

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4 June, 2015
held at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall

Present:- Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson (Chairman); Councillor Peter Burton (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor David Hindle; Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Keith Middlebrough.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council
4 Members of the public

21. (15/16) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council.

22. (15/16) Declarations of Interest

None.

23. (15/16) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14 May, 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24. (15/16) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing issues

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed members of the public to the meeting. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson with the agreement of the Parish Council, moved the Planning Application for land at Tower Wood (06/2015/0373) into public participation to allow full discussion between concerned residents and the Parish Council. Two residents who lived close to the proposed development had attended the meeting to discuss the Planning Application for Tower House, Woodlands Grove, Grimsargh. The application was for four dwellings and the member of the public asked if the applicant wanted additional houses on the land would they have to apply for planning permission again. This was clarified that this application was for four dwellings and any additional dwellings would have to seek separate planning permission. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell raised her concerns about drainage for the site as there had been previous issues on this site and on nearby roads. Councillor David Hindle said he was concerned about the site being close to the Biological Heritage Site and possible damage to wildlife habitat. There was a full discussion about the history of the existing house and in particular how it was a

unique building in a sensitive location. There were also concerns raised about the access to be used by construction traffic. It was noted that the application was a delegated decision to be decided by an Officer at Preston City Council and it was agreed that the Parish Council should ask the Officer to visit the site, if they had not already done so, before making their decision. Councillor Peter Burton said that the Parish Council had no firm planning grounds to object to the application but the Parish Council could ask for certain conditions to be included in the planning permission.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson thanked the members of the public for attending and summarised the Parish Council's response to Planning Application 06/2015/0373. She explained that although the Parish Council had no objection to this Planning Application, we would ask that the following points should be taken into consideration:- The site is very close to a Biological Heritage Site and it is important that any construction works are carried out in a sensitive manner with no negative impact on the Biological Heritage Site and the wildlife. The Parish Council is also concerned about the access for construction traffic and also about the character of the existing building and how this may be affected by the proposed development. There have also been previous issues regarding drainage at this site and also on the neighbouring properties, so it is important that a condition is attached to the planning permission that adequately deals with the drainage so any issues regarding this can be prevented. Finally this is a unique building in Grimsargh, and the Parish Council would ask the Officer from Preston City Council to carry out a site visit before issuing their decision so they can understand the issues we have raised.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson then asked if any member of the public had anything further to raise with the Parish Council. Dan Dewhurst informed the Parish Council that PCSO David Reid would be obtaining the signage for the CCTV and hopefully a meeting of the Community Safety Working Group would be arranged shortly.

One member of the public had come along to the meeting to find out more information on the work of the Parish Council as he was interested in one of the vacancies on the Parish Council.

Councillor Neil Cartwright and Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell raised again their concerns about parking on Lindale Avenue. It was noted that an article on parking issues was included in the latest Newsletter.

Councillor Peter Burton referred to the recent issue with travellers on the car park near to The Hills and that although they had now moved on and the rubbish removed there could be future issues with them using the land. As the land was still owned by Persimmon homes Councillor Peter Burton agreed to contact them to ask about the possibility of them installing a height barrier to prevent further use by travellers or any other high sided vehicles.

It was noted that the latest newsletter had been received and this would be given out at the end of the meeting.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson thanked everyone for attending and then reconvened the meeting.

25. (15/16) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

06/2015/0373 - Land at Tower House, Woodlands Grove, Grimsargh
Outline application seeking approval for access, for the erection of 4no detached dwellings.

With regard to Planning Application 06/2015/0373 this had been fully discussed under public participation.

It was noted that we had received the official notification from Preston City Council regarding the appeal by Gladman Developments Ltd and this had been circulated to the Parish Council. It was further noted that we did not have a date for the appeal hearing as yet. The Clerk had written to the Planning Inspector at Bristol asking for the opportunity for the Parish Council to speak at the appeal hearing and confirming that our original objection was still valid. Councillor David Hindle confirmed that he had also written an objection letter that was being submitted as a local resident.

Resolved

That with regard to Planning Application 06/2015/0373, the Parish Council has no objection to this application but we would ask that the following points should be taken into consideration:- The site is very close to a Biological Heritage Site and it is important that any construction works are carried out in a sensitive manner with no negative impact on the Biological Heritage Site and the wildlife. The Parish Council is also concerned about the access for construction traffic and also about the character of the existing building and how this may be affected by the proposed development. There have also been previous issues regarding drainage at this site and also on the neighbouring properties, so it is important that a condition is attached to the planning permission that adequately deals with the drainage so any issues regarding this can be prevented. Finally this is a unique building in Grimsargh, and the Parish Council would ask the Officer from Preston City Council to carry out a site visit before issuing their decision so they can understand the issues we have raised.

26. (15/16) Update from Grimsargh Wetlands Working Group

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray gave a brief update on the Grimsargh Wetlands project. She informed the Parish Council that a recent meeting had been held with United Utilities and they were now looking to submit their Planning Application around mid June. They had made a few amendments to the layout and had taken into account as far as possible comments made by local residents. They had changed the layout of one of the properties due to one of their pipe lines running through the site to allow for easement rights.

