

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of Grimsargh Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3 January, 2013 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present:- Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray (Chairman); Councillor Andy Ellis (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Peter Burton; Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor David Hindle; Councillor David Nicholson and Councillor Ron Woollam.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council
Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council
David Leech – Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland
2 members of the public present

Note that an informal public meeting to discuss the Land North of The Hills Planning Appeal was held at 6.30pm attended by 9 members of the public and Alf Clempson on behalf of Ben Wallace.

116. (12/13) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann.

117. (12/13) Consideration of Dispensations

The Clerk confirmed that in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 – Section 33, she had received letters from all current members of the Parish Council seeking approval for participation in the setting of the Precept for Grimsargh Parish Council for the period 6 December 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Resolved

That, in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011, all current members of Grimsargh Parish Council are given approval for participation in the setting of the Precept for Grimsargh Parish Council for the period 6 December 2012 to 31 March 2015.

118. (12/13) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray declared a personal interest in Item 6 – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Planning Application 06/2012/0934, Chapel House Barn, Elston Lane, Grimsargh. Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer declared a personal interest in Item 6 – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Planning Application 06/2012/0962, 2 Pendle Close, Grimsargh.

119. (12/13) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 December, 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

With the agreement of the Parish Council the Chairman brought forward the item on Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as members of the public were present at the meeting and wished to make representations to the Parish Council.

120. (12/13) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

(Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray declared a personal interest in Item 6 – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Planning Application 06/2012/0934, Chapel House Barn, Elston Lane, Grimsargh. Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer declared a personal interest in Item 6 – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Planning Application 06/2012/0962, 2 Pendle Close, Grimsargh).

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

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|--------------|---|---|
| 06/2012/0962 | - | 2 Pendle Close, Grimsargh. Erection of first floor extension to side of dwelling and provision of additional hardstanding within front garden. |
| 06/2012/0934 | - | Chapel House Barn, Elston Lane, Grimsargh. Erection of detached garage/utilities room following demolition of existing outbuilding and shelter. |

With regard to Planning Application 06/2012/0962 two members of the public had come along to the meeting to raise their concerns about the application. A member of the public informed the Parish Council that there were covenants on the properties preventing any hardstanding on the front gardens. Councillor Mrs Cryer was aware that the property had already increased the size of their drive and concern was expressed about surface water run-off as the Parish Council were already aware of flooding issues in that area.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell asked how much attention would the Planning Department take of the covenants on the properties and Councillor Neil Cartwright explained that covenants were irrelevant with regard to Planning Policy and were usually used as a selling aid for the developers to sell houses.

Councillor Andy Ellis said that everyone seemed concerned about the driveway but the actual extension to the house appeared to be fine. The driveway would not be in keeping with area and would add to the flooding issues.

Taking into account the concerns raised by local members of the public and the ongoing flooding issues in the area the Parish Council agreed to object to this Planning Application. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray thanked the two members of the public for attending the meeting.

The Parish Council discussed Planning Application 06/2012/0934 and agreed that they had no objections to this application.

With regard to the public meeting held earlier this evening to discuss the appeal against the proposed development for the Land North of The Hills, the Parish Council were encouraged by the support from local residents. Many of whom intended attending the Planning Inquiry. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray together with Councillor David Hindle outlined their draft presentation to the Planning Inspector. The Parish Council supported their draft statements as presented but noted that some minor changes still had to be made to them.

Resolved

1) That the Parish Council had no observation to make in respect of Planning Application 06/2012/0934.

2) With regard to 06/2012/0962, 2 Pendle Close, Grimsargh, The Parish Council agreed to object to this Planning Application as they felt that the hardstanding area as proposed was not in keeping with the area and they were also aware of current flooding issues around this close and agreed that the hardstanding would add to the problems with surface water flooding.

With the agreement of the Parish Council the Chairman brought forward the item on Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland as David Leech had come along to the meeting to discuss this with the Parish Council.

121. (12/13) Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland

Councillor Ron Woollam welcomed David Leech to the meeting and explained to the Parish Council that David had come along to the meeting to discuss the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland and to look at the short and long term plans for the woodland.

