

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3 February, 2011 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present:- Councillor Mrs E M Murray (Chairman); Councillors: Mrs J Chessell; Mrs L McCann; A R Ellis; G T Swarbrick; D J Hindle; Mrs P A Tucker; R G Woollam.

In attendance:- Clerks to the Council – Sue Whittam & Peter Croft
1 member of the public
Councillor T Davies – Preston Rural East

162. (10/11) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell declared a prejudicial interest in item 13 Longridge Gymnastics Club – Request for Grant and took no part in the decision.

163. (10/11) Apologies for Absence

None.

164. (10/11) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved:-

That, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 January 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

165. (10/11) Matters arising on the Minutes

Minute 156. (10/11) Proposed Pharmacy – Peter Croft confirmed that he had e mailed the Doctor concerned and although he had not received a response he had received a “read receipt”.

Minute 161 (10/11) Matters introduced by Members – Councillor Mrs McCann confirmed that she had spoken to Councillor Davies about the dog bins and was hopeful that the problems could be resolved.

Peter Croft also confirmed that he had not received anything further from the Toddlers Group with regard to a grant and he would therefore contact them to see if they still needed help with funding.

166. (10/11) Policing Issues

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation and an update on policing issues in the area. The Chairman welcomed the member of the public and explained that he was welcome to speak at this time if he wished to do so.

It was noted that PC Zanelli had been moved to the Preston Violent Crime Unit on a temporary basis and that PC Chris Banks would be covering the Grimsargh area. PC Banks had hoped to attend the meeting but had submitted an update on the latest police incidents in the area. These included a theft from a motor vehicle on Nook Glade between 3rd and 5th January, a burglary from a garage on Preston road overnight on the 1st and 2nd January and damage to a motor vehicle on Swarbrick Avenue overnight on 28th and 29th January.

Councillor Mrs McCann informed the Parish Council that she was aware of further crimes that had recently been committed in The Hills area. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask PC Banks to include statistics for The Hills in future police reports.

Reference was made to the sale of the police house. The Parish Council was disappointed that the police house was going to be sold but it had been empty for a while and it was only to be expected in this present economic climate. The Chairman confirmed that Councillor Neil Cartwright was meeting the Chief Superintendent on 8 February and that he would report back the comments made by the Parish Council. The Clerk would give Councillor Cartwright feedback on this after the meeting.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

167. (10/11) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

The following planning application was presented:-

06/2011/0049 -	179 Preston Road	-	Erection of single storey extension to side
	Grimsargh		and rear of premises (Kersey
	PR2 5JP		Hairdressing).

The Chairman reported that one member of the public had contacted the Parish Council to make representation about the Planning Application but relating in particular to current parking at the hairdressers.

Resolved:-

That no observations be offered in respect of planning application 06/2011/0049.

The Chairman thanked all for their help in preparing the Parish Council's response to the Sites for Preston. She informed the Parish Council that a copy of Hallam Land Management's response had been received and circulated to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Parish Council should not make any further reply on this but a copy of the Parish Council's response together with the Hallam Land Management's response should be placed on the Parish Council's website and a copy of the Parish Council's response should also be sent to Hallam Land Management as they had requested a copy of this.

Resolved:-

That a copy of the Parish Council's response to the Sites for Preston Consultation is placed on the Grimsargh Parish Council website together with a copy of the Hallam Land Management's response and in addition a copy of the Parish Council's response be sent to Hallam Land Management as requested.

168. (10/11) Environment and Planning Sub-Committee

The Chairman explained that since the resignation of a couple of Councillors two vacancies had been created on the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee. Although it was noted that this Sub-Committee had not met recently, there had been a few issues that could be considered by this Sub-Committee which would help the Parish Council meet its statutory duty in responding to Planning Applications within the four week deadlines.

The Chairman therefore asked for two nominations for the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee in addition to the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Murray and Councillor Mrs Chessell. Both Councillors Ron Woollam and David Hindle indicated that they would be willing to attend this Sub-Committee. All were in agreement and therefore it was

Resolved:-

That Councillor Ron Woollam and Councillor David Hindle are co-opted onto the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee with immediate effect.

