

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 2 March, 2023 held at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present:- Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor David Hindle (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Trevor Haines; Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver; Councillor Simon Rusling and Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Stephen Whittam – Preston City Council.

127. (22/23) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer and Councillor Terry Cryer.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that there would be an Item of Urgent Business relating to the purchase of the additional land at Grimsargh Wetlands. It was noted that due to the confidentiality relating to the legal purchase, the item would be considered under Part II of the Agenda. The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton also briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

128. (22/23) Declarations of Interest

None.

129. (22/23) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 February 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

130. (22/23) Adjournment for Public Participation

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton adjourned the meeting for public participation and asked if anyone had anything to raise under this item.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam asked if there had been any progress with the bird boxes. The Clerk advised that these had been ordered and were currently being made by Dig In, a registered Charity that supported Veterans and the Blue Light Community.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update to the Parish Council on the latest Road Safety Webinar that she had recently attended. She said that the Webinar had been really interesting and focused on the danger of fires during traffic accidents, including electric car fires and the difficulties in dealing with this type of fire. The Webinar had also highlighted that tyre pressure was the 3rd major cause of road

collisions. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said she would circulate the presentations from the Webinar to the Parish Council when available.

The Clerk confirmed that she was awaiting a response from Preston City Council regarding the request for an additional bin near to Cow Hill but within the Parish Council boundary.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton then reconvened the meeting.

131. (22/23) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

06/2022/1448 - Pointer Farm, Carrs Green Inskip (It was noted that the Planning Officer had confirmed that some of the farm land falls within Grimsargh Parish).

With regard to Planning Application 06/2022/1448 the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

There were no further planning matters for discussion at the meeting.

Resolved

That, with regard to Planning Application 06/2022/1448 the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

132. (22/23) King Charles III Coronation Working Group

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam and Councillor Simon Rusling gave feedback from the recent meeting of the King Charles III Coronation Working Group and put forward a number of options for an event to celebrate the Coronation in May. It was recommended that a Ceilidh should be held at the Village Hall on Sunday 7th May at 7.30pm. Councillor Simon Rusling said that the Village Hall hire (estimated cost £60), and a band (cost £1,200) had been provisionally booked subject to the approval of the Parish Council. The Working Group had also discussed the provision of food at the event, the provisional cost for food was £4.75 per head and 120 portions would be needed. There was also the question of ticket costs for the event.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton advised that the Parish Council had budgeted £1,500 for events, so after deducting the cost of the band and Village Hall, there was £240 remaining towards food etc. Councillor Trevor Haines felt that some kind of food needed to be provided. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam suggested possibly cake and nibbles so she would look into this within the budget allocated. With regard to charging for tickets, the Clerk explained that this would be quite complicated as the Parish Council did not deal in petty cash and there would also be the monitoring of the ticket sales.

The Parish Council therefore agreed that the event should be free. However, tickets would need to be provided to monitor the amount of people who would be attending as the maximum number was 120. Councillor Simon Rusling agreed to design a simple ticket.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to go ahead with a Ceilidh at the Village Hall on Sunday 7th May 2023 to celebrate the Kings Coronation. It was further agreed to support a volunteering day at the Wetlands on Monday 8th May 2023.

Resolved

i) That approval is given to have a Ceilidh at the Village Hall on Sunday 7th May to celebrate the Kings Coronation and that a budget of £1,500 is allocated to this.

ii) That the Parish Council agrees to support the volunteering day at the Wetlands to be held on Monday 8th May 2023.

133. (22/23) Parish Council Newsletter

The Parish Council gave consideration to possible items for inclusion in the June newsletter. The Clerk reported that Councillor David Hindle had already provided an excellent article on the history of Elston and Elston Green which would be used as the Heritage Corner item together with pictures of the new sign on Elston Lane which would be installed shortly. Other items discussed included the composition of the Parish Council, following the elections in May; pictures from the Kings Coronation events; update from Grimsargh Wetlands and information about the Best Kept Village Competition.

It was noted that the final items would be signed off at the May meeting of the Parish Council.

134. (22/23) Best Kept Village Competition

The Parish Council gave consideration to entering this year's Best Kept Village Competition at a cost of £25.00. It was noted that the first round of judging would be held in June and the final round between 22nd-23rd August.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to enter this year's competition at a cost of £25.00.

Resolved

That approval is given to enter this year's Best Kept Village Competition at a cost of £25.00.

135. (22/23) Financial Risk Assessment

The Parish Council reviewed the current Financial Risk Assessment to ensure it was adequate to cover the Parish Council's needs. It was noted that the Clerk had recommended that the Parish Council Grants Scheme should be reviewed and

updated and an additional procedure should be developed to deal with larger grant requests funded from CiL monies.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed the Financial Risk Assessment as now presented, including the additional action to review the current Grants Scheme, and develop a procedure for dealing with larger grant requests funded from CiL monies. A copy of the Financial Risk Assessment is presented in the Minute Book.

Resolved

That approval is given to the Financial Risk Assessment as now presented, including the additional action to review the current Grants Scheme, and to develop a procedure for dealing with larger grant requests funded from CiL monies. A copy of the Financial Risk Assessment is presented in the Minute Book.

136. (22/23) Financial Rules and Regulations

The Parish Council reviewed the Financial Rules and Regulations, to ensure that they were adequate to cover the Parish Council's needs. It was noted that the Clerk was not recommending any changes to the document as it was currently up to date and in line with statutory regulations. The Parish Council unanimously approved the Financial Rules and Regulations and a copy is presented in the Minute Book.

Resolved

That approval is given to the Financial Rules and Regulations as now presented and a copy is included in the Minute Book.

137. (22/23) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £186,708.34 in the Nat West bank as at 3 February 2023.

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

JRB Enterprises – dog bin bags £130.26 (Cheque no 1191).

Deesigns for Elston Lane Heritage sign - £925.60 (Cheque no 1192).

Clerks Salary 15 February 2023 - £1,265.50 (Cheque no 1193).

It was also noted that bank charges 31 December 2022 – 3 February 2023 were £4.55. The Parish Council had also paid NEST pension (Clerk) £48.88 on 3 February (Direct Debit).

Resolved

1) The following invoices were approved for payment: -

i) Clerk's Salary 15 March £1,265.30.

ii) Adam Cooper Contractor – to be confirmed at the next meeting.

iii) HMRC Q4 Tax and NI - £587.51.

iv) Grimsargh Village Hall room hire including Wetlands meetings £112.50.

v) Cheque for £38,000 for Grimsargh Village Hall (grant) as agreed in July 2022 (CiL monies).

2) The Parish Council approved the appointment of Donna Kidd as the Internal Auditor for the account's year end 31 March 2023 at a cost of £70.00.

138. (22/23) Clerk's report – for information only

There was nothing further for the Clerk to report.

139. (22/23) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Annual Parish Council meeting would be held on Thursday 6 April 2023 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall, this would be followed by an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

The following Item was agreed as an Item of Urgent Business as it could not wait until the next meeting of the Parish Council: -

Local Government Act 1972

That the public be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that there is likely to be disclosure of exempt information which is described in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 which is specified against the heading to each item, and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

140. (22/23) Purchase of Additional Land at Grimsargh Wetlands (Para 3)

The information is confidential and not for publication.