

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12 January 2017 starting at 7.30pm held at Grimsargh Village Hall

Present:- Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson (Chairman); Councillor Peter Burton (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor Ian Liptrot and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council.
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council
1 member of the public

104. (16/17) Apologies for Absence/ Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Hindle and PC Chris Banks.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

105. (16/17) Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensation

The Clerk confirmed that written requests for dispensation had been received from all present in order for them to consider the precept during the period 1 December 2016 to 31 March 2019 in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011. There were no further declarations of interest.

106. (16/17) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 1 December 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

107. (16/17) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed a member of the public to the meeting who had come along to talk about the problems with advertising boards around the village. In particular the lady explained that there had been an increase in advertising boards over the past seven months and although it was appreciated that businesses needed to advertise it was a bit unsightly that a number of "A boards" were appearing attached to posts all over the village. After discussion it was agreed that although this issue was the responsibility of Preston City Council, due to the lack of resources it was unlikely that much could be done about this problem and the Parish Council felt that something should be done about this important issue. Therefore, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray agreed to contact the local painter and decorator about their

something could be done about the width of the footpath possibly controlled by a condition on the Planning Permission. It was felt that the applicant should be asked to keep the hedge to a minimum width so it did not encroach on the already narrow footpath or alternatively replace the hedge by a fence to give maximum room for people to walk past.

There were no further planning issues to be discussed.

Resolved

That, with regard to Planning Application 06/2016/1235 the Parish Council had no objection to the building of the dwelling but had concerns about the width of the footpath near to the proposed property. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Planning Officer to seek some reassurance that something could be done about the width of the footpath possibly controlled by a condition on the Planning Permission. It was felt that the applicant should be asked to keep the hedge to a minimum width so it did not encroach on the already narrow footpath or alternatively replace the hedge by a fence to give maximum room for people to walk past.

109. (16/17) Report from the Neighbourhood Planning Working Group

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson informed the Parish Council that a meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group had been held on 11 January 2017 primarily to finalise the arrangements for the Neighbourhood Forum to be held on 18 January 2017. Copies of the posters, stickers and boards were shown to the Parish Council which would be used at the Neighbourhood Forum. It was noted that the Village Hall would be set up from 4.00pm with the event running from 5.30pm until 8.30pm. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson was pleased to report that each themed table had now got a lead person as some local residents had stepped in to help with the transport table and the ecology/history table and this was very much appreciated.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

110. (16/17) Grimsargh Wetlands – update

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson informed the Parish Council that the legal agreements as agreed at the last meeting of the Parish Council, had now been signed by the Chairman and the Clerk in readiness for the transfer of the Wetlands to the Parish Council shortly. In addition to this a meeting had been arranged with Eccleston Homes to be held on 13 January to discuss the possibility of them leasing a small area of land for storage from the Parish Council. An update on this would be given at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

With regard to the setting up of the Charitable Trust it was noted that there had been some interest in the Trustee role, however it was felt that an advert in local papers may encourage more people to apply. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that there

were a number of free publications that might be suitable to advertise for Trustees including the Parish Champion's newsletter and this could also be considered.

The Parish Council agreed to allocate a maximum budget of £100 for any Trustee adverts in the local papers. This was unanimously agreed.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted and that a maximum budget of £100 is allocated for Trustee adverts in the local papers.

111. (16/17) Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson reported that she had received a quote from the Land Girls for work on the pond at the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland and this was £200. It was felt that this seemed extremely reasonable and the Parish Council agreed to go ahead with this work.

Resolved

That approval is given to the Land Girls carrying out the work on the pond at the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland at a cost of £200.

112. (16/17) Renewal of ICO (Information Commissioners Office) Registration for Data Protection

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's registration for Data Protection was due for renewal on 16 February at a cost of £35. It was agreed to renew our Registration and that this should be done automatically on an annual basis by the Clerk, unless there was an increase in the cost then the Clerk would refer this back to the Parish Council.

Resolved

1) That approval is given to the renewal of the Parish Council's registration for Data Protection with the ICO at a cost of £35.

2) That the Clerk should renew this automatically on an annual basis unless there is an increase in the cost of the registration and in that case the Clerk would refer this back to the Parish Council for approval.

