

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5 February, 2015 at 7.30 pm held at Grimsargh Village Hall

Present:- Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray (Chairman); Councillor Peter Burton; Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Dan Dewhurst; Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann; Councillor Keith Middlebrough and Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council
Paul Barnes – General Manager JWS Lancashire Ltd
Mike Hayes – Planning Consultant for JWS
Kelly Walsh – Quality Health & Safety Manager JWS
Dawn Harrison – Admin Officer JWS
5 Members of the public

113. (14/15) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer (Vice-Chairman); Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council.

114. (14/15) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

115. (14/15) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 January, 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

116. (14/15) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed representatives from JWS Lancashire Ltd who had come along to the meeting to discuss the latest proposals for their site. Paul Barnes, General Manager of JWS gave a detailed presentation on the background history of the company and their aspirations for the future. He explained that the company had recently been acquired by Premier Global Partners who were based in Indonesia and this was their first acquisition outside their own country. They were looking for the site at Red Scar to receive mixed plastic bottles from household recycling and these would be separated into the different types of plastic waste and chipped into tiny pieces and transported back to Indonesia for re using again. A small scale version of the machinery to be used at the site would hopefully be installed in the next week or so. A larger version would be in place in around six months. The company intended to apply

for an extension to their working hours so they would be working 6-10pm outside and 24 hours inside. It was noted that working was not permitted on Bank Holidays. There would be no deliveries at night and vehicles would stop manoeuvring at 9 pm. A noise survey had recently been undertaken that included The Hills estate and Longridge Road and the results had shown that the new machinery should not cause any adverse noise problems.

Councillor Peter Burton asked about the use of spotlights and if the additional working hours would mean more light pollution. Paul Barnes explained that there was no proposed change to the lighting. A question was asked about the reversing vehicles such as the fork lift trucks and the associated “beeping” noise. Paul Barnes said that the vehicles had to have these fitted as part of Health and Safety on the site. It was noted that as part of their Licence compliance JWS keep a site diary for the Environment Agency that included information on litter, noise and odour at the site. The current limit of noise at the site was set at 5db and this would not change. A member of the public asked if the Indonesian Company paid their taxes in the United Kingdom and Paul Barnes explained that they did and the reason that they had invested in the United Kingdom as the interest rates were better here and it was a good opportunity for them to expand.

Councillor Dan Dewhurst asked about the increase in job opportunities for local people and Paul Barnes explained that the increase in hours would mean an increase in jobs so around 58 people would be employed. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that when the jobs were advertised if JWS could send a link to the Parish Council with the job adverts then we could publicise this. A question was asked about the amount of tonnage being produced each year and this was in the region of 90,000 tonnes. Comments were also made about the building being more attractive with perhaps some landscaping and trees to hide the industrial look. It was noted that the Planning Application for the change of hours would be submitted to Preston City Council shortly. Kelly Walsh also invited the Parish Council and members of the public to come along and have a look at the site. Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann asked for her contact details and the Clerk agreed to forward these details to Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann so she could co-ordinate the site visit. Councillor Neil Cartwright also asked to be included in the site visit arrangements.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray thanked the representatives from JWS Lancashire Ltd for coming along to the meeting and giving a detailed and interesting presentation.

As the police were not present there was no update for the police. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray thanked all for attending the meeting but still suspended Standing Orders to enable a full discussion to take place on the Planning Item.

117. (14/15) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

There was a brief discussion about application 06/2014/0902 for land off Preston Road Grimsargh – Gladman Developments Ltd. It was expected that this application would go to the 2 March Planning Committee at Preston City Council. The

Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that the latest document on the Planning website submitted by Gladman Developments had been a paper identifying that affordable housing was not needed on the site and that they were offering an off-site contribution. There was no evidence to support this and it was against Planning Policy. A member of the public said that the Planning Officer from Preston City Council had recently visited the site and some residents in Elston Lane. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that she and the Clerk had seen Ben Wallace MP and asked for his support. She also thanked the members of the public for their help in submitting a very comprehensive objection to the Planning Application.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray then reconvened the meeting and the Parish Council gave consideration to the following Planning Application:-

06/2014/0967 - Dansons Farm, Preston Road, Grimsargh PR3 3BL
Conversion of an existing outbuilding to residential dwelling.

