

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of Grimsargh Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5
January, 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; Mrs L Cryer; A R Ellis; D Hindle ; Mrs L McCann and D Nicholson.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council

118. (11/12) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council and for lateness from Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell.

119. (11/12) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

120. (11/12) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Councillor Andy Ellis asked for the words “appeared to be” to be added to the sentence on minute 105. (11/12) paragraph 4 as follows:-

The concerns were that the level of the infilling **appeared to be** excessive.

Resolved

That, in addition to the above, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 December, 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

121. (11/12) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation and as the police were not present at the meeting, opened the discussion on the bollards outside the post office.

Councillor Tom Davies informed the Parish Council that he had contacted Paul Dunne, Public Realm Manager about the bollards as one of them was missing and two had recently been damaged again. However, Councillor Tom Davies explained that the bollards were important as they not only protected people going into the post office but the manhole near the post office, as this would break if someone drove over it.

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that she had taken the opportunity at last night’s public meeting to canvass people’s opinions on the bollards, but no one seemed to have a preference on if the bollards should be there or not. However, it was obvious

that something was needed to protect people going into the post office and the manhole.

Councillor Mrs McCann explained that an alternative to the bollards would be a small barrier/fence. All agreed that a barrier/fence would be appropriate. After discussion it was felt that the two bollards on the kerbside should be replaced with a barrier/fence and that one bollard should be kept. Councillor Davies agreed to speak to Paul Dunne to organise a site visit to decide what would be best and it was agreed that Councillor Mrs McCann should also be included in the site visit.

Councillor Davies also referred to the recent e mail forwarded by the Clerk from a local resident who was concerned about the industrial estate being an eyesore as you approach the village. Councillor Davies had spoken to County Highways and at the moment it was not sure who owned the strip of land next to the industrial units. He understood that there was a water pipe on the strip of land so there was no possibility of planting trees to screen the industrial units. However he was making enquiries on who owned the land and this could be the County Council, Preston City Council or United Utilities and then when this had been established the possibility of some kind of planting could be looked into. However concerns were raised that high hedges could encourage crime. Councillor Davies agreed to look at this issue further and report back to the Parish Council.

The Chairman Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray informed the Parish Council that she was aware of some recent crime in the area. Councillor Andy Ellis confirmed that there had been a few thefts around the area, including his own property and it appeared that sheds were being targeted with quite a few pedal cycles going missing. It was important to report anything suspicious to the police.

Councillor Mrs Murray asked if all Parish Councillors had signed up to the e mail alerts set up by the police as it was very useful and kept everyone up to date on latest crime issues. Most Councillors had signed up to the alerts but Councillor Lynda Cryer and Councillor Peter Burton said they would also do this.

It was noted that the newsletter had now gone out and positive feedback had been received. Councillor David Nicholson asked if the words Grimsargh Parish Council could be in bold or larger type to emphasise that this was a parish newsletter. He also asked if the newsletter was printed on recycled paper, as the flyer included in the newsletter stated it was but the actual newsletter did not. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray agreed to check if the paper used was recycled and to ask the Community Engagement Working Group to look at improvements to the newsletter.

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray reported that she had been invited to the new vicar's induction on 11 January. The vicar had also said he would attend the Parish Council meetings. She looked forward to working with the Parochial Church Council for the benefit of Grimsargh.

It was noted that Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann would carry out the first surgery before the February meeting between 6.30pm and 7.00pm.

Councillor Ron Woollam said that one light was not working on the park. It was noted that faulty lighting could be reported on the LCC website but it was advisable to obtain the number of the lamppost so the fault could be traced. Councillor Woollam also reported that the T sign had now been placed on Oban Court.

It was further noted that the computer sessions would start on the first Monday 6 February between 1-3pm. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray would be available and asked if other Councillors could help.

Councillor Andy Ellis said he had noticed some damaged signs and loose fencing. He would keep an eye on these and give further details to the Clerk if any further action was needed.

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

122. (11/12) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray gave a quick overview of the public meeting held on 4 January at the village hall and she was pleased that around 100 people had attended the meeting and were unanimous in opposing the Planning Application submitted by Hallam Land Management to Preston City Council. On a general note it was felt that microphones should be used for future public meetings.

There was then a general discussion on the Hallam Land Management application which was planning application 06/2011/0882 Land North of The Hills, Longridge Road. It was noted that Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray, Councillor Ron Woollam and Councillor Peter Burton had all worked on the initial draft response and it was now for the Parish Council to agree the final version to be submitted to Preston City Council by 5pm on 13 January 2012. The public meeting on 4 January had raised a number of important issues, in particular surface water and drainage issues. Councillor Andy Ellis suggested that an initial paragraph should be included in the response stating that there were numerous concerns from residents and the Parish Council about drainage and that we hoped that Preston City Council would give adequate attention to this as there appeared to be little information on the use of the drainage lagoons included in the Planning Application.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray also reported that an e mail had now been received from Lancashire County Council supporting the Parish Council's understanding, and the conversation between LCC and Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer that the local schools were oversubscribed. It was also agreed to add an additional paragraph outlining this in our response.

Councillor David Hindle had provided information on the heritage of the area and the fact that the proposed development would destroy the unique habitat and historic fields. It was agreed that the Clerk should also add this to the draft response.

It was noted that Lancashire County Council Highways Department had raised significant concerns about the increase in traffic if this proposed development went ahead. It was agreed that the Clerk would also strengthen the paragraph on traffic and referencing Lancashire County Council Highways Department.