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray also reported that United Utilities had agreed to carry out the repairs to the fencing and this was a bigger job than first anticipated as the public footpath would need to be closed whilst the repairs were carried out. United Utilities had also supplied discs containing a huge amount of electronic documents including deeds and historical information. Finally, it was noted that the dowry had not been fixed as yet but our Solicitors would be dealing with this and there would be a minimum and maximum amount depending on the final viability figures from the proposed development.

Councillor David Hindle said he would still like to see the sluice installed on the Wetlands and it was noted that this was one of the items for consideration once the wetlands had been secured by the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

27. (15/16) Update on Planter Trophy/Post Office Noticeboard

Councillor Keith Middlebrough informed the Parish Council that he had called into Surridges at Burnley and they had two shield trophies – one at 10.5 inch at a cost of £40 which had 10 little shields around the edge for annual winners, and there was also a 12 inch one at £49. Councillor Keith Middlebrough said there were other types of trophies available including ones made out of slate. It was agreed that Councillor Keith Middlebrough would look into the purchase of a trophy at a cost of around £50.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson said she had spoken to Mary at the Post Office about the existing noticeboard and her concerns were that people could not see the sign for the Post Office when approaching the shop due to the size and location of the existing board. Mary was happy for a smaller board to be located on the same side but further along.

With regard the replacement noticeboard, Councillor Keith Middlebrough informed the Parish Council that the Preston Vocational Centre may be able to manufacture the board for us if we supplied the materials. It was agreed that Councillor Keith Middlebrough should obtain further information from the Vocational Centre with regard to the types and size of noticeboards they have made and some pictures of these for circulation to the Parish Council.

28. (15/16) Purchase of new Planter Half Barrels

It was noted that two half barrel planters needed replacing. These were the ones at the Redrow roundabout and near to the speed camera. The Clerk confirmed that these had already been budgeted for and also Jayne Woollam had indicated that she would be happy to “adopt” the planter at the roundabout. It was agreed that two new half barrel planters should be purchased at a cost of around £40 each. The Clerk agreed to ask Adam, the Lengthsman to remove the old planters and also to fill the new planters when purchased with a concrete base, drainage and compost ready for planting.

Resolved

That the Parish Council agrees to the purchase of two new half barrel planters at a cost of approximately £40 each.

29. (15/16) Parish Council “Dropbox” account

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray informed the Parish Council that she had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda so the Parish Council could discuss subscribing to their own Dropbox professional account. However, there were still a number of issues to be discussed regarding electronic storage and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray agreed to look into this further so that the Parish Council could consider at a future date.

30. (15/16) Financial Matters, approval of annual accounts for year end 31 March 2015 and banking

It was noted that we had an estimated £23,383.65 in the bank as at 1 May 2015. As stated at the last meeting we had received notification that our precept, £26,800 had been transferred by BACS on 6 May 2015. We were still awaiting the June bank statement.

Resolved

1) It was noted that the following invoices had been paid:-

Sue Whittam, Clerk as stated at the last meeting total was £677.60 – tax & NI = £541.53 (Cheque no 726 paid 20/5/15).

Zurich Insurance as agreed at the last meeting £461.60. (Cheque no 727 paid 26/5/15).

LALC Spring Conference fee for the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson to attend on 6 June – as agreed at the last meeting £35.00. (Cheque no 728 paid 31/5/15).

2) The following invoices were agreed for payment:-

i) GVCA Room Hire for use of village hall November 2014 – May 2015 = £150 (Cheque no 729).

ii) Adam Cooper – 42 hours @ £13 per hour = £546 (Cheque no 730).

iii) AVJ Design for newsletter printing - amount to be confirmed at the July meeting. (Cheque no 731).

iv) Sue Whittam – Clerk – 4, 11, 18 and 25 May = 4 weeks at £169.40 per week = £677.60 – tax & NI = £527.60 (Cheque no 732).

v) TCV (The Conservation Volunteers) renewal at a cost of £38 (Cheque no 733).

vi) Adam Cooper for perspex/silicone for repairing noticeboard £34.78 (Cheque no 734).

3) That, the annual accounts as now presented together with the completed audit form and governance statement is approved and signed by the Chairman, and that the external audit date of 27 July, 2015 is noted.

31. (15/16) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Steve Ashcroft at Longridge Town Council and they were hoping to arrange the meeting between representatives of Longridge Town Council and Grimsargh Parish Council shortly.

The Clerk had also received a reply from Lancashire County Council regarding FP5 and FP6 explaining that the works to replace the bridge over Tun Brook had not been carried out as it was proving difficult to find a contractor willing to undertake the work due to the risk involved. The Parish Council felt that as long as there was adequate signage showing the alternative route then the lack of a bridge was not an issue.

32. (15/16) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 2 July 2015 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.