

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 12 January, 2023 held at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor David Hindle (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor Trevor Haines; Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver; Councillor Simon Rusling and Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam.

**In attendance:-** Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council  
Councillor Stephen Whittam – Preston City Council (part of meeting).  
1 member of the public.

### **102. (22/23) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

### **103. (22/23) 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 up to the 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no further declarations of interest.

### **104. (22/23) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1 December 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **105. (22/23) Adjournment for Public Participation**

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton adjourned the meeting for public participation and asked if anyone had anything to raise under this item.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that she had received a phone call about the new bus shelter outside the premises (former Chinese restaurant), regarding people waiting at the bus stop potentially being able to see into the restaurant. The Clerk also reported that a resident had raised concerns regarding the new bus shelter near to his property and that people waiting at the bus stop would be able to see directly into his lounge once his property was complete.

It was hoped that all residents would appreciate the new bus shelters once the Facebook comments had reduced. The Parish Council had taken the decision to replace the traditional shelters with the modern ones due to their deterioration and ongoing maintenance costs of the old bus shelters. The Parish Council would work with residents to alleviate any concerns. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam said she had spoken to the Landlord at The Plough to see if a bus shelter could be placed on their land and this was going to be discussed with the brewery.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam said that Adam had done a good job with the planters, but they needed some more soil/compost on the planters in Spring. Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam agreed to liaise with Adam regarding this.

Councillor Trevor Haines raised the lack of bins on Cow Hill especially as more residents were walking in that area. He asked if it was possible to have an additional dog waste bin. It was noted that the Parish Council has a number of bins in Grimsargh Village and also on the village green. However, people walking into Houghton and not into Grimsargh had no bins to discard dog waste or litter. As the area was in Houghton Parish Council, the Clerk agreed to write to the Clerk of Houghton Parish Council to ask if they would consider providing a bin. She also agreed to copy Councillor Trevor Haines into the request.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell informed the Parish Council that a meeting of the Road Safety Working Group would be held shortly.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton then reconvened the meeting.

#### **106. (22/23) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

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

- |              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| 06/2022/1348 | - | Land off Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh.<br>3no new dwellings and substitution of plot no 65 of planning permission 06/2021/1335.                               |
| 06/2022/1442 | - | The Laund, Whittingham Lane, Grimsargh, Preston.<br>Proposal: Single storey side extension to existing outhouse and replacement of existing rear conservatory |

With regard to Planning Application 06/2022/1348 it was noted that this was an extension to an existing development therefore the principle of development had already been agreed. The Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

With regard to Planning Application 06/2022/1442, the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had also been consulted on the Central Lancashire Local Plan Preferred Options, and that the closing date for comments was 24 February 2023. A letter regarding the consultation including details of drop-in events had been circulated to the Parish Council. It was noted that a drop-in

event would be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at Preston Grasshoppers and members of the Parish Council were encouraged to attend. It was agreed to discuss the options for Grimsargh and the surrounding areas at the next meeting of the Parish Council to be held on 2 February 2023.

There were no further planning matters for discussion at the meeting.

### **Resolved**

i) That, with regard to Planning Applications 06/2022/1348 and 06/2022/1442, the Parish Council had no comments to make on these applications.

ii) That, the Parish Council's response to the consultation on the Central Lancashire Local Plan Preferred Options is discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council to be held on 2 February 2023, and that all members of the Parish Council are encouraged to attend one of the drop-in events as circulated to the Parish Council.

### **107. (22/23) MUGA Feasibility Study**

The Clerk had circulated to the Parish Council a copy of the MUGA Feasibility Study as produced by TGMS. It was noted that there were a number of implications in the document that needed to be dealt with before the Parish Council could consider agreeing to the cost and implementation of a MUGA. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Village Hall Committee would be discussing the possibility of a MUGA at their meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and that the Parish Council would need to take into account any comments raised by them. As part of the Study, the Clerk noted that permission was needed from TGMS to share the information contained in the report. The Clerk therefore asked the Parish Council to agree that she contact TGMS to obtain permission to share the document with Preston City Council who were the owners of the land and any possible fund providers who would need to see a copy of the report in order to consider any grant request. This was unanimously agreed by the Parish Council. The Clerk also reported that planning permission would also be required if the MUGA was going to go ahead and this needed to be factored into the costs (current planning application fee £462.00). There would obviously be additional costs for any relevant licences that would be needed as part of the project.

