

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6 February, 2014 at
7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall

Present:- Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray (Chairman); Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer (Vice-Chair); Councillor Peter Burton; Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Dan Dewhurst; Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
1 member of the public

130. (13/14) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neil Cartwright and Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council.

131. (13/14) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

132. (13/14) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 January, 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

133. (13/14) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray adjourned the meeting for public participation and as the police were not present welcomed a member of the public to the meeting. The member of the public had come along to the last meeting of the Parish Council to raise concerns about speeding and safety issues outside his property. He was aware that since the last meeting the police had been outside his house observing vehicles but he was hoping for an update. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that unfortunately as the police were not here she could not give an update but the Clerk would contact PC Banks to find out if there was any further information on the problem with speeding cars in the area. The Clerk also confirmed that she had sent a copy of the letter to PC Banks which was from the member of the public to Lancashire County Council outlining his speeding concerns.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said there was a lack of repeater signs warning people that the speed was 30 MPH when coming into the village from Haighton Green Lane and maybe this was something that the police could look in to.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray also informed the member of the public that the Parish Council would be considering the Planning Application

affecting his property later in the agenda and if he wished to say anything to the Parish Council it was now his opportunity to speak. The member of the public said that with regard to the Planning Application there was a partial wall at the front of his house already and he was hoping to extend the wall to provide extra privacy and security. This had not been done at the time the house was built as there had been some badly diseased trees that needed removing first.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray thanked the member of the public for attending the meeting and then reconvened the meeting.

134. (13/14) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

06/2013/0063 - Parkside House Whittingham Lane, Grimsargh PR2 5LH.
Erection of 1m high boundary wall fronting Whittingham Lane, provision of new and replacement hardstanding and erection of 1.8m high wall and pedestrian gates within front garden of dwelling.

It was reported that the Parish Council had received confirmation from the Planning Inspectorate that the Wainhomes Development appeal would start on Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 10.00 am – venue to be confirmed. This was for the land off Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh. It was agreed that the current members of the Planning Sub-Committee, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Peter Burton would meet with local residents to find out if any of them were willing to speak at the inquiry and they would report back to the Parish Council with details.

It was noted that the Whitefriars development had been approved by Preston City Council Planning Committee held on Monday 3 February, 2014.

Resolved

1) That the Parish Council had no comments to make with regard to Planning Application 06/2013/0063.

2) That with regard to the Wainhomes Development appeal for land off Ribblesdale Drive, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Peter Burton would meet with local residents to find out if any of the were willing to speak at the inquiry due to start on 23 April and report back to the Parish Council with details.

135. (13/14) Parish Council Meetings - Agenda

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray had asked for this item to be put on the agenda as she was aware of concerns about the lengths of the Parish Council meetings. She had also produced a briefing note with suggestions for reducing the length of the meetings and this had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer said it would be a good idea for the Parish Council to note the reports that had been circulated as appropriate without the need for any further discussion. The only time that discussion was needed was when recommendations were being put forward and this may need additional explanations. Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann said that we would have to make sure that anything urgent was considered by the Parish Council but timings on the agenda would help manage this.

The following suggestions were considered and unanimously agreed:-

1. All agenda items raised by members/Working Groups to have written submission circulated at least 2 days prior to the meeting. If no report is forthcoming before the meeting (or in a reasonable timeframe) then the item will, by default, be carried over the next meeting. Exceptions *may* be given where, for example, there is to be a report back from an event held shortly before the PC meeting, the timing of which is outside our control.
2. Timings to be added to the agenda to indicate how long to be given to the item. This would be through discussion between the Clerk/person submitting the item.
3. Abandon the (informal) going around the Parish Councillors for any items for information during public participation.

Resolved

That with regard to the Parish Council agenda that items 1-3 as set out in the report above are agreed.

136. (13/14) Report of the Community Safety Working Group

Councillor Dan Dewhurst reported that hopefully some money would be available from the police towards the cost of CCTV. However, he would be arranging a meeting of the Community Safety Working Group and their recommendations would be reported back to the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

137. (13/14) Report of the Best Kept Village Working Group

The Clerk presented the notes of the Best Kept Village Working Group held on 23 January 2014. She explained that the Working Group was recommending to the Parish Council that we enter the Best Kept Village Competition for 2014 at a cost of £25.00. She also informed the Parish Council that she had spoken to the competition organisers about including public properties that were in need of some cosmetic attention such as the Plough and the problem with there being no permanent landlord at the moment. The competition organisers had suggested that the Clerk put a note on the application form outlining the problems.

In addition the Best Kept Village Working Group was also recommending that a flyer was produced to remind people about the competition nearer the judging dates and this would cost about £120.

There was a brief discussion on if it would be worthwhile spending the money on the competition entry fee and the flyer and after being put to the vote (6 for, 1 against), it was

Resolved

1. That the Parish Council enters the Best Kept Village Competition for 2014 at a cost of £25.00.
2. That as part of the preparation for judging the Parish Council produces a flyer at an estimated cost of £120.
3. That the report of the Best Kept Village Working Group is received and noted.

138. (13/14) Report of the Grimsargh Hub Meeting

Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann presented the notes from the Grimsargh Hub meeting held on 29 January, 2014. It was noted that the group were currently looking at using Google Calendars to share information.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

139. (13/14) Preston City Council's budget proposals for 2014/15 to 2018/19

The Clerk had circulated an e mail from Preston City Council outlining their budget proposals for 2014/15 to 2018/19. Preston City Council was asking for any comments on their proposals. The Parish Council had no comments to make with regard to the budget proposals as presented.

Resolved

That the Parish Council has no comments to make with regard to Preston City Council's budget proposals for 2014/15 to 2018/19.

140. (13/14) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update on the work of FoGG. She said that with regard to Britain in Bloom (BiB), the village green was back to thriving and FoGG were looking at whether to enter the competition again this year.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell also reminded the Parish Council that FoGG had organised a race night at the club on 28 February and everyone was welcome to attend.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

141. (13/14) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £24,803.82 in the bank as at 1 February 2014.

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

09/01/14 - GVCA for over 60's party as given to Cllr Mrs Lynn McCann at the last meeting - £150 (Cheque no 668).

14/01/14 - Adam Cooper – Lengthsman – December 44 hours at £12.25 = £539.00 + materials for new bus shelter and seat timber - £355 + nails/screws/fixings £80 + timber £35 + treated timber and ground anchors £30 + roofing felt £35 Sub total = £1074 + VAT @ 20 % = £1288.80 (cheque no 669).

Resolved

That, the following invoices be approved for payment:-

1) Sue Whittam – Clerk – 6, 13, 20 and 27 January 2014 = 4 weeks at £92 per week = £368 (Cheque no 670).

2) Best Kept Village Entrance fee – as agreed at tonight's meeting £25.00 (Cheque no 671).

3) Adam Cooper – January hours to be confirmed. (Cheque no 672).

142. (13/14) Clerk's Report – for information only

It was noted that the two Parish Council vacancies had been advertised on our website and notice boards as Preston City Council confirmed that they had not received a request for an election. The Clerk would contact Longridge News to ask them to include an item on the vacancies.

It was further noted that LALC had organised a Chairmanship Workshop on 6 March at Howick House between 7pm and 9pm the cost is £25. Anyone wishing to attend should inform the Clerk.

The Clerk also reported that she had spoken to Preston City Council about arranging a talk from a drainage engineer. However, she had been informed that the drainage section at Preston City no longer existed and she was trying to find out details of a drainage engineer from Lancashire County Council.

143. (13/14) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Thursday 6 March 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.