

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6 April 2017
following the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.00pm held at
Grimsargh Village Hall

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

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

152. (16/17) Apologies for Absence/ Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ian Liptrot. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

153. (16/17) Declarations of Interest

None.

154. (16/17) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

155. (16/17) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

The Parish Council considered the following Planning Applications:-

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| 06/2017/0248 | - | 42 The Hills, Grimsargh PR2 5BF
Single storey front and rear extension. |
| 06/2017/0263 | - | 181-183 Preston Road, Grimsargh PR2 5JP
Siting of 20ft long storage container (retrospective application). |

With regard to Planning Applications 06/2017/0248 and 06/2017/0263, the Parish Council had no objections to both of these applications.

The Parish Council also gave consideration to a consultation on an Employment Land Study being undertaken by BE Group on behalf of Preston City Council, South

Ribble Borough Council and Chorley Borough Council. It was noted that the closing date for comments was 21 April 2017.

As part of the study, Parish Council's were being asked to consider if there was a need for more sites for employment development within Parish areas and also if there was a requirement for improved office/industrial premises.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell commented that it was important to have the necessary infrastructure in place first and it was not clear if there was an overall vision and how this fitted together. The Parish Council felt that proper infrastructure was a key component in dealing with traffic to ensure businesses could operate quickly and efficiently.

It was noted that Grimsargh had a few industrial/employment type areas close to the village and in particular the one at Roman Way/Red Scar was under utilised with only around 20% - 30% being occupied. Comments were also made about some of the industrial estates being run down and not particularly attractive to businesses so some visual improvement and upgrading was probably needed.

The Parish Council felt that there was not a need or demand for any further purpose build industrial estates near or in Grimsargh as the ones already established were not fully used.

The Parish Council also commented that it was a good idea to locate industrial estates close to the motorway and have good access for traffic. However, it was noted that the industrial estate at Bluebell Way which was close to Grimsargh and also the M6 Junction 31A was gridlocked on a daily basis (Monday to Friday) with traffic backing up into Grimsargh for at least an hour and a half. This would obviously have a detrimental effect on attracting new businesses to use local industrial estates due to the amount of time it took to drive a short distance.

It was agreed that the Clerk would forward the comments as outlined above to BE Group by 21 April 2017.

There were no further planning issues to be discussed.

Resolved

1) With regard to Planning Applications 06/2017/0248 and 06/2017/0263, the Parish Council had no objections to both these applications.

2) With regard to the Employment Land Study being undertaken by BE Group it was agreed that the Clerk should reply on behalf of the Parish Council with the points as detailed above.

156. (16/17) Grimsargh Wetlands – update

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson gave an update to the Parish Council on the progress with the Charitable Incorporated Trust (CIO). She explained that a couple of meetings had now been held with the Trustees and these had been

very positive with a number of actions proposed that now required the approval of the Parish Council.

With regard to the Objects for the Constitution the following was recommended for approval:-

- a) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment within the area of benefit by whatever means the Trustees see fit.
- b) To protect existing Wetlands wildlife, and promote new wildlife, through the creation and enhancement of habitats and appropriate biodiversity.
- c) To promote positive mental and physical health through the provision of education, training and recreational activities appropriate to the site, of whatever type, so as to improve the conditions of life of the residents of the area of benefit.

This was unanimously agreed.

With regard to the Trustees, the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson reported that eight of the nine potential Trustees have now confirmed their willingness to proceed as Trustees and this was a positive result for the Parish Council and the Wetlands. The Trustees had also set up a website for the Wetlands.

The Trustees had also discussed the purchase of two lifebuoys, including housing and signage to comply with health and safety legislation for the Wetlands and an estimated cost for this was around £1500. It was agreed that the lifebuoys and signage should be purchased for the Wetlands as soon as possible.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson asked the Parish Council to approve a maximum budget of £500 that could be authorised by the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman to carry out any urgent works that may be needed on the Wetlands. This was also agreed by the Parish Council.

It was also noted that the lease with Eccleston Homes had now been signed and payments were being received. With regard to the draft lease between the Parish Council and the CIO, the Clerk confirmed that she had met with the Solicitor to discuss the terms of a draft lease.

It was further noted that all Wetlands expenditure would be funded from the Wetlands dowry.

Resolved

1) That with regard to the Objects for the Constitution the following was agreed by the Parish Council:-

- a) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment within the area of benefit by whatever means the Trustees see fit.

b) To protect existing Wetlands wildlife, and promote new wildlife, through the creation and enhancement of habitats and appropriate biodiversity.

c) To promote positive mental and physical health through the provision of education, training and recreational activities appropriate to the site, of whatever type, so as to improve the conditions of life of the residents of the area of benefit.

2) That approval is given to the purchase of two lifebuoys including associated housing and signage at a maximum cost of £1500.

3) That approval is given to the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman to authorise urgent works on the Wetlands to a maximum of £500.

4) That, the report and progress by the Wetlands Working Group is received and noted.

157. (16/17) Purchase of new bins/dog bag dispenser for Old Railway Walk

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson informed the Parish Council that the two remaining bins on Old Railway Walk were in a poor state and now looked even worse since the other new bins were installed. It was therefore agreed to replace the two bins on Old Railway Walk at an approximate cost of £350 per bin – this amount would be funded from the Parish Council's CiL monies. As per the previous bins, these would be purchased from Preston City Council and installed by the Parish Council Lengthsman.

