

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3 September, 2015 held at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall

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

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
PCSO David Reid
3 Members of the public

48. (15/16) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Hindle, Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council and Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council

49. (15/16) Declarations of Interest

None.

50. (15/16) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 2 July, 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51. (15/16) Parish Council Vacancies

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson welcomed Terry Cryer to the meeting who had come along to be considered as a Co-opted Member of the Parish Council. Terry had attended a couple of meetings of the Parish Council to find out more about the work involved and he felt that he could make a positive contribution to the Parish Council. It was unanimously agreed that Terry Cryer should be Co-opted onto Grimsargh Parish Council with immediate effect. Councillor Terry Cryer completed his Acceptance of Office form and the Clerk gave him the relevant Register of Interests form for completion.

Resolved

That Terry Cryer is appointed as a Co-opted Member onto Grimsargh Parish Council with immediate effect.

52. (15/16) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson adjourned the meeting for public participation and took the opportunity to give an update to the Parish Council and

members of the public about the recent issues with travellers using the village green. She explained that Preston City Council Officers and the Police had been extremely professional and had handled the travellers quickly and they had moved on causing a minimum amount of damage and disruption to local residents. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson said she had thanked the Chief Executive at Preston City Council for their prompt action and also it was agreed that the Clerk should send a thank you to PCSO Sarah Catterall who had also been involved in helping the travellers move on to a more suitable location.

Two members of the public present at the meeting had come along to raise their concerns about the travellers and in particular problems with them urinating in full view of local residents as well as other inappropriate behaviour. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said she had also received a number of phone calls about the travellers being on the village green, but there were procedures that needed to be followed to have them removed.

There was a brief discussion on what measures could be put in place on the village green to prevent any future issues with travellers – these included a fence or some large boulders around the perimeter to prevent access to caravans etc. All these solutions could be costly and maybe unsightly and it was important to make sure that any solution was kept in proportion to the problem. PCSO David Reid said that even if a fence or gate was in place these could easily be cut through and possibly the boulders were the better solution coupled with CCTV being installed in the area. It was recognised that the travellers had caused some concern to local residents but due to the quick co-ordinated response by Preston City Council as owners of the land and the Police the travellers had moved away on the fourth day. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that FoGG would consider the issues and solutions for the village green at their meeting next week. It was noted that travellers were currently on Bluebell Way but it would take longer for these to be removed as they were on private land.

PCSO David Reid then gave an update to the Parish Council on recent police activity in the area. In particular he said there had been a couple of bike thefts but they had arrested someone for these crimes and they were currently on bail. He also said that there had been a number of thefts from hairdressers in Grimsargh and the surrounding area that had been reported to the Parish Council in July. However, the thieves had twice robbed the hairdressers at Grimsargh in the same evening and PCSO David Reid said that if the village had CCTV this would have been invaluable in detecting the criminals. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson said that the Parish Council were still looking at installing CCTV and a meeting of the Community Safety Working Group would be held shortly to progress the matter.

PCSO David Reid also informed the Parish Council about a lady who was knocking on doors or approaching people at shops to say that she had run out of petrol and asking for money to help her get to a hospital appointment. It was estimated that she had carried out this “scam” around 50 times. PCSO David Reid said that if anyone had been targeted he would like them to get in touch with him as he was building up a prosecution against the lady who was known to him. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson said she would put a post out on our Facebook Page about this.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson asked if there were any more issues to be raised under public participation. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell asked about the gentleman from Rotary who had rung her regarding the footpath behind the church. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray was aware that the footpath project had stalled due to the cost of additional drainage. However, it was noted that the Rotary Club were now involved together with some of the parents from school and it was hopeful that it would now go ahead in spite of the delays and problems.

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

53. (15/16) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

- 06/2015/0581 - 12 Nook Glade Grimsargh
Erection of two storey extension to rear of dwelling following demolition of single storey extension.
- 06/2015/0373 - JYM Partnership LLP – Tower House, Woodlands Grove, Grimsargh PR2 5LB – Outline erection of 2 dwellings (all matters reserved apart from access) served from existing private drive access to Tunbrook Avenue, and including bin-storage area and escape path during flooding on land to south of Tower House, Woodlands Grove, Grimsargh.
- 06/2015/0690 - United Utilities Group PLC – Outline planning application for erection of 12no residential dwellings (access applied for only). Land at Preston Road, Grimsargh.

The Parish Council noted the following Planning Application:-

- 06/2015/0592 - Land off Ribblesdale Drive Grimsargh
Removal of condition no 20 attached to planning permission 06/2013/0533 for Code for Sustainable Homes. This application is because the Code for Sustainable Homes has been abolished by the Government and instead PCC will be amending the condition to ensure that the homes are built to the energy efficiency of level 4 or 15% above the current level.