The Clerk also recommended setting up a small Working Group to oversee the Project and also looking at appointing a Project Manager if the scheme went ahead.

The Clerk would provide updates on progress as appropriate to the Parish Council.

### **Resolved**

i) That, the MUGA Feasibility Study is received and noted.

ii) That, approval is given for the Clerk to contact TGMS to request permission to share the Study with Preston City Council, as owners of the land and to also ask if the Study can be shared with possible fund providers as part of any grant requests.

### **108. (22/23) Visit to Grimsargh St Michaels C of E School**

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam reported that she had received a request from Grimsargh St Michaels C of E School for a member of the Parish Council to speak about democracy to the children (aged 7-8) on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that she may be able to help and that she would speak to former Councillor Lindsay Philipson who had done a similar talk at the school previously. It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam and Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell would sort out this between them and hopefully one of them would be able to attend to speak to the children at the school.

#### **Resolved**

That, Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam and Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell liaise with Grimsargh St Michaels C of E School to arrange for one of them to talk about democracy on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

### **109. (22/23) Air Quality Monitors**

This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Parish Council.

### **110. (22/23) Biodiversity Grant**

It was noted that the Parish Council had received a £300 Biodiversity Grant from Lancashire County Council and the Parish Council discussed ideas on how to spend the grant. It was agreed that bat boxes, barn owl boxes and bird boxes would be good to improve biodiversity in the village, and the Clerk agreed to obtain some costs for these.

#### **Resolved**

That approval is given for the Clerk to obtain costs for bat boxes, barn owl boxes and bird boxes to improve biodiversity in the village.

### **111. (22/23) Lancashire County Council – budget consultation**

The Parish Council gave consideration to the Lancashire County Council budget consultation which had been circulated to the Parish Council. The Parish Council had no comments to make on the consultation.

#### **Resolved**

That the Parish Council has no comments to make on the Lancashire County Council budget consultation.

### **112. (22/23) Financial Matters and banking**

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £204,838.19 in the Nat West bank as at 5 January 2023. This included the £800 for the Public Rights of Way Scheme and Biodiversity Small Grants Scheme.

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

Clerk's Salary 15 December 2022 – New rate as per LALCs issue of revised pay scales backdated to April 2022 £16.16 per hour. £1,741.30 + £19.97 for two battery powered camping lights for the crib + newsletter delivery £171.60 = total £1,932.87. (Cheque no 1181).

PSD Agronomy (TGMS) for Feasibility Study MUGA - £2,994.00 – CiL monies. (Cheque no 1186).

Bus Shelters deposit – 50% £14,812.06 – CiL monies. (Cheque no 1187).

Society of Local Clerks (SLCC) annual membership fee £177.00. (Cheque no 1188).

SRS Gorton for website admin £222.89. (Cheque no 1189).

HMRC Tax & NI Q3 £839.07. (Cheque no 1190).

It was also noted that bank charges for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Oct – 4 November were £5.60 and £4.20 up to 30 December 2022. The Parish Council had also paid NEST pension (Clerk) £48.88 on 7 November 2022 and 16 Dec £97.76 (£48.88 x2 to cover Dec and Jan). Water bill for Nellie Carbis 6 Dec 2022 £17.61 (Direct Debit).

## **Resolved**

**1)** The following invoices were approved for payment: -

- i) Clerks Salary 15 January 2023 - £1,265.50.
- ii) Adam Cooper Contractor – November 36 hours at £15.00 per hour = £540.00 and December 39 hours at £15.00 per hour = £585.00.

## **2. Budget for 2023/24**

With regard to the budget for 2023/24, this had been deferred from the last meeting to allow any additional expenditure to be added to the draft budget. No additional items had been received but the draft budget included an estimated amount for cleaning the new bus shelters. Although the budget was slightly higher than the precept, it was noted that the Parish Council would be able to claim back the VAT for the new bus shelters which would enable the Parish Council to retain the precept at the current level. This was felt to be particularly important due to the impact of the cost of living on residents due to the present financial climate.

The Parish Council unanimously approved the budget as presented and a copy is included in the Minute Book.

## **3. Precept for 2023/24**

The Parish Council gave consideration to the precept for 2023/2024. After taking into account the budget as agreed above, it was unanimously agreed to set the precept at the same level as last year at £42,000 for 2023/2024.

**113. (22/23) Clerk's report – for information only**

There was nothing further for the Clerk to report.

**114. (22/23) Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be held on Thursday 2 February 2023 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.