169. (10/11) The Localism Bill

A summary of the Localism Bill, prepared by NALC, was presented. There was general discussion about this paper and all agreed that this would present further opportunities for Parish Council's to take on additional responsibilities. It was also agreed that a report on Quality Status and the implications for Grimsargh Parish Council should be presented to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved:-

That the Localism Bill as now presented is noted and that an item on the implications of Quality Status be presented to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

170. (10/11) Traffic Counts

A report on recent traffic counts was presented to the Parish Council. It was noted that traffic had increased by over 67% since the last count in 2008. The Chairman stated that these figures supported the view of the Parish Council that the traffic had got considerably worse over the last few years. Councillor Woollam was concerned about the state of the roads, in particular the increase in traffic and the bad weather had severely damaged the local roads, making them dangerous to cars, cyclists and pedestrians.

Councillor Mrs Chessell explained that she would like to see the traffic count for Whittingham Lane as the Parish Council had not seen these. The Clerk, Sue Whittam, agreed to contact Preston City Council to obtain these.

Resolved:-

That the traffic counts as now presented are noted, and that the Clerk would obtain traffic count figures for Whittingham Lane.

171. (10/11) Best Kept Village Competition

It was noted that details had recently been received for the Best Kept Village Competition 2011. It was agreed that the Parish Council should enter this competition. It was further agreed that the Parish Council would review how things were progressing with regard to tidiness, planters and general attractiveness of the village at their meeting in May.

Resolved:-

That the Parish Council submits an entry to the Best Kept Village Competition 2011.

172. (10/11) Old Railway Walk Enhancements

Councillor David Hindle explained to the Parish Council that this item was on the Agenda as he felt that we needed to capitalise on the history of the village. In particular he felt that people were not necessarily aware that The Plough Public House was the old railway station and that it should be recognised as an important part of the village. It was felt that an interpretation board showing the railway walk would be a good addition to the village and possible a blue plaque on The Plough to reflect its status.

All agreed that this was a good idea and that the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee would be a suitable forum to consider this further.

Resolved:-

That the Environment and Planning Sub-Committee consider the provision of an interpretation board and a blue plaque to illustrate the importance of The Plough Public House and the railway walk, and report back to the Parish Council.

173. (10/11) Outstanding Actions – 6 monthly review

Item	Meeting Date	Comment	Date Closed out & Resolution No
Salisbury House Farm – PI app 006/2010/0079	March '10	Check that erected buildings are being used for solely for active farming purposes	Passed to Preston with that recommendation – 5 March, 2010 - agreed leave this on the list and monitor
Parish Plan	March '10	Periodic review to be held of outstanding matters	Review in Oct, '10 Agenda March

			2011
Potholes and road repairs	Feb '10	Raised in Matters Introduced by Members – suggestion that LCC be requested to provide a programme of work to repair numerous potholes – some arisen due to the winter conditions, some previously existing.	LCC react to reports. No programme exists. April, '10 Grimstargh House to Bridge down for resurfacing. Monitor pot holes and road conditions
Silver Birches – pl app 006/2009/0088	Jan '10	Concerns over whether plans have had the number of proposed dwellings reduced to 4 – as had previously been reported would be the recommendation by PCC Planning Department and had also been requested by GPC.	Planners requested reduction – not accepted by application. No power to press for reduction. April '10 Remove from list.
Grimstargh postal address for residents of the Hills	Jan '10	Raised in Matters Introduced by Members – some Hills residents being penalised for insurance purposes.	Done – February, '10 Remove from list
Request for pedestrian refuge Longridge Road near the Hills	Dec '09	Request submitted to LCC – progress to be followed.	Ongoing – with LCC – in Small Improvement Programme The Clerk to e mail recent traffic counts to Cllr Davies. Cllr Davies to find out cost of pedestrian crossing. Agenda item March 2011

