

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of Grimsargh Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5 April, 2012 at Grimsargh Village Hall following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present:- Councillors Mrs Eileen Murray (Chairman); Councillors P Burton; Mrs J Chessell; Mrs L Cryer; Mrs L McCann and D Nicholson.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council
Councillor N Cartwright – Preston Rural East

143. (11/12) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Andy Ellis, Councillor David Hindle, Councillor Ron Woollam and Reverend Halliwell.

144. (11/12) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

145. (11/12) Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Clerk confirmed that she had forgotten to amend the draft minutes to change the date of the next meeting from February to April.

Resolved

That, subject to the above, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 March, 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

146. (11/12) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation and as the police were not present at the meeting gave an update on this evening's surgery. Unfortunately no one had attended the surgery again and it was felt that the Parish Council should hold a few more surgeries and then discuss if these should continue.

The Clerk informed the meeting that a local resident Mrs Siddle wished to provide a memorial bench on the Old Railway Walk in memory of her late husband. She had seen the bench recently purchased for the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland and wished to provide a similar bench. The Clerk asked the Parish Council if the Lengthsman could be used to install the bench if Mrs Siddle purchased the bench. The Parish Council thought this was a lovely idea and agreed to support this. It was noted that the Clerk would liaise with Adam Cooper, the Lengthsman and Mrs Siddle to arrange the bench.

Councillor Peter Burton had asked for the land adjacent to The Hills to be placed on the Agenda. He explained that the area was very untidy at the moment with litter

and a wheelbarrow abandoned in the hedge and he wondered if there was anything that could be done about this. It was noted that this was an area of public open space and it was unclear if this would be transferred to Preston City Council from the developer in the future. Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann and Councillor Tom Davies from Preston City Council had been chasing the current owners of the land Persimmon to cut the grass and carry out general maintenance/cleansing.

The Clerk reported that the Lengthsman had raised concerns about empty cans and baby wipes being left on the car parking area and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact PC Banks to make him aware of this. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that Redrow Residents had benefitted from forming a residents association and perhaps it was an opportune time for the three local Councillors to look at forming a Residents Association for The Hills.

Councillor Tom Davies gave a quick update on issues he had been involved in. He informed the Parish Council that Preston City Council were still hoping to put a height restriction barrier on the village green but in view of the concerns raised by the Parish Council they were looking at a more ornate type of barrier. The Clerk confirmed that she had been contacted by Matt Kelly and he had confirmed that they would consult the Parish Council on the proposed designs and Preston City Council wished to secure the Parish Council's support.

Councillor Tom Davies also reported that the bollards had been delivered but Preston City was awaiting the delivery of the base plates before they could be put in place. With regard to flooding on the Redrow estate it was noted that Paul Dunne, the Public Realm Manager was looking at this and Councillor David Nicholson also confirmed that he had spoken to Paul about this. It was felt that the best way forward was to have a picture of any further flooding or if it was during normal office time then Paul Dunne would try and have someone look at the flooding.

With regard to the problem of bins being emptied on the village green, Councillor Davies had spoken to the Cleansing Department and they had confirmed that the bins were emptied on a weekly basis (Friday).

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray then reconvened the meeting.

147. (11/12) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

06/2012/0242 - Land between 73 & 75 Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh.
Alterations to vehicular access to residential development
approved under planning application 06/2008/0950.

It was also noted that Hallam Land Management had amended their proposed Planning Application for land North of The Hills to reduce the number of dwellings from 200 to 143. The Parish Council were concerned that at the meeting they had still not received any official letter about this and we understood from Councillor Neil Cartwright that the Planning Application would be considered by Preston City Council at their April meeting. This would only give the Parish Council a very limited

time to respond to the amended Planning Application and it was the Easter break in between. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Chris Hayward at Preston City Council to ask if the Planning Application could be delayed for a further month to allow the Parish Council to consider the number of amended documents. The Parish Council also wished to know if all the original objectors to the Planning Application had been consulted with regard to these amendments. If the Parish Council was unable to obtain extra time to consider this application then Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Peter Burton would meet to discuss the amended Planning Application and formulate a response to it.

Resolved

1) That the Parish Council had no observations to make in respect of Planning Application 06/2012/0242.

2) With regard to the amended Planning Application submitted by Hallam Management (06/2011/0882), that the Clerk contact Preston City Council to ask if this application can be deferred for an extra month and to ascertain the current position with regard to the original objectors. If extra time cannot be given then Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Peter Burton will formulate a response for circulation to the Parish Council for approval.

148. (11/12) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update to the Parish Council on the work of FoGG. She informed the Parish Council that the planting day on 23 March had gone well with volunteers infilling the hedges with trees/plants.

