

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor Trevor Haines (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer and Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver.

**In attendance:-** Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council  
Councillor Mark Bell – Preston City Council  
Councillor Stephen Whittam – Preston City Council  
1 member of the public

### **34. (23/24) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety announcements**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Hindle and Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam.

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.

### **35. (23/24) Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **36. (23/24) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **37. (23/24) Adjournment for Public Participation**

The Chairman Councillor Peter Burton adjourned the meeting for public participation and welcomed Jake Higham to the meeting who had come along to discuss his selection for Great Britain in the Standard Distance Duathlon World Championships which were being held in Australia in 2024. Jake gave a bit about his background and explained that he would have to raise all his funds to cover the event in Australia and he was looking for any help and sponsorship. He had set up a fundraising page on social media and he had the support of Lee at Alderbank Physio. Jake said that currently the full costs of attending the event had not yet been confirmed as the flights to Australia for that time period had not yet been released.

The Parish Council were very supportive of Jake being selected and discussed ways of helping with fundraising. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell suggested that Jake apply to the Boylton, Houghton and Farrington Trust and the Clerk agreed to send the details to Jake.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton also suggested that the Parish Council could include an article about Jake in the December newsletter which would be delivered to all houses in Grimsargh and this was agreed. The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton said that when full costings were known it was possible that Jake could apply for a grant towards an element of the trip, such as the kit as grants were not awarded directly to individuals. The Chairman thanked Jake for attending the meeting and looked forward to hearing further information once the details had been finalised.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton then asked if the City Councillors present had anything they wished to raise with the Parish Council. Councillor Stephen Whittam gave a brief update on the Wetlands as he was also a Trustee of Grimsargh Wetlands Trust. He explained that the spikes on the railings had been cut down to 100mm on the areas where the deer had been gaining access and this would reduce the possibility of deer being fatally injured.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell raised a couple of issues including information received via "In the Know" regarding effective emergency cover. She asked regarding the lack of water supply during the fire at Recycling Lives. The Clerk referred to the response from the MP regarding the valve on the fire brigade's equipment being unable to connect to the water supply. It was noted that the connection issue had been resolved and was unlikely to happen again.

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell also referred to water meters being installed outside properties in Grimsargh and that residents would have the choice to be on a water meter once United Utilities had gathered data on individual property usage to see if it could reduce householder bills.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton thanked everyone for attending and then reconvened the meeting.

### **38. (23/24) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

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

- 06/2023/0857 - Southworth House, Longridge Road, Grimsargh  
First floor extension over existing garage.
- 06/2023/0823 - Land at Roman Road Farm, Roman Way, Preston  
Demolition of existing farm buildings, creation of a spine road through the site with associated infrastructure, erection of drainage infrastructure including pumping station and attenuation ponds, and the realignment of Roman Way.

With regard to Planning Application 06/2023/0857 the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application. With regard to Planning Application 06/2023/0823, the Parish Council noted that this application dealt with the technical aspects of installing a spine road, so agreed to leave the decision to Preston City Council's Planning Committee.

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

### **Resolved**

That with regard to Planning Applications 06/2023/0857 and 06/2023/0823 the Parish Council had no comments to make on these applications.

### **39. (23/24) Lancashire County Council Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme 2023-2024**

The Parish Council gave consideration to “opting in” to the Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme for 2023-2024 and also to the Local Biodiversity Grants Scheme as per last year. It was reported that if the Parish Council opted into the scheme, they would receive £500 towards the public rights of way work in the village and £300 to be used to improve biodiversity in the village.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to opt into both schemes as outlined above.

### **Resolved**

That the Parish Council agrees to opt into the Lancashire County Council Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme for 2023-2024 and also to the Local Biodiversity Grants Scheme.

### **40. (23/24) Lancashire Cyber Crime Protect Conference**

The Parish Council considered attending the Lancashire Cyber Crime Protect Conference to be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October at the Marriott Hotel, Preston. It was noted that there was no charge for attending the conference as the Parish Council is a member of the Lancashire Partnership Against Crime (LANPAC).

It was agreed that the Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton would attend the conference on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **Resolved**

That approval is given to the Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton to attend the Lancashire Cyber Crime Protect Conference to be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **41. (23/24) Christmas Events**

The Parish Council considered the dates for this year’s Christmas events. It was agreed that they should be held on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. It was also agreed to establish the Christmas Events Working Group to organise the details of the events. Councillor Trevor Haines confirmed that he was happy to be involved and hopefully Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam and Councillor Simon Rusling would also be involved.

It was noted that the Clerk had confirmed with Preston City Council that the Parish Council were happy to proceed with the purchase and installation of the Christmas tree on the village green.

### **Resolved**

That the Parish Council agrees to the Christmas event being held on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and that the Christmas Events Working Group is asked to finalise the details for the event.

### **42. (23/24) Planters**

The Parish Council gave consideration to awarding a voucher to the “planter parents” for their work on the beautiful planters in the village. The Parish Council agreed to award a voucher of £20.00 from So Plants for each planter. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell asked if the “GG’s” on the green could also have a voucher as the cost of planting had increased and the Friends of Grimsargh Green also did a great job. This was unanimously agreed.

### **Resolved**

That approval is given to the purchase of 17 vouchers of £20 each from So Plants for the planter parents at a total cost of £340.00.

### **43. (23/24) Parish Council Newsletter**

The Parish Council gave consideration to the items for our December newsletter. It was agreed that the Spotlight article would be on Jake Higham, there would also be articles on Remembrance Sunday and the new vicar of St Michael’s. Councillor David Hindle would be asked to write the popular Heritage Corner item.

It was noted that final articles would need to be signed off at the November meeting of the Parish Council.

### **44. (23/24) Financial Matters and banking**

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £180,191.62 in the Nat West bank as at 4 August 2023. It was further noted that the Parish Council had received £7,777.68 reimbursement for VAT from HMRC.

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

Sue Whittam, Clerk’s Salary 15 July £1,265.50 (Cheque no 1221).

Adam Cooper, Contractor June 50.5 hours @ £15.00 per hour = £757.50 (Cheque no 1222).

Sue Whittam, Clerk’s Salary 15 August £1,265.50 (Cheque no 1223).

Preston City Council newsletter design £150.00 + newsletter printing £600.92 = total £750.92 (Cheque no 1224).

Grimsargh Wetlands Trust – Membership fee £100.00 (Cheque no 1225).

Sue Whittam, reimbursement for defib pads £409.20 (Cheque no 1226).

We had also been advised that the bank charges 3 June to 30 June 2023 were £6.30, and for the period 1 July – 4 August were £3.15. We had also paid NEST pension Clerk £48.88 on 29 June and 10 July – direct debits; Water Bill for Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland £20.17 – direct debit.

### **Resolved**

1) The following invoices were approved for payment: -

Sue Whittam, Clerk's Salary 15 September - £1,265.30.

HMRC Q2 Tax and NI £587.51.

Adam Cooper Contractor – to be confirmed at the next meeting.

### **45. (23/24) Clerk's report – for information only**

The Clerk reported that the next Parish & Town Council Conference would be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November at County Hall Preston. Further information about the Conference programme would be available shortly.

The Clerk confirmed that the Wetlands AGM would be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September and Councillor Terry Cryer confirmed that he would be attending on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Clerk also reported that Nellie Cowell had approached the Parish Council via Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam regarding having some of the area around the war memorial paved. The Parish Council had no issue with this and asked for the costings/details so they could look at paying for this. It was also noted that Nellie did a fantastic job looking after the village war memorial.

### **46. (23/24) Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.