



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Agenda for the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 10th July 2025 at 7.15pm in Goosnargh Village Hall – downstairs

1. APOLOGIES

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2025. **The Chairman is required to sign the attached Minutes as a true record.**

3. TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any interests in respect of matters contained in the agenda noting that there may be statutory restrictions on the right to participate and vote on that matter – see Standing Order 2023 (13)

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public wishing to raise matters in accordance with Standing Order 2023 (3e & g) should raise them here. This is a time limited session at the discretion of the Chairman. Invitations to attend have been sent to the Police, County and City Councillors.

NOTE: The Council cannot make a decision or support a scheme unless the matter has been included on the agenda.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st – 30th June 2025

The Chairman is requested to verify that the bank statements have been reconciled.

6. REVIEW OF 1st QUARTER ACCOUNTS

Members are required to approve the attached 1st quarter statement April to June which details expenditure progress against the budget.

7. OPENING A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

£47,000 of CIL monies are held in the bank account. As invoices are due on several items listed on Cat 1 of the CIL Business Plan, a transfer is not proposed this quarter. However, as the bank balance is high, Members are advised to consider opening an interest paying deposit account where balances can easily be transferred to the current account.

Forms will be brought to the meeting so that the account can be opened.

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

Members are required to note and approve the following invoices already paid in accordance with Standing Order 2023 15 (xii)

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	REF
Cumeragh 4 Benches (CIL)	TDP	£2264.02	REF 41
Repairs to Goal Posts	J Cummings	£34.89	REF 42
Garden waste subscription	Preston City	£40.00	REF 43
Cumeragh play inspection	Wicksteed	£180.00	REF 44
July Grounds Maintenance	Millars	£840.00	REF 45

Members are required to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD
Apr – June 1/4ly expenses	J Buttle	£58.67	BACs
Online file storage Microsoft	J Buttle	£17.64	BACs
E-On bill	E-On	£17.64	DD
Clerk Salary July	J Buttle	£1586.27	BACs
PAYE	HMRC	£215.14	BACs
Employer Nat Ins	HMRC	£215.67	BACs
Pension	NEST	£93.45	DD
July Lengthsman hours (invoice pending)	M Cornforth	TBC	BACs

9. CPRE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Members are requested to confirm if they wish to renew membership to the CPRE at a cost of £36.00

10. FOOTBALL PITCH MAINTENANCE

Mr Cummings has repaired the goal posts but can't remark the pitch until it has been mown.

Despite several attempts to contact the contractor who has been mowing the pitch, invoices remain outstanding for 2024/25 and work has not started for 2025/26. Further to comments that the grass needs cutting urgently, the Clerk has approached Millars for a quote as an existing maintenance contractor. The pitch area is 2000sqm and they estimate the cut will take approx. 2hrs. They have quoted £170 + VAT which may be reduced if it takes less than 2hrs. The 2023 cost was £120 + VAT.

Members are requested to approve the immediate use of Millars, noting that their existing contract can be used to supplement any over spend on the pitch budget.

11. LENGTHSMAN

The Lengthsman's contract commenced in April and as it was a completely new role, Members have requested a quarterly update to assess how the role is progressing. **Attached** is a copy of the first quarter's diary sheets. Completed tasks include varnishing the notice board, installing benches at Cumeragh village, repairing the bark pit, replacing stiles on the parish walks and assisting Goosnargh in Bloom in keeping the village tidy. Cllr Eccles has worked with the Lengthsman on several tasks and has not reported any problems with the work completed.

Members are requested to note the attachments and confirm that the Contract is working as expected.

12. CUMERAGH PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT

Attached is the annual inspection report for Cumeragh play area. Millars undertake the weekly inspections of the play area and email them regularly after each visit. The benches have been replaced and the tree surgeon, who inspected the trees in 2024, has been contacted to replace the logs. As advised previously, LCC are in the process of checking the drains in the hope that the bark pit under the play tower can be resurfaced.

Members are requested to confirm that the current arrangements to inspect and maintain the play area are satisfactory, noting that the inspection invoice has already been paid.

13. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

The current status of CIL projects are shown in blue on the **attached** CIL Business Plan. Items requiring approval from Members are listed below.

BENCHES

MIN 24/25.95 confirms that 11 benches were approved – 5 for Cumeragh, 4 for Goosnargh play area and 2 to go outside Goosnargh shops. 4 benches have been replaced at Cumeragh but the City Council advised that 2 benches were sufficient for Goosnargh. They will order and install these, with an invoice to follow. Having looked at the seating area outside the shops, it was agreed that it would be easier to repair the seats with composite slats.

In an email dated the 16th June, it was suggested that additional benches were needed under the shade of a tree opposite Cumeragh play area. Due to the savings identified above, the Clerk has placed an order for 2 additional benches.

Members are requested to note the purchase and approve the invoice.

WOODLAND WALK

Further to MIN 25/26.25 of the May meeting, Homes England have stated that they don't have a detailed tree survey – see **attached** email. Greenbanks arboriculture who inspected the trees at Cumeragh have looked at the site and will undertake a survey at an approx. cost of £500.

Members are requested to authorise and approve the quote

VILLAGE GREEN GYM EQUIPMENT

As advised on the June Minutes, the gym project has been delayed because the City Council advised that it needs to go through a procurement process. Further discussions have led to a possible solution whereby the Parish Council purchases the equipment from Proludic, with the City Council procuring the drainage and installation.