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that unfortunately Preston City Council were unhappy with the proposal for the Parish Council to spray dog poo with the illuminated spray paint to highlight the issue and, as their approval was needed it was not advisable to go ahead with the purchase of the spray paint. The Clerk also said that the Dog Warden had been out to Old Railway Walk and the surrounding area to look at the dog poo issue and had placed a small sign to advise people to clean up after their dogs. The Dog Warden did not think that Grimsargh had a particular problem with dog poo in the village. However, as residents had raised some concerns about dog poo with the Parish Council, the Clerk had obtained details of a dog bag dispenser that could be attached to a post close to the dog bins which may encourage people to clean up after their dogs. It was noted that Preston City Council were unable to supply the dog bag dispenser and the Clerk had obtained a quote of £94.80 for the dispenser and £31.20 for 800 degradable bags.

Councillor Peter Burton suggested that it may be worthwhile speaking to Pet World which was on the industrial estate close to Grimsargh to see if they would be willing to sponsor the dog dispenser/bags. Councillor Peter Burton agreed to approach them about this.

It was agreed that if Pet World did not sponsor the dog dispenser/bags then the Parish Council would pay for this from their CiL monies. It was agreed that one dispenser at a cost of £94.80 plus two cases of bags at £31.20 each case should be purchased.

Resolved

1) That two bins are purchased from Preston City Council for Old Railway Walk at a cost of approximately £350 per bin and this should be funded from the Parish Council's CiL monies.

2) That a dog bag dispenser at a cost of £94.80 plus two cases of bags at £31.20 are purchased by the Parish Council and funded from the Parish Council CiL monies if sponsorship is unable to be obtained from the local pet product supplier.

158. (16/17) Parish Council Newsletter

The Parish Council gave consideration to items for the June newsletter. It was agreed that the following items should be included:-

Wetlands – Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray.

Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson.

Dog fouling – the Clerk.

Field Day – Councillor Keith Middlebrough.

Signs and banners – Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray.

Christmas Tree?

Best Kept Village Competition – Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson.

NHS Health Check - Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson.

Grants – the Clerk.

Boylton and Farington Grants – Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell.

Spotlight – Cricket Club Bob Wallbank.

New toilets village hall – Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray.

Crime (annual statistics) - Police.

Greenspaces – Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson.

It was agreed that the newsletter would be signed off at the May meeting.

159. (16/17) Assets of Community Value

The Parish Council discussed any assets in the village that they may wish to consider as an asset of community value. The Clerk reported that Preston City Council would have to approve any assets suggested by the Parish Council and there was a set procedure to follow. She had already had a pre nomination discussion with an Officer at Preston City Council and had discussed the possibility of listing The Plough as an asset of community value. It was noted that public houses were notoriously difficult to approve as an asset of community value and it was important that a lot of evidence was gathered by the local community to prove that the pub was an important part of the village. The first stage of the process would be to secure at least 21 signatures of those residents registered to vote in Grimsargh to support the application and also to compile evidence to demonstrate its importance. Councillor David Hindle agreed to supply some background history on the importance of the Plough to the village as part of this process. After discussion, the Parish Council agreed that they would wish to apply to Preston City Council to nominate the Plough pub as an asset of community value.

Resolved

That, the Parish Council agrees to apply to Preston City Council to nominate the Plough pub as an asset of community value.

160. (16/17) CCTV Update

It was noted that despite the best efforts of Councillor Terry Cryer the CCTV project had still not moved forward due to the issues with the Police. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should write to the Chief Constable and also the Police and Crime Commissioner to seek their support and assurances that this project can be progressed.

Resolved

That approval is given to the Clerk to write to the Chief Constable and also the Police and Crime Commissioner to seek their support and assurances that the CCTV project can be progressed.

161. (16/17) Report from the Neighbourhood Planning Working Group – for information

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson presented the report from the meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group held on 15 March 2017. She informed the Parish Council that the theme groups for the Neighbourhood Plan were now looking at producing the draft questionnaire. They were also looking at ideas for further consultation events with residents and were considering having a float at Grimsargh Field Day.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Working Group would be held on Wednesday 3 May 2017.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

162. (16/17) Public Rights of Way Scheme 2017/2018

The Clerk reported that Lancashire County Council was still continuing with the Public Rights of Way Scheme for this year and if the Parish Council agreed to opt into the Scheme they would receive £250 towards Public Rights of Way work in the Parish. It was unanimously agreed to opt into the Public Rights of Way Scheme for 2017/2018.

Resolved

That, the Parish Council agrees to opt into the Public Rights of Way Scheme for 2017/2018.

163. (16/17) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we had an estimated £271,613.94 in the bank as at 3 March 2017. This included the dowry from United Utilities for the Wetlands which was £191,384.00. We had also received a cheque from Eccleston Homes to cover the first few weeks of the licence for £600 but this was not included in the above amount. It was noted that future payments from Eccleston Homes would be credited automatically to our bank.

It was further noted that the following cheque had been paid:-

New Councillor training for Councillor Terry Cryer at a cost of £63 to LALC as agreed previously (Cheque no 834).

Resolved

1) The following invoices were agreed for payment at the meeting:-

- i) Clerk, Sue Whittam, Salary 6, 13, 20 and 27 March 2017 = 4 weeks at £189 per week = £756 – tax and NI = £600.48 (Cheque no 836).
- ii) LALC Annual subscription - £322.22 (Cheque no 837).
- iii) Groundwork for Wetlands report - £610 (Cheque no 838).
- iv) Adam Cooper (Contractor) – 51 hours @ £13 per hour total £663. (Cheque no 839).

In addition it was agreed to sign cheques to cover the Clerk's salary, the contractor payments and the new bins and dog poo bag dispenser.

164. (16/17) Clerk's Report – for information only

There was nothing further for the Clerk to report.

165. (16/17) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Annual Parish Council Meeting would be held on Thursday 11 May 2017 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.