

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of Grimsargh Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2  
February, 2012 at Grimsargh Village Hall, at 7.30 pm

**Present:-** Councillors Mrs Eileen Murray (Chairman); Councillor Ron Woollam (Vice-Chairman); Councillors P Burton; Mrs J Chessell; A R Ellis; Mrs L McCann and D Nicholson.

**In attendance:-** Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council  
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council  
Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council  
Reverend Chris Halliwell – St Michael's Church  
PCSO David Reid  
Mrs Pat Tucker

### **127. (11/12) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer and Councillor David Hindle.

### **128. (11/12) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

Councillor Andy Ellis declared an interest in Item 5 – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Planning Application 208 Preston Road, Grimsargh as a friend of the house owner.

Councillor David Nicholson declared an interest in Item 9 – Update on Residents Association and the donation request for £100 as he was Treasurer of the Association.

### **129. (11/12) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

With regard to Minute 124. (11/12) – purchase of bench for Nellie Carbis Millennium woodland, Councillor Mrs McCann did not recall agreeing to provide the words for the plaque. It was felt that simple words such as in Memory of Sam Sellers should be used on the plaque and that Pat Tucker would ask Mrs Sellers for the dates so these could be added to the plaque.

### **Resolved**

That, in addition to the above, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 January, 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **130. (11/12) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed PCSO David Reid to the meeting. PCSO Reid asked for the police to be kept informed of any events during the year so that adequate police resources could be provided if appropriate. In particular any events for the Guild or the Queen's Jubilee

celebrations even if it was just to borrow cones. Pat Tucker agreed to send PCSO Reid a copy of the proposed Guild programme. PCSO Reid explained that the e mail alert system was working very well and it was important that as many people as possible signed up to this. Councillor Peter Burton said he still had to set up his e mail alert as yet but would do so.

PCSO Reid also informed the Parish Council about the youth football that was taking place and that Grimsargh were defending their title. This was a good way of keeping the young people involved and off the streets.

PCSO Reid also gave an update to the Parish Council on latest crimes in the area. There had been 9 crimes since 2 December and out of these 7 were thefts and 2 were assaults involving family members. This was a big increase in crime in the area and PCSO Reid asked people to be vigilant and to ensure that they locked their sheds and property. It was apparent that there was more than one gang operating in the area and they were targeting mainly pedal cycles and sheds.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked if PCSO Reid was aware that Preston City Council were proposing to make changes to the funding of PCSO's. PCSO Reid was not aware of this.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray thanked PCSO Reid for his report and asked everyone to be vigilant with regard to locking up their property. She then welcomed Reverend Chris Halliwell from St Michael's Church to the meeting. Reverend Halliwell said it was good to engage with the Parish Council and he felt it was important that we all work together. He explained that he was previously the vicar at St Cuthbert's church in Fulwood and he had recently taken over as the vicar to St Michael's Church. He also had a dual role as the Diocesan Rural and Environmental Officer. Reverend Halliwell explained that he had wanted to come along to the Parish Council meeting to introduce himself and promote positive co-operation. He would like to come along to the Parish Council meetings when time allowed.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said there was so much that the Parish Council and the Church could do together for the benefit of the local community. Reverend Halliwell said it would be good to work together and listen to each other.

The Chairman thanked Reverend Halliwell for attending the meeting and looked forward to developing a positive relationship between the church and the Parish Council.

Councillor Tom Davies reported on the recent discussion on the bollards outside the Post Office. He explained that he had not heard anything further but was liaising with Paul Dunne to replace the bollards with a more flexible type of bollard and would report back to the Parish Council as soon as he had further information. With regard to the grass verge near the industrial estate, Councillor Tom Davies also informed the Parish Council that he had now received confirmation that the grass verge was owned by Preston City Council and he would liaise with them to come up with a suitable solution to screen the industrial estate.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray reported that no one had attended this evening's surgery but it was still worthwhile offering this opportunity to local people. It was agreed that Councillor Ron Woollam and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray would run the surgery at the March meeting and Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer and Councillor David Nicholson would run the April surgery. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray would draw up a rota for the surgeries based on one male and one female Councillor to attend each surgery.

Councillor Tom Davies also confirmed that people would be given the opportunity to speak at Preston City Council Planning Committees on relevant Planning Applications.

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

### **131. (11/12) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

Councillor Andy Ellis declared an interest in Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Planning Application 208 Preston Road, Grimsargh as a friend of the house owner and took no part in the decision.

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

- 06/2012/0063 - 208 Preston Road Grimsargh. Alterations and extensions to dwelling to include raising of existing ridgeline by 900mm; erection of two storey extension to side (following demolition of existing single storey extension); two storey bay window to front; porch to front and single storey extension to rear of dwelling.