The Parish Council then gave consideration to the following Planning Applications:-

- 06/2011/0982 - 297 Preston Road, Grimsargh. Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed dormer extension to rear of dwelling.
- 06/2011/0947 - 73 & 75 Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh. Alteration to vehicular access to approved development 06/2008/0990.

It was noted that Preston City Council were currently considering if members of the public would be offered the chance to speak at Planning Committees. Councillor Tom Davies agreed to feedback any decision made on this.

Resolved

- 1) That the Clerk finalise the response to Preston City Council with reference to Planning Application 06/2011/0882 Land North of The Hills, Longridge Road, Grimsargh taking into account the additional information on traffic, drainage, schools and heritage and the environment.
- 2) That the final draft response in relation to the above planning application is circulated to the Parish Council for comment before submission to Preston City Council by Friday 13 January at 5pm.
- 3) That no observations be offered in respect of planning applications 06/2011/0982 and 06/2011/0947.

123. (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 there was still flooding on part of the village green and the contractors had not moved off site as yet. Preston City Council had met with Pyes about the car park and Pyes were going to put in an additional drain at their expense.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that everyone had been very positive about the play area and she as well as other Parish Councillors had received excellent feedback. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that she had received positive feedback as well. Also she had received an e mail from a local man about various issues including drainage on the car park and traffic issues. Councillor Peter Burton had also received similar information but there was some confusion as he felt the man thought he was e mailing Peter Croft. It was agreed that any further e mails about this should be forwarded to the Clerk.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell also informed the Parish Council that FoGG had received £500 from County Councillor George Wilkins towards the mosaic. The artist was meeting the school children on 12 January with Charlotte Steel from the

Lancashire Museum. Councillor Mrs Chessell also invited Councillor David Hindle to be involved. Councillor Mrs Chessell explained that she was hoping to get some photographs of the school children working on the mosaic in April and that these could go on the Parish Council website.

It was noted that banners for Preston Guild were looking to cost around £1,600 but this would be discussed at the Guild Working Group meeting.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

124. (11/12) Purchase of Bench for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland

The Clerk had brought to the meeting information on benches on their costings. It was noted that the Parish Council could receive a free brass plaque for the bench if they ordered in January. It was agreed that a Balmoral bench should be purchased at £295.00 and that the Clerk would speak to Adam Cooper to see if the fixing bolts also needed to be purchased. Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann agreed to supply the wording for the brass plaque which would commemorate the work done by Sam Sellars.

Resolved

That the Clerk orders the Balmoral Bench for the Nellie Carbis Millennium Garden at a cost of £295 and purchase the fixing bolts if required.

125. (11/12) Financial Matters and Banking

It was noted that we currently had £8,639.87 in the bank as at 4 January 2012. We had received £100 by BACS for the bursary towards the Clerk's training.

Resolved

1) That, the following invoices be approved for payment

- Cheque to Grimsargh Toddlers for £50 as agreed at the last meeting.
- Cheque to LANPAC for £40 as agreed at the last meeting (Farmwatch signs).
- Adam Cooper 36 hours at £11.50 - £414 + VAT @20% - £82.80 – total £496.80.
- Sue Whittam – Clerk – 5 December, 12 December, 19 December, 26 December, = 4 weeks – total £320

2) That all members of the Parish Council namely Councillors Mrs Eileen Murray, Ron Woollam, Peter Burton, Mrs Joyce Chessell, Lynda Cryer, Andy Ellis, David Hindle, David Nicholson and Lynn McCann, together with the Clerk, Sue Whittam are approved signatories on the NS&I Investment Account for Grimsargh Parish Council. All members then signed the paperwork for the Clerk to forward to NS&I.

3) The Change of Address form for the Nat West bank was also signed by Councillor Ron Woollam, Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray as the Clerk had been informed that Peter Crofts address was still being used by the Nat West as our "Head Office".

4) It was agreed that the updated paperwork to include the new Parish Councillors as signatories on the Nat West bank accounts together with the Clerk would be signed at the next meeting.

5) It was agreed that Adam Cooper could purchase two fence panels to replace the damaged panels next to the Crib. These would cost approximately £30 in total.

126. (11/12) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk reported on the following matters for information:-

It was noted that we have received £150 from the Lease of Life Awards towards our computer sessions at the village hall for the elderly and that the cheque should arrive shortly.

A letter had been received from Lancashire County Council about the Lengthsman's scheme. The Parish Council were aware the payment from LCC of £963 will stop from the next financial year. LCC were offering for 2012/13 work equivalent in value to the £963 which will be in our parish or a neighbouring parish. So we will get paid for the work done by the Lengthsman. This work will only be offered to Parish Councils taking part in the existing Lengthsman Scheme.

We received a letter from The Mayor of Preston, Councillor Roberta Cartwright about the Mayor of Preston and the Soldiers Charity Hotpot Supper to be held in the Council Chamber of the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, Fulwood Barracks on Friday 27 January 2012 between 7.00 pm and 9.30pm. Tickets are £15.00 per person and if anyone is interested they need to apply for tickets by 18 January at the latest – the Clerk has the application form. Other events organised by the Mayor are 24 Feb a curry evening at St John's Minister – further information to follow and 23 March a masked ball at the Guild Hall.

We have been invited by the Mayor to the Holocaust Memorial Day on Thursday 26 January at 11.30 am at the Minister of St John Preston. There is no charge for this event so please let me know if anyone wishes to attend.

Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 2 February, 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.