Councillor Ron Woollam explained that the Parish Council wished to keep the woodland to a high standard that could be enjoyed by a variety of users but we had to look carefully at the health and safety and management of the woodland.

David circulated a copy of the action plan prepared in conjunction with Steve Hutson and asked what had changed as he understood that the "Group" was a legally established body. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray explained that nothing had changed as such but the Parish Council wanted to ensure that all responsibilities were clearly defined and the Parish Council had confirmed the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland as a Working Group of the Parish Council at their last Annual General Meeting.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell explained about public liability and how FoGG was organised. However Preston City Council owned the Village Green whereas the Parish Council owned the woodland and therefore had ultimate responsibility.

David Leech said it was difficult to find people to be involved with the woodland and to raise funds for work that needed carrying out. Councillor Peter Burton referred to the Princes Trust but forward planning was needed for specific projects.

David Leech explained that he had restored the board at the entrance to the woodland and that the sign was being repainted by Jim Ashcroft at a cost of £140. All agreed this was a good price and value for money. Reference was made to a previous annual grant from the Parish Council and works that needed doing on the paths.

Councillor David Hindle thanked David Leech for all his work done on the woodland and all appreciated the time David and Steve had given. The Chairman thanked David for attending and explained that the Parish Council would be looking at the woodland and what needed to be done to preserve it.

It was agreed that the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray, the Clerk, Councillor Ron Woollam and Councillor David Hindle would meet together to look at the woodland and report back to the Parish Council.

122. (12/13) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

As the police were not present at the meeting and members of the public had been given permission to speak under relevant items there were no further matters to discuss under public participation.

123. (12/13) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update to the Parish Council on the work of FoGG. She explained that the height restriction barrier was now in place and she had a key to the barrier. The Clerk confirmed that she also had a key and that service users of the village green had also been provided with keys.

Councillor Ron Woollam asked if maybe a small hedge would look better at the end of the barrier to finish it off, and maintenance of the hedge could be added to the Lengthsman's duties. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would wait until the works had finished before deciding if a hedge was necessary. They did however agree that the barrier should be painted black.

With regard to the Queen Elizabeth II celebration on the village green, Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that sports games/old fashioned games had been suggested to celebrate the event. FoGG were looking at late April or early May for the event but the FoGG meeting would be held next week when it would be discussed further.

Councillor Andy Ellis asked about the tree work on the village green and Councillor Mrs Chessell confirmed that this was still ongoing. It was noted that the dog bin had still not been put in place but was on the Park's Department list of things to do.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

124. (12/13) Report from the Conservation Area Status Working Group

Councillor David Nicholson distributed the Conservation area flyer together with the boundary map and distribution list. This was approved by the Parish Council at their last meeting. It was noted that the cost of the flyers for 400 copies would be £100 and this was also approved by the Parish Council.

With regard to the questionnaire this would be prepared by the Conservation Area Status Working Group for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting as it would be distributed at the public meeting on 27 February 2013. For those people unable to attend the public meeting then copies of the questionnaire would be made available on the website/facebook pages.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray reported that Longridge News had used the item from the Parish Council newsletter on the proposed conservation area.

Resolved

1) That the report is received and noted.

125. (12/13) Financial Matters, Budget, Banking and ratification of Precept requirements for 2013/2014

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £20,252.56 in the bank as at 1 December 2012. We are still awaiting the January bank statement.

Resolved

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

- Sue Whittam – Clerk –3 December, 10 December, 17 December 24 December and 31 December = 5 weeks at £92 per week = £460 (cheque no 619).
- Preston City Council printing of Parish Council Newsletter £350.41 (cheque no 620).
- Adam Cooper – 33 hours @ £11.50 = £379.50 + VAT at 20% = £75.90. Total £455.40 (cheque no 621).

2) The Parish Council ratified their decision made at the 6 December meeting regarding the annual precept requirements. They agreed to keep the precept at the same level as last year at a cost of £24,500.

126. (12/13) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk reported on one matter and that was just to note that she had received a key for the new Height Restriction Barrier on Grimsargh Green.

127. (12/13) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 7 February, 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 pm.