

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd October, 2024 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor David Hindle; 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  
4 members of the public

### **54. (24/25) Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting. The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton took the opportunity to congratulate Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam on the birth of her first grandchild.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Trevor Haines (Vice-Chairman).

### **55. (24/25) Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **56. (24/25) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th September 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **57. (24/25) 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.

Four young people had come along to the meeting to raise again the possibility of having some mountain bike jumps on the village green. They said that they had contacted Preston City Council but had not received a reply. The Clerk reminded them that the best way to progress this was for one of their parents to contact the Parish Council and then this could officially be progressed with Preston City Council who owned the land.

Councillor Simon Rusling said that it was great that they were showing initiative but if damage was currently being done to fences and trees on the Redrow Estate then this was not acceptable, so they needed to make sure that they were respectful to

other people's property and then hopefully they would receive support for some proper mountain bike jumps.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton thanked the young people for attending, he then asked if anyone else had anything to raise under this item.

Councillor Stephen Whittam said that Mark Taylor at Preston City Council had recently been promoted from Head of Parks to Interim Director of Environment and Property. Councillor Stephen Whittam said that he was still chasing the Parks Department about the pond and fencing on Redrow and the lighting on the village green car park.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam said that she had the vouchers from So Plants for the planter parents and she would distribute these once the report from the Best Kept Village was received. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam also informed the Parish Council that the Wetlands Trust had produced a calendar and these were being sold at £6.00 each to raise funds for the Trust.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam also said that the online residents pack was looking really good and asked if there could also be a link to the local bus company and the scouts and guides. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam also reported that the temporary footpath closure order would come into effect on 14<sup>th</sup> October so that the new fencing/works could be undertaken at the Wetlands.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that there had been some flooding on the Seddon estate and that she had mentioned it to Councillor Stephen Whittam. She also had concerns about the care home and its future development.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton thanked everyone for attending and then reconvened the meeting.

## **58. (24/25) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

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

06/2024/0987 - 144-146 Preston Road, Grimsargh, PR2 5JQ  
Change of garage doors to glazed window to front elevation.

The Parish Council noted the following two applications that were for information only and not subject to consultation: -

06/2024/0988 - 144-146 Preston Road, Grimsargh, PR2 5JQ  
1no. externally illuminated fascia sign.

06/2024/0952 - 240 Preston Road, Grimsargh, PR2 5JS  
Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed use of property as a care home (Class C2) for up to 3no. children

With regard to Planning Application 06/2024/0987, the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

The Parish Council noted Planning Applications 06/2024/0988 and 06/2024/0952.

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

### **Resolved**

That with regard to Planning Application 06/2024/0987 the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

### **59. (24/25) Christmas Events 2024**

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam informed the Parish Council that Reverend Williams and Canon Doyle were both aware of the blessing of the Crib and the Christmas lights switch on to be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. Field Day Committee had also agreed to help and Father Christmas was available.

It was noted that there was a sound system stored at the village hall that hopefully could be used for the event.

### **Resolved**

That the update on the Christmas Events is received and noted.

### **60. (24/25) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Lancashire County Council Preston Road, Grimsargh, Preston City (Pedestrian Crossing) and Preston Road, Grimsargh, Preston, Revocation of School Entrance Markings**

The Parish Council gave consideration to the Traffic Regulation Orders relating to the proposed Pedestrian Crossing to be installed outside Grimsargh St Michaels CE Primary School as part of the Skew Bridge Widening Scheme. It was noted that the closing date for comments was 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

The Parish Council had no comments to make on the Traffic Regulation Orders but welcomed the proposed crossing for the village.

### **Resolved**

That the Parish Council had no comments to make on the Traffic Regulation Orders but welcomed the proposed crossing for the village.

### **61. (24/25) Lancashire Town & Parish Council Conference/LALC AGM**

It was noted that the Lancashire Town & Parish Council Conference would be held at County Hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November between 9.30 am and 2.00 pm and would be followed by the LALC AGM in the afternoon.

The Parish Council gave consideration to attending both events. Parish Councillors were asked to let the Clerk know if they wished to attend, so that a place could be booked on their behalf.

## **62. (24/25) Parish Council Newsletter**

The Parish Council gave consideration to items for the Parish Council newsletter, which included items on the mobile library, the Wetlands, Remembrance Sunday, the Cricket Club, Gardening Club and Christmas events. Councillor David Hindle said he would write an item for Heritage Corner. It was noted that the newsletter would be signed off at the November meeting of the Parish Council.

## **63. (24/25) Financial Matters and banking**

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £191,099.28 in the Nat West bank as at 5 September 2024.

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

Village Hall room hire £110 (April – August 2024) for the Parish Council/Wetlands Trust meetings. (Cheque no 1279).

So Plants for planter parent vouchers £280. (Cheque no 1280)

Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary 15 September, £1,257.97. (Cheque no 1281).

HMRC Q2 Tax & NI £873.31. (Cheque no 1282).

PKF Littlejohn External Audit Fee £504.00. (Cheque no 1283).

Robert Easom for grass/hedge cutting £774.72. (Cheque no 1285).

We had been advised that bank charges from 3 August – 30 August were £1.05. Direct debits Nest Pension Clerk 8 August £67.71 and water for Nellie Carbis £20.14 had also been paid.

### **Resolved**

1) The following invoices were approved for payment: -

Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary 15 October £1,257.97

Footpath Closure for Grimsargh Wetlands £1,185 as agreed at the last meeting + £100 for Annual Membership of Grimsargh Wetlands Trust.

2) Report of the External Auditor

It was noted that the following issues had been raised by the External Auditor as part of their conclusion into the accounts for year end 31 March 2024.

The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. The smaller authority has revalued the current year figure Section 2, Box 9 on the basis of market value. Please note that the Practitioners' Guide for smaller authorities states that "Long-term investments should be recorded in the asset and investments register at

original cost at acquisition (the purchase price) which for accounting purposes will remain unchanged until disposal.

We note that the smaller authority did not comply with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as it failed to make proper provision during the year 2024/25 for the exercise of public rights, since the approval date was after the start of the period for the exercise of public rights. As a result, the smaller authority must answer “No” to Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2024/25 and ensure it makes proper provision for the exercise of public rights during 2025/26.

The Clerk reported that all documents were on the Parish Council website.

#### **64. (24/25) Clerk’s report – for information only**

It was noted that holding reply had been received from Maya Ellis MP regarding new houses in Grimsargh and neighbouring areas as discussed at the last meeting.

The Clerk also reported that Peter Black would look at pulling together a questionnaire regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted that the current draft National Planning Policy Framework had left Neighbourhood Planning essentially untouched, so at this stage it was not clear what changes would be coming forward.

The Clerk reported that the tender procedure for the Skew Bridge Widening Scheme had been agreed by LCC Cabinet.

It was also noted that Orchard Grant application was still in progress as further information needed to be obtained including a plant healthy accreditation supplier.

#### **65. (24/25) Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 7th November 2024 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.

