

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5 March, 2015  
at 7.30 pm held at Grimsargh Village Hall

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

**In attendance:-** Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council  
Councillor Neil Cartwright – Preston City Council  
Councillor Tom Davies – Preston City Council  
PCSO Sarah Catterall

### **126. (14/15) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dan Dewhurst; Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Mrs Lynn McCann.

### **127. (14/15) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

None.

### **128. (14/15) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

#### **Resolved**

That, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 February, 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **129. (14/15) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues**

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed PCSO Sarah Catterall to the meeting. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked PCSO Catterall if she was aware of an incident on the bridge where a car refused to reverse to let a bus through and an ambulance was caught up in the “stand-off” on the bridge. PCSO Catterall said that the police had not been aware. Likewise they were not aware of a large van becoming stuck at the roundabout near the Redrow estate and the grass verge had been badly damaged. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that the grass verge needed some work on it and it was agreed that Adam would deal with this as it was unlikely that Preston City Council had the time or the resources to restore the verge.

PCSO Catterall informed the Parish Council that there had been a couple of incidents of people interfering with motor vehicles and also there had been a robbery on Preston Road that occurred during the day and had a brick thrown through the window to gain access. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray asked PCSO Catterall if she could check the details on the robbery as she understood it had

been recorded as insecure property which was obviously not the case. There was a brief discussion about the continuing problem with cars parking on the corner of Yew Tree Avenue and Lindale Avenue and PCSO Catterall said that with regard to Yew Tree Avenue these were local residents but this was not the case with Lindale Avenue. The police would check on these areas again. With regard to parking on the grass verges and roads, as long as a pram/wheelchair could safely pass the parked vehicles then this was acceptable.

The Clerk referred to an email from a local resident who had raised concerns about the village green car park in particular use by people going walking and also by contractors at Whitefriars. It was noted that the car park, as a public car park could not have restricted use and that the lighting on the green was solar powered. The Clerk would reply to the resident's concerns.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell informed the meeting of the sad death of Dr Watt who had been an important part of the village and was instrumental in establishing the village hall. It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell would write a small article about Dr Watt for our next newsletter.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer then reconvened the meeting.

### **130. (14/15) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

There were no Planning Applications for consideration at the meeting. However, the Parish Council was pleased to note that Planning Application 06/2014/0902 for land off Preston Road Grimsargh – Gladman Developments Ltd had been refused by Preston City Council at the Planning Committee meeting held on 2 March 2015. The Parish Council formally thanked Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray, Councillor Neil Cartwright, Mark Goodwin, Jonathan Heaton and all the residents who had worked together to fight this Planning Application. On the day of the Planning Committee Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray, Councillor Neil Cartwright and Mark Goodwin had all done excellent presentations and their professional approach had been an important factor in the refusal of the Planning Application. It was also good to see many residents attending the Planning Committee to support our case.

It was noted that the Parish Council had received notification of the Preston Local Plan 2012-2026 – Inspector's Draft Main Modifications (Examination Library Reference EL7.022) – consultation from Monday 2 March 2015 – Monday 13 April 2015. The Clerk had circulated details of the consultation and Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray said she had looked at the modifications and would circulate her comments for consideration by the Parish Council. It was agreed that all members of the Parish Council would look at the modifications in detail and our response would be discussed at the April meeting of the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that we had also received an email from the Mayor of Longridge asking the Parish Council if we wished to meet to discuss their Neighbourhood Plan and in particular issues about traffic and housing developments. It was agreed that Councillor Peter Burton, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson would initially meet with Longridge Town Council and other Parish Councillors can also be involved as necessary. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said

she would like to be involved at some stage but felt that initially three Councillors were sufficient.

### **Resolved**

1) That with regard to Planning Application 06/2014/0902 that the refusal by Preston City Council's Planning Committee to allow this application is welcomed. In addition that the Clerk writes to Mark Goodwin and Jonathan Heaton thanking them both for their commitment, hard work and support.

2) That with regard to the Preston Local Plan 2012-2026 – Inspector's Draft Main Modifications (Examination Library Reference EL7.022) – consultation from Monday 2 March 2015 – Monday 13 April 2015, that the Parish Council's full response will be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

3) That with regard to the meeting with Longridge Town Council, that Councillor Peter Burton, Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray and Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson would initially meet with Longridge Town Council and other Parish Councillors could also be involved as necessary.

### **131. (14/15) Update from Finance Working Group**

The Clerk presented the notes from the Finance Working Group from their meeting held on 11 February 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Lengthsman's contract and duties. It was reported that:-

- We had received no complaints about the quality/standard of work carried out.
- We were happy with the numbers of hours contracted.
- We appreciated that when reactive work was needed this was done quickly.
- The work had enhanced the look of the village and this was shown in the awards won in Best Kept Village and Britain in Bloom.

It was noted that there were always opportunities to improve and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Matthew Kelly at Preston City Council to find out the current and proposed maintenance regime for the green and also information on bin emptying/litter picking in the village. It was felt that if we had this information it would help programme our activities in the village. The Finance Working Group was recommending that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Lengthsman for his work done in the village. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell asked for her comments to be minuted. She said that she had complained about work not done by Adam including weeds on the roadside and in the gutters. The sweeping of the tree detritus on Lindale Avenue had still not been done and the Clerk would speak to Adam about this. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said she took issue with some of the things included in the report and felt that the employee was telling the employer what to do.

### **Resolved**

1) That the report of the Finance Working Group is received and noted and that a letter of thanks is sent to the Lengthsman thanking him for his continued hard work.

### **132. (14/15) Parish Council Newsletter**

It was agreed that the Community Engagement Working Group should finalise items for the summer newsletter and the following items were suggested for consideration:-

Planning update  
Parking issues  
Dog fouling  
FoGG  
Best Kept Village  
Field Day events  
JWS Update  
100 years war anniversary article  
Remembering Dr Watt.

This would be discussed further at our next Parish Council meeting and all items would need to be signed off at the May meeting.

### **133. (14/15) Financial Matters and banking**

It was noted that we had an estimated £31,120.93 in the bank as at 1 February 2015.

#### **Resolved**

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

i) Sue Whittam – Clerk – 2, 9, 16 and 23 February = 4 weeks at £169.40 per week = £677.60 (Cheque no 716).

ii) Adam Cooper – 39 hours @£12.25 + VAT (£89.55) = £537.30 (Cheque no 717). To note that Adam is not being registered for VAT from 1 March 2015.

iii) Best Kept Village Competition entry fee – as agreed at the last meeting - £25.00 (cheque no 718).

iv) Groundwork Lancashire West and Wigan £610.00 + VAT £122.00 = total £732 for production of report for Grimsargh Wetlands. (Cheque no 719).

v) LALC annual subscription £438.16 – this will be paid at the beginning of April 2015. (Cheque no 720).

vi) Atkins Limited for Grimsargh Wetlands report £1667.90 + VAT £333.58 = £2,001.48 (Cheque no 721).

To note United Utilities bill for 8 August – 18 November was £16.65 (direct debit); and for 19 November – 10 February was £13.58 (direct debit).

To note that Grimsargh Parish Council will register as an employer for HMRC purposes from 5 April 2015.

**134. (14/15) Clerk's Report – for information only**

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Preston City Council advising that the Band D equivalent properties for Grimsargh Parish for 2015/2016 are 936 net of estimated exemptions, discounts and collection rate.

**135. (14/15) Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the Annual Parish meeting would be held on Thursday 2 April 2015 at 7.00 pm and this would be followed by an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.