

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of Grimsargh Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 1
March, 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

127. (11/12) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council.

128. (11/12) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell declared an interest in Item 6 – Friends of Grimsargh Green, grant request as Chairman of Friends of Grimsargh Green.

129. (11/12) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2 February, 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

130. (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, asked Councillor Tom Davies from Preston City Council if he had anything to discuss with the Parish Council.

Councillor Tom Davies informed the Parish Council that the Parks Department had confirmed that the flooding on the Village Green would be dealt with by the end of March 2012. He also informed the Parish Council that he was still waiting for the bollards to be installed outside the post office but he would keep the Parish Council informed of developments.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked if there was any news on the Planning Application submitted by Hallam Land Management as it was not on the next Agenda for the Planning Committee. It was noted that the application was likely to have been withdrawn by the developer for resubmission at a later date.

Councillor David Nicholson raised the issue of flooding on Douglas Lane that happened around the 20th February. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that problems such as this should be reported to the Highways Department and could be

done so via an online form. Councillor Tom Davies said he would also speak to highways about this.

The Chairman Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray also reported to the meeting that there had not been any attendees at the Parish Council surgery this evening. It was hoped that with some additional publicity some members of the public would be encouraged to attend.

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

131. (11/12) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

It was noted that there were no new Planning Applications for consideration at tonight's meeting but Fox Strategic Land & Property Ltd had appealed against the decision made by Preston City Council to refuse Planning Permission for Ridings Depot. It was further noted that although the proposed development was not in Grimargh Parish area, the Parish Council had objected to the development on traffic issues. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should write a letter of objection to the Planning Inspectorate again on the grounds of traffic issues. The response had to be with the Planning Inspectorate by 21 March 2012.

It was also noted that the following Certificate of Lawfulness had been issued:-

69 Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh - proposed erection of single storey extension to side of dwelling and extension to existing rear dormer.

Resolved

1) That the Clerk sends a letter of objection to the Planning Inspectorate on the grounds of traffic issues in relation to the appeal by Fox Strategic Land & Property for Ridings Depot.

132. (11/12) Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)

(Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell declared an interest in the grant request, as the Chairman of FoGG and left the room whilst the grant request was considered)

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell gave an update to the Parish Council on the work of FoGG. As mentioned earlier by Councillor Davies there was still problems with flooding on the car park. With regard to the QEII fields challenge, this had still not gone to Cabinet at Preston City Council but it was hoped that Cabinet would consider this at their meeting due to be held on 21 March.

It was noted that FoGG had also asked for a height restriction barrier to be put on the village green. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked members what they thought of a height restriction barrier. Councillor Ron Woollam felt that such a barrier did not look good and would prefer an alternative to stop people parking large vehicles on the village green car park. It was noted that the problems on the car park were mainly caused by someone who was using the car park as additional parking for commercial vehicles. Councillor Peter Burton suggested using

signage to advise people that the site was for recreation only. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that FoGG wanted the barrier but it was up to the Parish Council to make their views known. Councillor Tom Davies explained that Matt Kelly from Parks Department at Preston City was already dealing with the height restriction barrier so it was important that the Parish Council made their views known as soon as possible. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray then asked the Parish Councillors to vote and two members voted in favour of the height restriction and seven voted against. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should e mail Matt Kelly and inform him that the Parish Council did not want a height restriction barrier on the village green and would like to see some signage to discourage commercial vehicles from being parked there. Councillor David Hindle added that a height restriction barrier would spoil the aesthetics of the village green and would be an eyesore for the residents living opposite. It was agreed that these comments would also be included in the e mail to Matt Kelly.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell also informed the Parish Council that the mosaic would go on the corner of the village green and each child will contribute with a piece of mosaic. This should be completed by June. Approval had been given for photos to be taken and used on the website. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell then left the room whilst the grant application was discussed.

Discussion ensued and it was noted that the Parish Council had allocated £2,000 from their budget for grants next year. It was therefore agreed that a grant of £500 should be awarded to FoGG towards the mosaic made payable after the precept for next year had been received from Preston City Council.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell then returned to the meeting.

Resolved

- 1) That the report is received and noted.
- 2) That a grant of £500 is awarded to FoGG towards the mosaic project.

133. (11/12) Guild 2012 Advisory Working Group

The notes from the Guild 2012 Advisory Working Group from their meeting held on 22 February had been circulated to the Parish Council together with a copy of the event programme. It was hoped that a collection of memorabilia from previous Guilds could be placed on display in the village hall, and the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked for people to provide photos or information that could be used in the display.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

134. (11/12) Conservation Area Status Working Group

Councillor David Hindle reported on the Conservation Area Status Working Group held on 21 February 2012. It was noted that Councillor Hindle had been appointed the Chairman and spokesperson for the Group and Councillor Ron Woollam as the note taker. Councillor David Hindle explained that the Group wished to safeguard the rural character and essence of Grimsargh and the Conservation area suggested was concentrated on Preston Road. The next steps would be to seek the approval of Grimsargh Parish Council, to hold a public consultation involving Nigel Roberts, to produce a questionnaire and circulate a leaflet to all.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked if the Group had produced yet the table of pros and cons as included in the Terms of Reference for the Group. Councillor Ron Woollam explained that this had not been done as yet. In addition Councillor Ron Woollam had approached Nigel Roberts to see if he could supply a better map so the proposed Conservation Area could be marked out. As yet he was still awaiting a response. The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said that if a map was not forthcoming she would contact a lady who had produced a map for the Sites for Preston who may be able to help.

Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann explained that people who were on the Parish Council needed to know the pros and cons so they could respond to questions raised by local residents. Councillor David Hindle said that this could easily be produced.

It was noted that there was around 30/40 properties affected by the proposed Conservation area and discussion ensued about how these people would be informed/consulted on the proposals. Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann said that everyone in the village needed to be aware of the proposals but would not necessarily have an equal say. The people who were directly affected should have the choice to make the decision of in favour or against for their own property. Reference was made to Inglewhite which also had Conservation Status, but it was noted that this covered the whole village and not a selection of properties in the village. Councillor David Nicholson also agreed that people who were directly affected should have a bigger say about the proposals. The Clerk suggested that she should see if there was a similar situation in another area to see how they dealt with the consultation process. It was important that the process was correct, whatever the outcome.

It was further noted that the Working Group had not spoken to Councillor Pat Hastings at Broughton Parish as yet and that advice would be sought at the appropriate stage. Councillor Ron Woollam emphasised that nothing will happen until everyone was on board including the Parish Council and members of the public. It was important that a map was produced and a table of pros and cons in line with the Terms of Reference as the next stage to present to the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

135. (11/12) Finance Working Group

The Clerk gave a quick overview of the Finance Working Group held on 29 February 2012. It was noted that a copy of the notes from the meeting would be circulated to the Parish Council for approval at their April meeting. The Clerk explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Lengthsman's contract and to ensure the correct procedures were in place. It was further noted that the Clerk would speak to the Lengthsman to discuss the proposed contract with the aim of the Parish Council approving the contract at their meeting in September.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

136. (11/12) Update on Residents Association

Councillor David Nicholson gave an update on Redrow Residents Association meeting held on 23 February 2012. It was noted that Frank Almond had been elected as Chairman of the Association. It was reported that representatives from Preston City Council Parks Department and Redrow had attended a number of meetings during January and February. As a result a general tidy up of the area had taken place and agreement had been reached for the area alongside Swarbrick Avenue to be scraped and improved.

It was further noted that Redrow homes were moving towards handover of the estate to Preston City Council and this was likely to take place early in summer 2012.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

137. (11/12) Grimsargh Reservoirs

Councillor David Hindle informed the meeting that Gavin Thomas from the RSPB had been in touch about Grimsargh Reservoirs. In particular RSPB were hoping to gather volunteers to take over the care of the reservoirs and they were apparently in discussions with UU about this. This was just to give early warning that volunteers would probably be needed to help on the reservoirs and it was possible that a "Friends" type Group may be established to do this.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Neil Cartwright from Preston City Council was very willing to get involved with the volunteers and would help with the work. This was welcomed by the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

138. (11/12) Parish Council Newsletter

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray informed the Parish Council that we needed to think about the items for the next newsletter which had been agreed

should include a special pull-out leaflet on our Guild events. The following items were suggested:- Chairman's Report, Update on Sites for Preston, Suggestion Scheme, Surgeries, Internet drop in sessions, Planters, The Guild, usual contact details, Picture of the new playground, Best Kept Village Judging, Website and Facebook. It was noted that items should be forwarded to the Clerk and final sign off would be at the May meeting.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked if anyone could help with the pulling together of the newsletter and the Parish Councillors agreed to see if anyone could help.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

139. (11/12) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been consulted on proposals to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy know as CIL. The closing date for comments on the consultation was 30 March 2012.

The Parish Council welcomed plans to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy but had no further comments to make at this time.

140. (11/12) Better working between Lancashire County Council and Parish & Town Councils

It was reported that the Parish Council had received an invite to a briefing being held at County Hall on 26 March between 1pm-2pm to discuss better working between Lancashire County Council and Parish & Town Councils.

It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer would be the Grimsargh Parish Council representative at this event.

Resolved

That the Clerk informs Lancashire County Council that Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer will be attending this event.

141. (11/12) Financial Matters and Banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £7,684.57 in the bank as at 2 February 2012.

Resolved

1) That, the following invoices be approved for payment

- Adam Cooper Lengthsman's duties February – 24 hours @ £11.50 = £276 + VAT @ 20% = £55.20 = £331.20.

- Water bill United Utilities – Nellie Carbis - £5.89 (suggest setting up direct debit for future bills).
- LALC Annual Subscription £307.40 (Copies of the Local Council Review not needed).
- Sue Whittam – Clerk – 6 February 2012, 13 February, 20 February, 27 February 4 weeks at £80 = total £320.

2) That Outstanding signatories for Nat West bank, namely Councillor David Hindle, Councillor Ron Woollam and Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer are signed at the meeting.

142. (11/12) Clerk's Report – for information only

The Clerk reported on the following matters for information:-

Nellie Carbis Bench - Has been ordered and should be delivered to Adam on 1 March 2012.

Footpath notices – Footpath no 7 around Salisbury Farm – Adam had raised concern that the diversion notices on this footpath were out of date. It was noted that the Clerk had contacted LCC and have received confirmation that the Regulatory Committee at LCC have now approved the permanent diversion of this route and as such the notices will be updated and the diversion clearly defined.

Parish Council and Nellie Carbis insurance – It was noted that the Clerk was currently reviewing our insurance providers and looking to see if we can have one insurance policy to cover both the Parish Council's and the Nellie Carbis Millennium woodland's needs.

Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Annual Parish meeting would be held on Thursday 5 February, 2012 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall. This would be followed by an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.