:-

That the following accounts are approved for payment:-

a) **Adam Cooper** £455.40

Payment to Lengthsman –February, 2011.
33 hours @ £11. 50 per hour.
Includes £75.90 V.A.T. @ 20%

b) **Adam Cooper** £564. 00

Construction of new Bus Shelter to the east of
Lindale Avenue & removal of old one.
Inc £94.00 V.A.T. @ 20%.
N.B. This final cost of this shelter is to be reimbursed to
the Parish Council by Preston City Council

c) **Sue Whittam** £320.00

Pay for weeks beginning 7 Feb 2011, 14 Feb, 21 Feb &
28 Feb.

d) **Peter Croft** £495.80

December 2010 to February 2011, inclusive

Salary - 3/12THS x £865	£216. 25
Accommodation - 3/12THS x £830	£207. 50
Telephone rental - 3/12THS x £60	£15. 00

Travelling - 44. 5 miles @ 46. 1p per mile	£20. 51
Telephone calls	£5. 60
Postage	£7. 68
Miscellaneous/copying	£23. 26

TOTAL £495. 80

The Miscellaneous amount is for a pair of suited padlocks for the Council Lock
Up £10. 79 and Water Charges for the Millennium Woodland
£12.47.

e) **GVCA** £240. 00

Hire of Hall for meetings of the Parish Council April, 2010 to March,

2011 inclusive. 16 meetings @ £15.00.

f) **Longridge Gymnastic Club** £200.00

Grant as awarded at the February 2011 meeting.

g) **LALC** £20.00

Quality Status workshop – 2 March attended by Cllrs Tucker & Woollam at a cost of £10.00 each.

204. (10/11) Matters introduced by Members

Councillor Mrs J Chessell

Commented that a low fence needed installing on the car park and that the Lengthsman would do this – materials to be provided by FOGG.

Councillor R G Woollam

No issues raised.

Councillor A E Ellis

Commented on the S106 monies and that perhaps the Parish Council needed to support Councillor Mrs Chessell in getting things moving at a faster pace. After discussion it was agreed to leave this matter with Councillor Mrs Chessell and that if she needed further support from the Parish Council to obtain the S106 monies then she would bring it to the Parish Council's attention.

Councillor D J Hindle

No issues raised but apologies for next meeting.

Councillor Mrs P A Tucker

Confirmed that she would be arranging a meeting to discuss the Preston Guild. It was agreed that this meeting would be held in the Village Hall, the hire costs to be funded by the Parish Council.

Councillor Mrs L McCann

Raised the issue of litter around The Hills and the Clerk agreed to ask the Lengthsman to look at this. In addition litter on the Redrow estate was raised especially in the pond – the Clerk to ask the Lengthsman to look at this.

The Chairman

No issues raised.

205. (10/11) Date of next meeting

It was noted that the Annual Parish Council meeting would be held on Thursday, 7 April 2011 at **7.00 pm** in the Village Hall. This would be followed by an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.30 pm