The Parish Council further noted that they were aware of a number of issues regarding the Recycling Lives site on Longridge Road. Lancashire County Council were considering a Planning Application on the variation of condition no3 for permission 06/2010/0169 which sought to vary the operation of the shredder to 07.30 to 17.30 Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) and 07.30 to 13.00 on Saturdays, no metal processing operations shall be undertaken by the shredder recycling plant at any time on Sundays and Public Holidays, work can be carried out outside these hours for essential repairs to plant and machinery on the site. It was reported that Preston City Council (ref 06/2015/0617) had objected to the proposal

as this change would create undue noise and therefore impact on the amenity of neighbouring property, contrary to the guidance within paragraph 17 of the Framework, Policies MP of the Adopted Central Lancashire Core Strategy 2012 and Policies V1 and AD1 (a) of the Adopted Preston Local Plan 2012-26 (Site Allocations and Development Management Policies) as the benefits of the development do not outweigh the harm caused in relation to residential amenity. The Environment Agency had also raised its concern and they are investigating recent complaints that have been received from local residents.

The Parish Council also noted that the following Planning Application had been approved by Lancashire County Council:-

LCC/2015/0020 - Gaskell House 45-49 Rough Hey Road, Preston
Variation of Condition 9 of Planning Permission
06/07/0984 to allow plastics recycling to take place within
the building on a 24 hours per day basis on Mondays to
Fridays and between 06.00 – 22.00 on Saturdays and
Sundays.

With regard to the appeal hearing in relation to land off Preston Road, Grimsargh, it was agreed that the Planning Sub-Committee should be given delegated authority to consider the evidence in advance of the appeal and make recommendations to the Parish Council on the Parish Council's input into the appeal.

Resolved

- 1) That with regard to Planning Application 06/2015/0581 the Parish Council has no objection to this application.
- 2) That with regard to Planning Application 06/2015/0373 the Parish Council supports the reduction of proposed housing from four to two dwellings but would ask that our previous response to this application in relation to flooding and drainage etc is still taken into account when this application is determined.
- 3) That with regard to Planning Application 06/2015/0690 the Parish Council has worked closely with United Utilities PLC with the aspiration to acquire the wetlands in perpetuity for the people of Grimsargh in exchange for a small "infill" development on Preston Road and the Parish Council supports this Planning Application. It was agreed that the Clerk should draft the response to the Planning Application, including the above and circulate it to the Parish Council for approval before submission to Preston City Council.
- 4) That Planning Applications 06/2015/0592 and LCC/2015/0020 are noted.
- 5) That the report above outlining a number of issues regarding the Recycling Lives site on Longridge Road is noted.
- 6) That, in relation to the Gladman appeal for land off Preston Road, Grimsargh, the Planning Sub-Committee is given delegated authority to consider the evidence in

advance of the appeal and make recommendations to the Parish Council on the Parish Council's input into the appeal.

54. (15/16) Report from the Community Engagement Working Group

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson presented the report from the Community Engagement Working Group from their meeting held on 24 August 2015. She referred to the newsletter items and asked for these to be written in time for the October meeting so that the newsletter could be ready and distributed in advance of the December meeting. It was agreed that an item should be included on our new Parish Councillor Terry Cartwright. In addition there would be items on the wetlands, Christmas tree, planter results, Best Kept Village Competition, Spotlight on Farmers Market and Grimsargh Club, St Michael's Church 300 year anniversary, the community film project and CCTV.

With regard to the Planter Competition, Councillor Keith Middlebrough informed the Parish Council that he had purchased the trophy as agreed and he would be collecting the trophy in the next couple of days. The total amount for the trophy including engraving was £57.00 and this was agreed for payment by the Parish Council.

With regard to the Grimsargh Hub it was noted that despite initial enthusiasm that the hub was not being used as intended and the Working Group were recommending to the Parish Council that this should be closed down. This was agreed.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson said she would also welcome suggestions from the Parish Council with regard to improving our website. It was agreed that a picture of Adam Cooper and Colin Routledge as our Lengthsman/Assistant should be included on our website and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said she would look at setting up a separate page for this.

Resolved

- 1) That the Grimsargh Hub site should be closed down as soon as possible.
- 2) The report is received and noted.

55. (15/16) Trees in the Parish

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell explained to the Parish Council that she had asked for this item to be included on the agenda as she had some concerns about a large ash tree near to Cedar Close. She said that a large branch had recently fallen down and it appeared that this tree was subject to a TPO but Preston City Council was unaware of the actual owner of the tree.