It was noted that the following Certificate of Lawfulness had been issued:-

- 06/2011/0982 - 297 Preston Road, Grimsargh. Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed dormer extension to rear of dwelling.

It was further noted that the following Planning Application had been granted by Preston City Council:-

- 06/2011/0798 - 16 Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh. Erection of 1 no detached bungalow.

### **Resolved**

That no observations be offered in respect of planning application 06/2012/0063 – 208 Preston Road, Grimsargh.

### **132. (11/12) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)**

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update to the Parish Council on the work of FoGG. It was noted that Preston City Council had met with Pyes to discuss a solution to the flooding issues on the car park. The work which Pyes had offered to carry out free of charge would not fully resolve the long term issues so Preston City Council had asked Pyes to provide a specification and price for the works. Preston City Council would let Councillor Mrs Chessell know when a decision had been made on this.

It was noted that with regard to the QEII Fields designation that the report due to go to January Cabinet at Preston City Council had been deferred until March Cabinet. Grimsargh Village Green was one of the proposed sites that the Cabinet would make a decision on in March. Councillor Andy Ellis asked if the delay was due to the fact that the City Council would have to transfer the Village Green to another party if it received QEII status. The Clerk explained that as far as she was aware this was not the case. Attaining QEII status did not mean that the local council would lose the village green only that the "deed" would protect it from development.

With regard to Britain in Bloom feedback a new bin would be installed on the village green shortly and the recommendations for benches would be considered by Preston City Council at their next Parks Team meeting.

### **Resolved**

That the report is received and noted.

### **133. (11/12) Community Engagement Working Group**

Councillor Andy Ellis gave an update to the Parish Council on the recent meeting of the Community Engagement Working Group held on 18 January. Unfortunately he had not had time to produce the notes from the meeting but these would be circulated shortly. It was noted that the suggestion box was now in place at the Post Office.

The Community Engagement Working Group were also looking at how to improve the newsletter taking into account the comments made at the last meeting of the Parish Council. It was agreed that a list of articles for the next edition of the newsletter should be presented at the March Parish Council meeting, the text for the articles should be ready for the April meeting with final sign off at the May meeting. The centre two pages of the newsletter would be the Guild programme.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Engagement Working Group would be held on 14 March.

### **Resolved**

That the report is received and noted.

### **134. (11/12) Guild 2012 Advisory Working Group**

Councillor Peter Burton and Councillor Ron Woollam gave a brief update on the recent Guild 2012 Advisory Working Group meetings. It was noted that a financial template had been produced and this still needed a couple of amendments. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray explained that it was important that all money raised from Guild events was accounted for and that this money should not go through individual bank accounts.

The winning Grimsargh Guild logo was presented to the Parish Council and all agreed that it was an excellent design that was very eye-catching.

The Chairman thanked Pat Tucker for her continuing involvement and commitment to the Group.

### **Resolved**

That the report is received and noted.

### **135. (11/12) Update on Residents Association**

Councillor David Nicholson declared an interest in the donation request for £100 as he was Treasurer of the Association and left the room for the decision.

An update was given on the Redrow Residents Association meetings held on 12 and 19 January 2012. It was noted that a possible street party or picnic was being looked at to take place as part of the Queens Diamond Jubilee/Preston Guild in June.

It was further noted that the Constitution of the Group had now been formally adopted. The Chairman was Andrew Spencer or Frank Almond, the Secretary Liz Hindley and the Treasurer David Nicholson.

Councillor Nicholson then left the room and the Parish Council gave consideration to a request for £100 towards administration of the Redrow Residents Association in particular towards stationary, printing and village hall hire. This was unanimously agreed and Councillor David Nicholson returned to the meeting.

### **Resolved**

That the report is received and noted and that a donation of £100 is given to the Redrow Residents Association towards their administration costs.

### **136. (11/12) Preston Area Committee**

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray gave a brief update to the Parish Council on the recent Preston Area Committee and the 3 Tier Forum. A summary of her notes had been circulated to the Parish Council. Councillor Mrs Murray explained that the Preston Area Committee had strong reservations about there being only one representative from the Parishes on the 3 Tier Forum, against the 10 representatives each from Lancashire County Council and Preston City Council. A request to discuss this issue was dismissed/disregarded at the recent Lancashire

and Parish Town Council Conference/LALC AGM and it was also rejected as an item on the agenda for the first meeting of the 3 Tier Forum.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray also reported that Broughton Parish Council were considering paying a levy for a police presence in their village and they had approached the police to see if a service level agreement could be drawn up between them to ensure a police presence in their area. However, it had been noted that Preston City Council were now looking to reduce their budget and in particular their spending on PCSO's and the police had indicated that this shortfall would mean they would be focusing on the inner city areas leaving the rural areas without PCSO support. An approach had been made by the Police through the Preston Area Committee to see if the parishes wanted to part fund a PCSO. No further information was available as yet but it was anticipated that a meeting will shortly be arranged between Lancashire Police and the Parishes.

