

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 5 December, 2024 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor Trevor Haines (Vice-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

### **79. (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.

There were no apologies for absence.

### **80. (24/25) Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensations**

The Clerk confirmed that written requests for dispensation had been received from all present in order for them to consider the precept up to the 31 March 2027 in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no further declarations of interest.

### **81. (24/25) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

#### **Resolved**

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

### **82. (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.

Councillor Stephen Whittam confirmed that some of the fencing had been replaced on the Redrow Estate, however Preston City Council had still not managed to obtain a contractor to clear the pond. Councillor Stephen Whittam had suggested names of alternative contractors that may be able to help Preston City Council. With regard to the lighting on the Village Green, Preston City Council would install the new lighting at the same time as installing some new cabling for the Cricket Club, however there were no timescales for these works at the moment. Councillor Stephen Whittam said that he had recently met with Mark Taylor the Environment Director at Preston City Council to move some of the outstanding issues forward.

With regard to the potential footpath through the Village Green, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell suggested that the Road Safety Working Group should look at this and obtain some quotes. They could also look at any potential grants to help fund the footpath. This was agreed. The Clerk said she would find out if planning permission would be needed for the footpath and she would also check with Preston City Council regarding the procedure for installing a footpath and how this would be dealt with in relation to the village green being a QEII protected green. Councillor Stephen Whittam said he would also speak to Mark Taylor to see if he could attend a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss this project.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton raised the issue of the overflowing bin near St Michael's Church which had been reported to the Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that she had reported this to Preston City Council and she was pleased to confirm that this had now been emptied.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam confirmed that all arrangements were in place for the Christmas events for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, but raised concerns about the potential windy and stormy weather. Representatives from Grimsargh Field Day had asked if the events should still go ahead. There was a general discussion about this and due to the weather warnings, the Parish Council agreed to postpone the events to be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December and hold them instead on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam said that she would inform Reverend Andy Williams and Canon Doyle and she would also send out the message on our Facebook page. It was noted that the Field Day Committee had a PA system that could be used at the Christmas events and that the tree lights and crib were all in place.

Councillor Trevor Haines said that the Seddon Estate was now a 20 MPH estate and asked if the Willbrook Estate could also be the same. The Clerk said that she would find out about this.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton reconvened the meeting.

### **83. (24/25) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

It was noted that there were no new Planning Applications for consideration at this evening's meeting and no further planning issues were raised.

### **84. (24/25) SPiD update**

The Clerk confirmed that she had now received the report from the Officer at Lancashire County Council regarding the potential SPiD. It was noted that the suggested location was in Haighton Parish. The Officers report stated that there had been no collisions reported between Preston Road to Cow Hill in the last five years and that data provided had shown the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile at 31.2 MPH. It was further noted that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile was not exceeded by 85% of vehicles using the route. The Officer had suggested an alternative to the SPiD such as a boundary marker which could include the message "Entering Grimsargh please slow down".

After discussion it was agreed not to make any decision on the SPiD at this current time. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should obtain a price for a new boundary sign and that the Road Safety Working Group would look into the costings for a new footpath through the Village Green as discussed earlier at the meeting under public participation.

### **Resolved**

i) That the Parish Council agreed not to make a decision on the SPiD at this current time.

ii) That approval is given for the Clerk to obtain a price for a new boundary sign which includes the message "Entering Grimsargh please slow down".

iii) That the Road Safety Working Group look into the costings for a new footpath through the Village Green, and explore any potential grant funding.

### **85. (24/25) Community Orchard update**

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had been successful in applying for the Community Orchard Grant and had been awarded £996.25 which was excellent news. The Clerk was awaiting confirmation from the supplier on when the trees could be delivered for planting.

### **Resolved**

That the update on the Community Orchard is received and noted.

### **86. (24/25) Annual CiL report**

The Parish Council gave consideration to the annual CiL report for year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 which had been circulated to the Parish Councillors. The Parish Council approved the annual CiL report as presented and a copy has been placed in the Minute Book. It was also noted that the report would be published on the Parish Council website.

### **Resolved**

That approval is given to the annual CiL report as now presented. It was noted that a copy would be placed in the Minute Book and would also be published on the Parish Council website.

### **87. (24/25) Financial Matters and banking**

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £181,873.58 in the Nat West bank as at 5 November 2024.

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

Grimsargh Wetlands contribution to fencing £3,039.60 (CiL monies). (Cheque no 1289).

Reimbursement to Cllr Mrs Jayne Woollam for selection boxes - £119.00. (Cheque no 1290).

Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary 15 November £1,257.97 (Cheque no 1291).

JRB dog bin x two invoices £130.26 = total £260.52 (Cheque 1292).

Spoiled cheque no 1293.

Grimsargh Club as agreed at the last meeting, grant for replacement chairs £1,000 (Cheque no 1294).

We had been advised that bank charges from 5 October to 1 November were £4.55. Direct debit Nest Pension Clerk 7 October £67.71.

### **Resolved**

1) The following invoices were approved for payment: -

i) Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary 15 December £1,611.86 including back pay for 8 months at new rate of £17.79 per month as agreed by NALC + Newsletter distribution reimbursement £171.60 = total £1,783.46.

ii) Reimbursement to Cllr Mrs Jayne Woollam for key cutting for notice board £20.00.

iii) Q3 Tax and NI £1,078.83.

2) The Parish Council considered the draft budget for 2025/2026, however as the response regarding the precept only had to be submitted to Preston City Council by 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025, they agreed to defer the decision until the January meeting in order to consider the budget and precept requirements in more detail.

### **88. (24/25) Clerk's report – for information only**

There were no further items reported by the Clerk.

### **89. (24/25) Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 9th January 2025 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.