As Proludic's quote covered the design, equipment and installation, new figures need to be calculated for the project. This has been requested along with a written agreement confirming that the purchased equipment will be delivered to, stored and installed by the City Council within an agreed timeframe. The agreement has not been received prior to publishing the agenda.

To avoid any further delays, Members are requested to confirm the above arrangements, noting that any increase in the Parish Council's contribution will have to be approved as a formal agenda item.

WHITECHAPEL VILLAGE HALL

At the Nov 2024 meeting during public participation, Mr Witter of Whitechapel Village Hall explained that the Village Hall Committee was providing £30,000 to install solar panels. In addition, they wished to improve the toilets with the expected cost also likely to be in the region of £30,000. They were hoping to secure £20,000 from the lottery, leaving a shortfall of £10,000.

Under MIN 24/25.96b Members RESOLVED to add the toilet proposal Cat 2 of the CIL Business plan. No funding was promised as the amount is subject to the Village Hall providing further information relating to costs and funding applications.

The attached quotes illustrate that the cost is likely to be in the region of £72,000. The Village Hall have advised that as they are not going ahead with the solar panels, they will put £30,000 into the project. This, less £20,000 from the National Lottery and £4,000 from Goosnargh Parish Council leaves a shortfall of £18,000.

Members are requested to confirm a CIL donation and move the item to CAT 1 of the CIL Business plan so that funding can be released - in whole or in part - once copies of the invoices are received.

14. POTENTIAL COMMUNITY ASSETS

ST JOHN'S CHURCH - As advised in June, the Feasibility documents are live on the City Council Procurement Portal. Companies have until the 29th July to submit any quotes.

NORTH LODGE GATEHOUSE - A viewing was booked but the estate agent cancelled stating that the vendor has advised that no more viewings are to take place.

HERMITAGE – the property has been advertised as 'for sale by auction'. Further details have been requested.

15. DEVELOPMENT AT THE FORMER HOSPITAL SITE

SOCIAL CLUB – Further to the May meeting, the Clerk wrote to the Chair of the Trust - set up to develop the Sports & Social Club – to request that Cllr Woodburn / Cllr Eccles be involved in future discussions. In response to a reminder email, a reply has been received stating that the Chair of the Trust wishes to be contacted through the Social Club where updates are already being provided to Cllr Woodburn.

SCHOOL – The attached response has been received from LCC regarding our request for details of the strategy for Goosnargh Oliverson's school and the use of temporary classrooms at the proposed new school.

Members are requested to consider if a further request should be submitted.

HOUSING – The Barratt application to develop the remainder of the site, went to committee on the 5th June where permission was granted subject to comments from the Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA). The Clerk wrote to Barratts to remind them of the Parish Council's request to be actively involved in the site development, however, they have replied that they can't proceed until the LLFA is happy. The Clerk will continue to monitor the situation and request a meeting to ensure the Council receives a reply to the points raised when the application was submitted.

16. PLANNING POLICY / PROCEDURES

Local Plan – the Local Plan has been submitted to the Planning Inspector for consideration. The 2 sites earmarked for ‘elderly homes’ off Whittingham Road are still included however, in response to our concerns that the site may revert to general housing, the Council have stated that they will consider tightening up the wording to secure the provision of elderly homes.

Members are **requested to note** that the Clerk has requested to be kept informed of any modifications, with the opportunity to attend and speak at the Local Plan hearing.

As advised in June, the 5-year supply has been restored, however, Members **are requested to note** that the tilted balance is still engaged.

This is because a Planning Inspector determined that the housing need figure should be used to assess housing land supply – rather than the housing requirement in the Core Strategy. This means Policy 4 of the Core Strategy is out of date and the tilted balance is applied when considering applications.

Members **are requested to note** that appeals have been submitted on the following

06/2025/0223 permission in principle for up to 8no. dwellings off Langley Lane,
06/2025/0224 permission in principle for up to 9no. dwellings (Parcel 1) and 06/2025/0225 for Permission in principle for up to 9no. dwellings (Parcel 2), at Dean Farm, Whittingham Lane.

SWAINSON HOUSE FARM APPLICATION

Members will be aware that Swainson House Farm was refused on the 3rd July. Prior to the refusal, concerns were raised regarding the officer’s report and the decision-making process.

As several questions remain unanswered, Members **are requested to note** that these are being followed up with the Deputy Director of Planning and the Monitoring Officer.

17. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No applications have been considered under delegated authority. Members are requested to consider the following application

06/2025/0647 Outline planning application for the erection of up to 125no. dwellings (including affordable housing) with public open space (including children’s play areas) landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS) on land off Churchgate, Goosnargh.,

As with Swainson House Farm, the Clerk is in the process of writing a draft objection which can be added to the website to assist residents wishing to oppose the application.

18. NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

SKEW BRIDGE – Alterations to Skew Bridge in Grimsargh have been circulated by email. The proposal also includes the construction of 2 roundabouts.

LCC SPID Goosnargh Lane – LCC have confirmed that they erected the SPID on Goosnargh Lane and they have sent the attached data.

Members are requested to advise if they have any comments to feedback to LCC.

19. NEWSLETTER

Members are requested to confirm that the Summer Newsletter can be circulated and approved by email. Any articles for inclusion need to be circulated to the Clerk by the 18th July.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Traditionally a meeting is not scheduled in August, although an extra-ordinary meeting may be called at any time by the Chairman or by any 2 Members of the Council.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday 11th Sept 2025 at 7.15pm in Goosnargh Village Hall.