It was noted that a presentation had been given to the Preston Area Committee on the new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which would partly take over the role of Section 106 monies. A consultation on the CIL was expected shortly but the Clerk reported that there would be two presentation events strictly for Parish and Town Councils. They would be held on 29 February at Chorley Town Hall at 6.30pm and 13 March at Preston Town Hall at 6.30pm.

### **Resolved**

That the report is received and noted.

### **137. (11/12) Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition (LBKVC)**

The Clerk reported that the entry forms for this year's Best Kept Village Competition had now been received and that it would cost £20 for the Parish Council to enter the competition.

### **Resolved**

That the Parish Council enters the 2012 Best Kept Village Competition at a cost of £20.

### **138. (11/12) B6243 Preston Road, Grimsargh, Preston City – (Part-Time 20 mph Speed Limit) – St Michaels Primary School.**

Discussion ensued about the proposed part-time 20mph speed limit outside St Michael's Primary School and the proposals by Lancashire County Council to impose 20mph speed limits outside all schools in Lancashire. It was felt that the Parish Council should keep a watching brief to see if the proposals were effective.

### **139. (11/12) Financial Matters and Banking**

It was noted that we currently had £7,684.57 in the bank as at 2 February 2012. We had received £150 cheque from the Lease of Life Awards towards the internet training sessions.

## Resolved

1) That, the following invoices be approved for payment

- Entry for Best Kept Village Association - £20
- Reimbursement to Councillor D Nicholson for purchase of suggestion box for Post Office. £16.92 + £3.38 VAT total £20.30
- Adam Cooper Materials (Jan) including 2 new fence panels £80 + VAT @ 20% = £96.00.
- Adam Cooper Lengthsman's duties January – 52 hours @ £11.50 = £598 + VAT @ 20% = £119.60 = £717.60. Please note one cheque totaling £813.60 will be given to Adam covering items above.
- Preston City Council printing of Grimsargh Parish January newsletter - £387.77
- Sue Whittam – Clerk – 2 January 2012, 9 January, 16 January, 23 January, 30 January total £400.
- Bench for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland £325.00 including delivery and plaque.

2) The updated paperwork to include the new Parish Councillors and the Clerk as signatories on the Nat West bank accounts was signed by those present at the meeting and it was noted that the outstanding signatories would be obtained at the March meeting.

### **140. (11/12) Clerk's Report – for information only**

The Clerk reported on the following matters for information:-

It was noted that the bench for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland had now been provisionally ordered and the information for the plaque was needed by this Friday. Adam confirmed that we did not need the fixing bolts. The total cost including delivery is £325.00. It was further noted that the bench arrives fully assembled so it would be delivered to Adam's house for safekeeping.

Adam has checked the locked gate on Walk 1 (footpath 7) and it was found to be unlocked. Adam is going to monitor this on a monthly basis and it was noted that Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray had put on the website walk that if the gate is locked to report this to me. I will then refer it to Lancashire County Council for enforcement action.

A member of the public also raised their concern about one of the stiles near the Plough and asked for a step to be put there. I have also passed this on to Lancashire County Council. It is likely that Adam will carry out the works once approval has been given from LCC.

Pat Tucker had asked about planting wildlife seeds on grass verges in the Parish, in particular on Elston Lane and the village green. I have spoken to both LCC and

Preston City Council. Elston Lane grass verges are classed as biological heritage verges and as such are subject to special care. It is unlikely that any planting of wildlife seeds would be allowed as it would damage the existing balance of nature. Preston City Council have commented that there is already a wildlife area on the village green so would prefer not to plant wildlife seeds in this area. If we supply a list to LCC of grass verges where we would like to plant wildlife seeds together with the types of seeds then LCC will give consideration to this.

It was noted that the May meeting would be a week later ie 10 May due to the Village Hall being used for the local elections.

It was further noted that the first internet session for the elderly would be held on Monday 6 February, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and possibly Councillor Lynda Cryer would lead this first session.

A thank you letter had been received from Grimsargh Toddlers for their recent grant.

It was noted that roadworks being undertaken in the village had made a mess of grass verges. The Parish Council would keep an eye on this and report the issue to Highways Department at Lancashire County Council if the verges were not reinstated when the works had finished.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 1 March, 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

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