113. (16/17) Parish & Town Council Conference – Saturday 25 February 2017

The Clerk reported that the Parish & Town Council Conference organised by the Parish Champion would be held on Saturday 25 February at County Hall Preston. It was noted that the Agenda for the day still needed to be finalised and it was further noted that there was no cost to the Parish Council for this conference. It was agreed that the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray would attend the conference on behalf of the Parish Council.

Resolved

That approval is given to the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray to attend the Parish & Town Council Conference on Saturday 25 February 2017 on behalf of the Parish Council.

114. (16/17) Preston City Council Budget Proposals for 2017/18 – 2019/20

The Parish Council considered the Preston City Council budget proposals for 2017/18 and 2019/20. It was noted that changes to Leisure Centres were referred to in the consultation documents but there was a lack of detail. It was agreed not to comment on this budget consultation.

Resolved

That the Parish Council agrees not to comment on the Preston City Council budget proposals for 2018/18 and 2019/20.

115. (16/17) CCTV Project – Update

Councillor Terry Cryer confirmed that he had met with the IT Officer at Hutton to try and progress the project. However, there were a number of concerns about the security of the system from the Police point of view and Councillor Terry Cryer had contacted our CCTV installer for the queries to be answered. Councillor Terry Cryer said that we may have to make some changes to our system but these would be discussed further and brought back to the Parish Council. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson thanked Councillor Terry Cryer for his continued support on this project and was hopeful that things could be resolved soon.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

116. (16/17) Bench for Redrow Estate

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Councillor Tom Davies' family and had received a lovely reply in regard to the donations and the bench in memory of Tom. The family had suggested including some slightly humorous words on the plaque as well as the dates he was a City Councillor. The Parish Council thought this was a lovely idea and agreed to include the following words on the plaque:- "don't just sit here, do something useful" together with the dates that Tom was a City Councillor representing Grimsargh.

Resolved

That the Parish Council agrees to the words on the plaque for the new bench on Redrow estate should include "don't just sit here, do something useful" together with the dates that Tom was a City Councillor representing Grimsargh.

117. (16/17) Financial Matters, budget, precept requirements for 2017/2018 and banking

It was noted that we had an estimated £83,145.69 in the bank as at 5 January 2017.

Resolved

1) It was noted that since the last meeting we had paid the following:-

- i) AVJ Design for newsletter printing £440.00 (Cheque no 814).
- ii) Clerk Salary 5, 12, 19, and 26 December 2016 = 4 weeks at £189 per week = £756 – tax and NI = £600.48 (Cheque no 815).
- iii) Dig In donation £25 in memory of Cllr Tom Davies (Cheque no 816).
- iv) Heartbeat donation £25 in memory of Cllr Tom Davies (Cheque no 817).
- v) HMRC Q3 - £578.80 (Cheque no 818).
- vi) Adam Cooper – contractor payment December 64 hours @ £13 per hour total £852. (Cheque no 819).

2) The following invoices were agreed for payment at the meeting:-

- i) ICO Membership - £35
- ii) AVJ for (Neighbourhood Plan) stickers - £60 and information boards £92.93 total £152.93.

3) The Parish Council gave consideration to the budget for 2017/2018 which had been circulated to the Parish Council. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson thanked Councillor Peter Burton for all the work he had done on the budget over the Christmas period. With regard to the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland it was agreed to reduce the amount allocated to £500 as the Parish Council were no longer going ahead with transferring the woodland to the Charitable Trust. With regard to the small grants pot of £2,500 it was agreed that any small grants should be taken out of the solar farm money. Taking into account these amendments and the planned expenditure for 2017/2018 the budget was still showing a forecasted deficit, the Parish Council therefore agreed to increase the precept for 2017/2018 to £33,000 (thirty three thousand pounds). This was unanimously agreed. A copy of the budget is presented in the Minute Book.

It was noted that the Finance Working Group would keep a close eye on the budget over the year especially as there would be an increase in responsibilities falling on the Parish Council and we would have to maximize any income received.

It was further noted that the Clerk would look at litter picking in the village and make sure there was no duplication of effort by the contractor (Lengthsman) and Preston City Council.

118. (16/17) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk reported that a lovely card had been received from Mrs Leech thanking the Parish Council for the bench in memory of David Leech installed in the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland.

It was noted that the Lancashire Civic County Carol Service would be held on Sunday 5 February at Blackburn Cathedral at 6.30pm and it was agreed that Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and the Clerk would be attending on behalf of the Parish Council.

119. (16/17) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 2 February 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Grimsargh.