It was also noted that we had received notification that Wainhomes were appealing against the refusal decision by Preston City Council for Land off Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh – reserved matters application. However, Planning Committee approved their resubmitted application at their meeting on Monday 2 February, so the appeal would be withdrawn.

Resolved

- 1) That the update on Planning Application 06/2014/0902 is received and noted.
- 2) That with regard to Planning Application 06/2014/0967 that the Parish Council has no objections to this Planning Application.

118. (14/15) Update from the Grimsargh Wetlands Working Group

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray had circulated a number of documents to the Parish Council including a brief update on progress so far; a copy of the issues list (that could be viewed on Dropbox); and notes of the sub-group meeting that was looking at setting up a charitable body.

With regard to the searches currently being undertaken by our Solicitor, the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray explained that we had agreed to carry out the “basic” searches as a minimum. A list of all possible searches had now been obtained and the Working Group had evaluated these. It was noted that the “basic” searches would cost £323 in total. However around four of these were unnecessary and this would save some money, between £10 -£30 each one. However after asking our Solicitor for additional information on the Groundsure report it was felt that this would be appropriate to be undertaken as part of our search package. This would cost £340 + VAT and the Working Group was recommending this for approval. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to this search being undertaken.

Resolved

1) That the report by the Grimsargh Wetlands Working Group is approved and noted.

2) That approval is given to the Groundsure Search at a cost of £340 + VAT.

119. (14/15) Best Kept Village Competition 2015

The Parish Council was asked to consider entering this year's Best Kept Village Competition at a cost of £25.00. This was agreed. It was noted that the Judges report for last year's competition had now been received. With regard to the comments made about Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland it was felt that "minimum intervention" would need to be explained further to the Judges and that there was no flower beds or uniform paths.

It was further noted that Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson had volunteered as a Judge for the competition but she would obviously not be judging Grimsargh.

Resolved

That, the Parish Council agrees to enter the Best Kept Village Competition 2015 at a cost of £25.00, and the comments as outlined in the Judges report are noted.

120. (14/15) LCC- Parish & Town Council Conference – 21 March 2015

It was noted that the Parish & Town Council Conference would be held on 21 March 2015 at Burnley Town Hall. The Parish Council could send up to two representatives to the Conference which was free. Councillor Keith Middlebrough agreed to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Resolved

That Councillor Keith Middlebrough attends the Parish & Town Council Conference on 21 March 2015 on behalf of the Parish Council.

121. (14/15) Feedback from Preston Area Committee (PAC)/3 Tier Forum

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray gave a verbal update to the Parish Council on the recent PAC meeting. She explained there had been an interesting discussion on the NW Masterplan and a recent Community Liaison meeting that was concerned about construction traffic and the lack of traffic management when a number of new developments were taking place. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray had also had an interesting conversation with a LCC Highways Engineer about the cumulative impact of traffic and trying to understand the term "severe" with regard to the effect on the highways. It was also noted that the Skew Bridge appeared to have a crack in the side of it where something had obviously hit it. The Clerk agreed to report this to LCC.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray reminded the Parish Council that we could put forward items to take to PAC and the Three Tier Forum.

122. (14/15) Feedback from training courses

Councillor Dan Dewhurst gave feedback on the recent ICO Data Protection and Freedom of Information Course he recently attended on behalf of the Parish Council. He explained that the course had covered basic data handling and that a licence to store information legally would cost £35.00 per year.

123. (14/15) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we had an estimated £32,984.82 in the bank as at 1 January 2015. We were still awaiting the February statement.

Resolved

1) That, the following invoices be approved for payment:-

i) Sue Whittam – Clerk – 5, 12, 19 and 26 January = 4 weeks at £169.40 per week = £677.60 (Cheque no 713).

ii) Adam Cooper – 63 hours @ £12.25 = £771.75 + VAT £154.35 = total £926.10 (Cheque no 714).

iii) Cllr Mrs Eileen Murray – reimbursement for paper, ink (printing of Gladman Flier) (£34.90) car parking receipt (£2) and website domain renewal (£28.78) = total £65.68. (Cheque no 715).

124. (14/15) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk had circulated by email details of proposed Election Costs for the 2015 elections. It was noted that if it was an uncontested election this would cost the Parish Council £100 but a contested election would be substantially more.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell asked the Clerk if Adam could sweep Lindale Avenue where the tree leaves had made it slippery underfoot.

125. (14/15) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 5 March 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.