Land sold to Mr Calvert	Nov '09	Review of any fencing erected, in line with agreements	Ongoing – Redrow and PCC. Cllr Chessell confirmed that the fence now up but not substantial – agreed to remove from list.
Criteria for provision of speed cameras	Nov '09	Resolution 09/74 was for a request to be made to LCC out the criteria of provision of safety cameras and specifics about the cameras opposite the Plough and at Roman Way.	Info not given out about specific speed cameras. Agreed remove from list.
Update on Parish Plan Progress in Newsletter	Nov '09	It was agreed that an update on Parish Plan progress be included in the Newsletter.	Include in next Newsletter Agreed Agenda March 2011

Resolved:-

That the Progress/Refresher Table now presented and updated, be approved and outstanding issues be monitored further, and that Peter Croft will look at any actions since April 2010 and add them to the above list.

174. (10/11) Longridge Gymnastics Club – Request for Grant

(Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell declared a prejudicial interest in this item and took no part in the decision)

A request had been received from Longridge Gymnastics Club for a grant towards the provision of a gymnastic floor costing in the region of £16,000. It was noted that the Gymnastic Club had recently obtained a long lease on premises on the Roman Way Industrial Estate and catered for children from the Grimsargh area. Discussion ensued and it was felt that the Gymnastic Club was a worthy recipient for a grant. However the Parish Council would have liked information on how many children from Grimsargh attended the club.

Resolved:-

That in accordance with S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 a grant of £200 is given to Longridge Gymnastic Club towards the purchase of the new floor. In addition to this that the Clerk ask the Club how many children are from the Grimsargh area and to let the Club know that if they are still short of funds to approach the Parish Council again and a further small grant may be considered.

175. (10/11) Community Engagement & Website

Councillor Mrs Tucker had circulated the Minutes from the Community Engagement Working Group that had been held on 19 January. She gave a brief summary of the discussions and actions and in particular it was noted that the Chairman had now sent out the letters for the village flower bed competition. From the recent public meeting it was noted that this had been a great success and thanks were given to all who helped. Two points were noted for future meetings, the need for name badges for Councillors and assigning someone to stay on the door and greet people after the start of the meeting.

It had also been suggested that the website include information on "Walks around Grimsargh" and this was agreed by the Parish Council.

Resolved:-

That the report from the Community Engagement Working Group held on 19 January 2011 be received and noted.

176. (10/11) Preston Guild

Councillor Mrs Tucker informed the Parish Council that three people had made contact with regard to Guild Planning. It was agreed that future Guild Planning meetings should be arranged around the availability of those residents interested in being involved with Councillors attending where possible.

Resolved:-

That the report on Preston Guild planning be received and noted.

177. (10/11) Grimsargh Broadband

Councillor Ellis informed the Parish Council that he had recently met with Virgin Media to discuss what could be done to improve the lack of Broadband in the area. He was also going to have a separate meeting with BT to see what they are proposing and to see who would offer the best deal that would meet the needs of the local people. It was agreed that Councillor Ellis would prepare a statement for local residents explaining what was happening with regard to broadband in the area.

Resolved:-

That the report on Grimsargh Broadband be received and noted.

178. (10/11) Parish Council Newsletter

Councillor Mrs Tucker explained that it would be more efficient to have a timetable for each newsletter so all Councillors knew when items needed to be in and the date of newsletter distribution. So for the July newsletter, items needed to be ready by May, signed off at the June meeting and the newsletter circulated at the end of June.

Resolved:-

That the report be received and noted.

179. (10/11) Friends of Grimsargh Green

Councillor Mrs Chessell informed the Parish Council that she and Peter Croft had met with Julie Livesey. They were hoping to hold a Training Day with the Lancashire Wildlife Trust in early spring to lay the hedge at the western end of the Village Green and any person interested would be most welcome. They were also looking to see if any grants were available to provide pond plants. There were still problems with flooding on the car park.