The Clerk was also aware of a number of potential issues with trees in the Nellie Carbis garden and she asked if approval could be given to contacting John Gornall, the local tree expert for his opinion and costings for dealing with the trees.

This was agreed and it was further agreed that John Gornall should also be asked to look at the tree near to Cedar Close and report back to the Parish Council with what needed to be done.

Resolved

That the Clerk contacts John Gornall for advice and costings on dealing with trees in the Nellie Carbis garden and also the ash tree near Cedar Close.

56. (15/16) Working Group(s) to deal with CiL, Neighbourhood Planning and Future Projects in the Parish

The Parish Council gave consideration to setting up Working Groups to deal with CiL, Neighbourhood Planning and future projects in the Parish. It was agreed that with regard to CiL and the monitoring/tracking of the amount this would form part of the Finance Working Group's responsibilities.

With regard to Neighbourhood Planning this Working Group had not been re-established at the May meeting of the Parish Council and it was felt not to continue with this at the moment until other major projects such as the wetlands had been completed.

With regard to future projects it was agreed that a Projects Working Group should be established to look at possible large projects in the village and how we could engage the public. It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell, Councillor Terry Cryer and Councillor Keith Middlebrough should become members of this Working Group.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson asked Councillor Terry Cryer if he wished to join the Community Safety Working Group because of his background knowledge and expertise. Councillor Terry Cryer said he would be happy to join the Working Group.

Resolved

- 1) That with regard to the monitoring/tracking of CiL that this should be the responsibility of the Finance Working Group.
- 2) That with regard to the Neighbourhood Planning Working Group that this should not be re-established at the current time but the Parish Council will look at this further when other major projects such as the wetlands are complete.
- 3) That a Projects Working Group consisting of Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell, Councillor Terry Cryer and Councillor Keith Middlebrough is established to look at possible large projects in the village and how we can engage with the public.
- 4) That Councillor Terry Cryer is appointed as a member of the Community Safety Working Group.

57. (15/16) LALC AGM Saturday 7 November at County Hall, Preston

The Parish Council gave consideration to sending a representative to the LALC AGM to be held on Saturday 7 November 2015 at County Hall, Preston. It was agreed that the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson would attend the LALC AGM on behalf of Grimsargh Parish Council.

Resolved

That the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson will attend the LALC AGM on Saturday 7 November 2015 on behalf of Grimsargh Parish Council.

58. (15/16) Update on Planter Trophy/Post Office Noticeboard

As reported earlier in the meeting by Councillor Keith Middlebrough the trophy for the Planter Competition had now been purchased. With regard to the noticeboard for the Post Office, it was noted that the recycled plastic noticeboards were quite expensive and that the best option would be for the Parish Council to supply the materials and the Preston Vocational Centre would manufacture this on our behalf. It was agreed that the next stage would be to get some pictures of the type and size of noticeboard that would be needed and to check with the Post Office to see if this would be satisfactory before proceeding with making the board.

59. (15/16) Consultation on the County Council's Corporate Strategy

The Parish Council gave consideration to the County Council's Corporate Strategy. It was noted that the closing date for comments was 30 September 2015. It was agreed that this was an admirable document but there were a couple of inaccuracies in the appendices relating to Grimsargh and these should be corrected to reflect an accurate picture of the Parish.

60. (15/16) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we had an estimated £51,338.75 in the bank as at 31 July 2015. This included £2,176.02 VAT reimbursement. We were still awaiting the August bank statement.

Resolved

1) It was noted that since the last meeting the following invoices have been paid:-

Sue Whittam – Clerk 6,13, 20 and 27 July = 4 weeks at £169.40 – tax and NI = £527.80. (Cheque no 741).

Adam Cooper – 80 hours @ £13 = £1,040. (Cheque no 742).

2) The following invoices were agreed for payment:-

i) Adam Cooper – 58 hours @£13 = £754.00 (Cheque no 743).

ii) Sue Whittam – Clerk – 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 August = 5 weeks at £169.40 per week = £847 – tax & NI = £644.36 (Cheque no 744).

iii) Councillor Keith Middlebrough – reimbursement for Planter Competition trophy - £57.00 (Cheque no 746).

It was noted that the water bill for 13 May – 10 August 2015 for Nellie Carbis was £10.15 (direct debit). It was further noted that Earth Anchors were now going to invoice the Parish Council for the replacement dog bin and bin bags (£260.16) and cheque no 745 would be used for this payment.

61. (15/16) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk asked if someone could speak to Grimsargh Club about having an electric socket placed outside their Club for the Christmas Crib. Councillor Keith Middlebrough said he would speak to the Club about this.

62. (15/16) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 1 October 2015 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.