

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 4 April, 2024 at Grimsargh Village Hall following the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.00 pm.

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

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council

122. (23/24) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver.

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.

123. (23/24) Declarations of Interest

None.

124. (23/24) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th March 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

125. (23/24) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

06/2024/0202 - 261 Preston Road, Grimsargh PR2 5JR
One and half storey outbuilding to rear to provide additional living accommodation and garage, following demolition of existing outbuilding.

With regard to Planning Application 06/2024/0202, the Parish Council had some concerns about this proposed development. Although the Parish Council agreed not to formally object, in particular they were concerned about the size and scale of what was proposed and that this would set a precedent for the whole row of houses. As the existing properties were bungalows, the proposed new living accommodation at one and a half storey's high was not in keeping with the current properties.

There were no further planning issues for discussion.

Resolved

That with regard to Planning Application 06/2024/0202, the Parish Council had some concerns about this proposed development. Although the Parish Council agreed not to formally object, in particular they were concerned about the size and scale of what was proposed and that this would set a precedent for the whole row of houses. As the existing properties were bungalows, the proposed new living accommodation at one and a half storey's high was not in keeping with the current properties.

126. (23/24) Neighbourhood Plan update

The Clerk reported that she had contacted a planner about progressing the Grimsargh Neighbourhood Plan and that she was awaiting a response. Once the Parish Council had a planner in place then timescales and actions could be agreed including appointing consultants to help devise the Design Strategy and a Transport Strategy.

Resolved

That the update is received and noted.

127. (23/24) Contribution to sporting equipment

The Parish Council gave consideration to making a contribution to Jake Higham's sporting equipment who was a Grimsargh resident, and was representing Great Britain in the world Duathlon Championships this Summer. A list of equipment needed by Jake was circulated to the Parish Council, and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should contribute £250 towards the specialist helmet for the sporting event. The Clerk would ask if the Parish Council logo could be included on the helmet if possible. Jake would also be asked to provide a further newsletter item once the championships were over. The Parish Council wished Jake every success, in the competition and looked forward to hearing from him further.

Resolved

That approval is given to a contribution of £250 towards the specialist helmet for Jake Higham who was competing in the world Duathlon Championships this Summer.

128. (23/24) Road Safety Working Group

Councillor Trevor Haines reported that the data from the latest speed data capture had now been received from Altham Parish Council, however the Road Safety Working Group had not had time as yet to analyse the data in detail. A meeting of the Road Safety Working Group would be arranged shortly so the data could be looked at and the next steps could be discussed.

The Clerk reported that she had received some possible suppliers of SPiDs but these had to be solar ones due to the change in the SPiD Policy at Lancashire County Council. The Clerk agreed to send a copy of the latest Policy to the Road Safety Working Group. The Working Group would also consider a suitable location for a SPiD.

The Clerk would also find out what type of SPiDs were used in other Parishes and obtain further information so these could be considered for use in Grimsargh. The Parish Council would receive a further report at their next meeting.

Resolved

That the update is received and noted and that a further report is presented to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

129. (23/24) Grimsargh Skew Bridge Widening Scheme

The Clerk reported that there had been delays with the consultation on the Grimsargh Skew Bridge Widening Scheme which was due to be carried out by Lancashire County Council shortly. It was agreed to defer this item until the official consultation period commenced.

Resolved

That this item is deferred until the commencement of the official consultation on the Grimsargh Skew Bridge Widening Scheme by Lancashire County Council.

130. (23/24) Parish Council Newsletter

The Parish Council gave further consideration to possible items for the June newsletter, these included Best Kept Village, the new Tern raft and bee keeping on the Wetlands, the Handicraft Show, Field Day and the land adjacent to the Wetlands. The Clerk reported that she had received a fabulous article from Councillor David Hindle for the Heritage Corner item on the Beatles in Grimsargh.

The final items would be signed off at the May meeting of the Parish Council.

131. (23/24) Dog Waste Bag Dispenser

The Clerk reported that the dog waste bag dispenser needed replacing on Old Railway Walk as it was rusty. She informed the Parish Council that the cost of a replacement one was £94.80 including VAT. It was unanimously agreed by the Parish Council to purchase a replacement dog waste bag dispenser at a cost of £94.80 including VAT.

Resolved

That approval is given to the purchase a replacement dog waste bag dispenser at a cost of £94.80 including VAT.

132. (23/24) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £195,551.93 in the Nat West bank as at 5 March 2024.

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

Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary March £1333.15. (Cheque no 1253).

Best Kept Village Entry Fee £25.00. (Cheque no 1254).

HMRC Tax & NI Q4 £1023.83. (Cheque no 1255).

Altham Parish Council for data capture (Cheque no 1256).

We had also paid Nest Pension (Clerk) 7 Feb £48.88 and Water Plus for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland £18.92 – direct debits.

We had been advised that bank charges for 3 February to 1 March are £2.10.

Resolved

The following invoices were approved for payment: -

- i) Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary April to be confirmed as new financial year.
- ii) Grimsargh Village Hall for room hire including Wetlands meetings - £125.00.
- iii) Adam Cooper Contractor – to be confirmed.
- iv) Sally Gorton for Website admin (November 2023 – March 2024) - £132.89.

133. (23/24) Clerk's report – for information only

The Clerk reported that she had applied for a free Kings portrait for the Parish Council.

134. (23/24) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Annual Parish Council Meeting would be held on Thursday 9th May 2024 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.