With regard to the Queen Elizabeth II Field Challenge she had spoken to Rocky Sharrock about funding to find out what grants were available. However no funding could be applied for until the forms approved by Preston City Council had been submitted to the QEII Fields Trust. Councillor Mrs Chessell also explained that ASDA had a scheme for adopting a local playing field and was looking at how they were doing this.

With regard to the Mosaic a recent picture had been circulated to the Parish Council and Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann said it was lovely and captured the main essence of Grimsargh.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

149. (11/12) Community Engagement Working Group

As Councillor Andy Ellis was unable to attend this evening's meeting, the Chairman gave a brief update on the Community Engagement Working Group held on 18 January. A copy of the notes had been circulated to the Parish Council. Of particular note was the plan to create a Youth Council and the Community

Engagement Working Group were looking at the best way of establishing this. Consideration was also being given to a Neighbourhood Plan and likewise the Working Group was looking at best practice on how to produce a plan.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

150. (11/12) Finance Working Group

The Clerk presented the report from the Finance Working Group held on 29 February. A copy of the notes had been circulated to the Parish Council. It was noted that the next stage was for the Clerk to speak to the Lengthsman about his contract and present a draft contract for approval by the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

151. (11/12) Update on Three Tier Forum

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray gave a brief update on the Three Tier Forum meeting held on 13 March 2012. A copy of the notes had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

152. (11/12) Grimsargh Grants Scheme

The Clerk had circulated a draft grant application form and draft guidelines for consideration by the Parish Council. The draft application form was agreed as presented. With regard to the guidelines it was agreed that under the section on eligibility it should say the following only and all other words should be deleted:-

1. Any Charity, Voluntary Group or Community Organisation.
2. Agencies that operate within the Parish and are of benefit to the local community.

Please note that the Parish Council will not fund activities outside its powers and functions.

Resolved

That subject to the amendment above the draft grant application form and guidance is approved by the Parish Council.

153. (11/12) The Role of Working Groups – draft guidelines

The Clerk had circulated draft guidelines for the Role of Working Groups for consideration by the Parish Council.

It was agreed to add the following bullet point to the guidelines:-

- Working Groups must not carry out any significant pieces of work such as public consultations without the full approval of the Parish Council.

Resolved

That subject to the amendment above, the draft guidelines on the Role of Working Groups is approved by the Parish Council.

154. (11/12) Parish Council Newsletter

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray informed the Parish Council that she was in the process of putting together the newsletter and asked for comments on the draft that she had circulated. Councillor Mrs Chessell said that with regard to the item relating to parking, this appeared to be a common issue in the village and not just confined to Ribblesdale Drive. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray confirmed that a local resident had asked for this to be included in the next newsletter but she would add on a bit saying this was an issue throughout the village.

It was noted that as the Guild Flyer needed to be circulated to residents before the events began then the deadline for signing off the newsletter would be before the next meeting. It was therefore agreed that Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray would send out the final version to the Parish Council for a final read through before going to the printers.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

155. (11/12) Better working between Lancashire County Council and Parish & Town Councils

Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer gave feedback on the recent briefing that she had attended at County Hall, Preston on 26 March to look at Better working between Lancashire County Council and Parish & Town Councils.

Councillor Mrs Cryer said that the briefing had been well attended and she had found it very interesting. One of the issues raised had been to include local County Councillors in the circulation for agenda and minutes. The Clerk confirmed that she does invite County Councillor George Wilkins to each meeting.

156. (11/12) Financial Matters and Banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £5,737.90 in the bank as at 2 March 2012. It was noted that all the paperwork for the Nat West was now complete.

Resolved

1) That, the following invoices be approved for payment

- Adam Cooper Lengthsman's duties March – 44 hours @ £11.50 = £506 + £42.00 materials for Nellie Carbis Bench + VAT @ 20% (£109.60) = £657.60.
- Sue Whittam – Clerk – 5 March 2012, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March, 4 weeks at £80 = total £320.
- Reimbursement to Cllr Mrs Murray for payment website domain name - £11.99.

2) That the customer review form for the Nat West Bank is completed for the Clerk to forward to the bank.

3) It was noted that the Clerk had set up a variable direct debit for the United Utilities water for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland. This meant that United Utilities would take out the amount owing on a quarterly basis.

157. (11/12) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk reported on the following matters for information:-

It was noted that the boundary sign was now in place.

It was further noted that we had received a letter about Armed Forces Day on 30 June 2012 asking for people once again to fly a flag to support the Armed Forces.

A letter had also been received from a local resident concerned about the increase in council tax. The Clerk had replied with the details of the budget and outlining the reasons for the increase as per our recent newsletter article.

Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Annual Parish Council meeting would be held on Thursday 10 May, 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. It was noted that this was a later date due to the elections.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.