With regard to the S106, Peter Croft confirmed that he had received an apology from Redrow for the delay. The draft agreement between Preston City Council and Redrow had been drawn up but the legalities needed finalising.

Resolved:-

That the report be received and noted.

180. (10/11) Community Projects (Rosie Green)

The Chairman confirmed that she was making a presentation at the Refreshingly Rural event to be held on 26 February, 2011 at Whitechapel Village Hall. There was a stall booked which would be a "Grimsargh" stall so hopefully FOGG and any others could be involved. Councillor Davies said he hoped to attend and Councillor Woollam also said he was willing to help out.

Resolved:-

That the report be received and noted.

181. (10/11) Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland

Councillor Woollam confirmed that he and Councillor Hindle now had a brief outline of what was required and that he was in the process of obtaining the paperwork and having a handover meeting with Brian Woodburn.

Resolved:-

That the report be received and noted.

182. (10/11) Parish Lengthsman

The Lengthsman's timesheet for January 2011 was presented. It was noted that the cost of a replacement crib would be approximately £200 - £300 and this would be bought in April. It was further noted that the Lengthsman had purchased materials to construct a new bus shelter to the east of Lindale Avenue at a cost of £576.00. However this would be reimbursed to the Parish Council by Preston City Council.

Resolved:-

That the report be received and noted.

183. (10/11) Accounts for Payment

Resolved:-

That the following accounts are approved for payment:-

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|----------|
| a) | Adam Cooper | - | £690. 00 |
| | (Payment to Lengthsman – January, 2011.
50 hours @ £11. 50 per hour.
Includes £115. 00 V.A.T. @ 20%) | | |
| b) | Adam Cooper | - | £576. 00 |
| | (Purchase of materials to construct new Bus Shelter
to the east of Lindale Avenue
Inc £96. 00 V.A.T. @ 20%.
N.B. This final cost of this shelter is to be reimbursed to
the Parish Council by Preston City Council) | | |
| c) | Sue Whittam | | |
| | Half pay for weeks beginning 3 Jan and 10 Jan and full pay
for weeks beginning 17 Jan, 24 Jan and 31 Jan = | - | £320.00 |

184. (10/11) Matters introduced by Members

Councillor N Ridding

Thanked Peter Croft for all his hard work over the last 32 years as Clerk. Peter had done a fantastic job and was very supportive when he had been Chairman. This was agreed by all the Parish Council.

Councillor R G Woollam

Commented on the planters and that they needed replacing as the bad weather had damaged them. The Parish Council would consider replacing these after they had considered the responses to the adopt a planters competition.

Councillor A E Ellis

Commented on the recent communication from Lancashire County Council on the restructuring of the Young Peoples Service and that this was for information as we had none of these establishments in Grimsargh.

Councillor D J Hindle

Commented on the 40mph then 30mph zone near Elston Lane and the Grimsargh sign in the wrong place. Peter Croft confirmed that there would be a change of

speed limit and traffic regulation order but this would take 12 weeks to come into force.

Councillor G Swarbrick

Supported Councillor Ridding in thanking Peter not just on a professional basis but on a personal basis as well.

Councillor Mrs P A Tucker

Also thanked Peter and raised the issue of the Parish Council Consultative Meeting that had been cancelled frequently. The next meeting was scheduled for 25 March and items for the Agenda were needed by end of February.

Councillor Mrs L McCann

Commented on the pathway in front of the Parish Council offices needs resurfacing and a general tidy up. Peter confirmed that Adam would do this before the Best Kept Village Competition judging began.

Also the open space between The Hills and the railway was flooding and the water appeared to be stagnant and smelling. The Clerk agreed to contact Environmental Health about this.

Councillor Mrs J Chessell

Thanked Peter for all his hard work and commitment to the Parish Council.

The Chairman

Asked for a copy of the LCC Highways Bulletin as the last one received was dated June 2010. The Clerk agreed to obtain the latest edition.

Thanked Peter for a fantastic job and his hard work and that an informal gathering would be held in a few weeks time to officially say goodbye.

185. (10/11) Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday, 3 March 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm