

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6 November, 2014 at 7.30 pm held at Grimsargh Village Hall

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

In attendance:- Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Reverend Halliwell
6 members of the public

74. (14/15) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peter Burton and Councillor Neil Cartwright and Councillor Tom Davies from Preston City Council.

75. (14/15) Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

76. (14/15) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 October, 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

77. (14/15) Adjournment for Public Participation and Policing Issues

The Chairman, Councillor Dan Dewhurst adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed representatives from St Michaels Church and Grimsargh Cricket Club to receive their certificates from the Best Kept Village Competition. The Parish Council had received the Hambleton Shield for coming runner up in the Large Village Class of the competition and this was on display at the meeting. The Chairman, Councillor Dan Dewhurst congratulated both groups on receiving their certificates which were a reflection of all the hard work that goes into making the village clean, tidy and beautiful. Photographs were taken for inclusion in the December newsletter.

The Chairman, Councillor Dan Dewhurst then welcomed two members of the public who had come along to raise their concerns about the proposed Gladman Developments Planning Application. The Clerk reported that the Planning Application had not been submitted to Preston City Council as yet and that the Parish Council would be consulted when Preston City Council had received and validated the application. Gladman Developments had been invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to explain their proposals and they had agreed to attend

the December meeting which would be held on Wednesday 3 December 2014. Gladman Developments were also holding a public consultation/exhibition on Wednesday 19 November at the Village Hall. As with previous planning applications it was important for the residents to work with the Parish Council to prevent unwanted development in the village.

As the police were not present, the Chairman, Councillor Dan Dewhurst thanked the members of the public for attending then reconvened the meeting.

78. (14/15) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

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

06/2014/0752 - Wainhomes Developments Ltd:- Erection of 64 no dwellings with associated garages infrastructure, roads and landscaping (Reserved Matters application for outline 06/2013/0533). Land off Ribblesdale Drive Grimsargh.

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray informed the Parish Council that with Councillor Peter Burton they had looked at the revised layout for the Wainhomes Developments Ltd application, and comments made by the Parish Council and local residents with regard to the layout of the affordable homes appeared to have been taken into account. The Clerk had also looked at the application and referred to the comments made by Preston City Council Landscape Team with regard to the long semi-circular knee rail or dog control fence being disguised by a hedge and small copses of woodlands and trees. It was felt that this formal shape would look unnatural and not in keeping with the semi-rural open parkland theme. The proposed fencing was the urban birds beak type and it would be better if it was the type of iron estate rail fence as used in our rural areas. The gate was an opportunity to include a traditional self closing type of gate which would be more appropriate to rural Grimsargh.

The Parish Council also agreed with comments made by the Landscape Team with regard to the pond and the possibility of an additional pond inside the habitat zone of the green which the Parish Council would like to be able to take some surface water from the housing or road. This would also help alleviate residents' concerns about flooding.

The Parish Council also agreed that the play area should also have some planting and some mounded areas to make it more in keeping with the green and the rural area, and also supported the comments made in respect of the native shrub mix beds on the north side of the green and the inclusion of mown grass on both sides of these beds.

In respect of the hard landscape, the Parish Council would also like the parking bays at the east and west end to have more trees and obviously ones suitable for the area.

With regard to the comments made by the Landscape Team about the "bitmac with red chippings" the Parish Council also felt that the red would detract from the semi

rural character given by the green and would not be in keeping.

In addition the Parish Council welcomed the management plan for the continuing maintenance of the area including trees, hedges, play area and the green and hoped that Wainhomes would work to this plan, especially as it covered a twenty year period.

Finally the Parish Council were aware from other Planning Applications by Wainhomes that the size of some of the garages were not large enough to take cars. And in the past Preston City Council has taken the view that although some of the garages are not big enough, on balance they have supported the application. It was difficult from the documents provided to see if all the garages on this development were of the required size and the Parish Council wanted to ensure that this was the case. It was felt that if the garages were not large enough then people would make them into additional rooms and therefore lose a parking space which would result with subsequent parking on the nearby roads.

The Parish Council also noted the Planning Application for 28 Salisbury Avenue Grimsargh which was for a single storey extension to the side of dwelling (06/2014/0725).

It was further reported that the Parish Council had been consulted by Preston City Council on the Preston City Centre Plan, it was agreed that this should be deferred until the December meeting of the Parish Council. It was noted that further details of the plan could be viewed at www.preston.gov.uk/citycentreplan

With regard to the proposed Planning Application by Gladman Developments this had been discussed earlier at the meeting under Public Participation and no further discussion was needed.

Resolved

- 1) With regard to planning application 06/2014/0752 that the Clerk forward the comments of the Parish Council as outlined above to Preston City Council.
- 2) That with regard to planning application 06/2014/0725, this is noted by the Parish Council.
- 3) That the Parish Council will consider the Preston City Centre Plan at their December meeting.

79. (14/15) Report of the Finance Working Group

The Clerk presented the report from the Finance Working Group from their meeting held on 29 October 2014. It was noted that the Finance Working Group were looking at how the presentation of accounts could be improved for the auditor and the Clerk over the next few years.

With regard to the draft budget for 2014/2015, it was reported that Councillor Peter Burton was currently updating the budget for presentation and approval at the

December meeting of the Parish Council. Members of the Parish Council were asked to submit line items and costs for inclusion in the budget. The Chairman, Councillor Dan Dewhurst asked for the CCTV to be included in the 2014/2015 budget.

It was reported that the Finance Working Group would be reviewing our financial rules and regulations early next year.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

80. (14/15) Parish Council Newsletter

The Clerk had circulated the draft newsletter articles for approval and these were agreed. The Chairman, Councillor Dan Dewhurst asked for an item to be included on the elections and it was agreed that the Clerk would write a small article on encouraging people to attend and become more involved in the work of the Parish Council.

With regard to the Christmas tree, Councillor David Hindle confirmed that he had spoken to Browns Garage and this would hopefully be provided as usual. The Clerk also confirmed that Reverend Halliwell had agreed to the 12 December for the Carols around the Crib and an article would be included in the newsletter about this.

Resolved

That the draft articles as circulated to the Parish Council are approved for inclusion in the December Parish Council Newsletter.

81. (14/15) Lengthman's Duties

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell had requested this item on the agenda as she was concerned about the cutting of the village green as the Lengthsman had said he no longer wished to do this. There was a brief discussion about the Lengthsman's duties and the Clerk had circulated to the Parish Council a copy of the contract and a breakdown of hours worked for information. Councillor Keith Middlebrough stated that the Parish Council had not received any complaints about the Lengthsman and there were no issues with the quality of the work, what was needed was a formalisation of his duties as this had not been fully done in the past. It was agreed that the review of the Lengthsman's contract and his duties should be referred to the Finance Working Group and their recommendations should be presented to the Parish Council in due course. With regard to the cutting of the village green it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Grimsargh Cricket Club to see if they could help with the cutting as they had a new lawn mower and regularly cut the cricket pitch.

Resolved

1) That the Finance Working Group gives consideration to the Lengthsman's contract and duties and makes recommendations to the Parish Council in due course.

2) That the Clerk contacts Grimsargh Cricket Club to see if they can help with the cutting of the village green.

82. (14/15) Report from Friends of Grimsargh Green (FoGG)

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell presented the report from FoGG. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell informed the Parish Council that with regard to the GG bed on the green that the sedum would be planted and the bed completed soon. It was noted that the FoGG committee had been busy over the last few weekends with the community payback team trimming and weaving the willow structures, removing the grass overgrowing onto the footpath, strimming the edge of the footpath alongside the cricket pitch and scything the wild flower garden. Work was still in progress and all green waste would be removed by Preston City Council as soon as the work was complete.

Resolved

That the report is received and noted.

83. (14/15) Financial Matters and banking

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £39,008.95 in the bank as at 1 October 2014. (We were still awaiting the November bank statement).

Resolved

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

1) Sue Whittam – Clerk – back pay for September as agreed at the last meeting five weeks at 6 hours = 30 hours at £12.10 per hour = £363.00 + pay for this month 6, 13, 20, and 27 October = 4 weeks at £169.40 per week = £677.60 + wreath for Remembrance Sunday £18.49 = Total £1,059.09 (Cheque no 705).

2) Adam Cooper – 54 hours @ £12.25 per hour £661.50 + materials for planter repair £28.00 + vat at 20% = £827.40 (Cheque no 706).

3) AVJ Design – blank cheque to be signed for newsletter as the invoice will need paying before the December meeting. (Cheque no 707).

84. (14/15) Clerk's Report – for information only

Remembrance Sunday

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council about the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday on 9 November at 11.45 am. The Parish Council were delighted that Mr

Hardman a local veteran had agreed to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

New Residents Letter

The Clerk reported that as the Parish Council was aware, the new resident's letter had been updated and Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer had recently asked for a letter to be delivered to some new residents in the village. However the Clerk reported that she did not have any of the attachments that should go with the letter ie the newsletter and walk leaflet. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray agreed to be the contact for the new resident's letter as she held a stock of the attachments. Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray would pass on a pack to any Parish Councillor who was aware of a new resident in the village for them to individually deliver this to the resident.

85. (14/15) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 3 December 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.