



**WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Agenda for the rescheduled Council meeting on**  
**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 at 7.15pm**  
**in Goosnargh Village Hall – downstairs**

**1. APOLOGIES**

- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023.  
**The Chairman is required to sign the attached Minutes as a true record.**

**3. TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

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.

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

Invitations to attend have been sent to the Police, County and City Councillors.

**5. EXPANSION OF BROUGHTON SCHOOL**

**Members are requested to respond to LCC's consultation to expand Broughton primary school as detailed in the attached letter.**

**6. DONATION TO CHURCH**

As detailed under the public participation section of the October meeting, members from Goosnargh Methodist Church presented a detailed request for a donation towards a new cooker. The lunches provided by the Church are available to any residents who are feeling lonely or are in need of company. The estimated cost of a cooker suitable for larger catering numbers is £2,500. CIL funds can be used to improve the infrastructure of an area, but as the cooker will be a donation to the Methodist Church, if Members approve the donation, it is suggested that the donation is made from the accrued CIL interest.

**Members are requested to consider the amount of the donation and how to finance it.**

**7. CHRISTMAS TREE**

At the October meeting, residents of The Square requested that the Parish Council provide a Christmas tree. A previous request was made in 2011 but as there is not an accessible electric supply, the Parish Council resolved to purchase a 'Speedi tree' system which consisted of a tree spike, fencing, lights and a battery pack. The intention was that the Speedi tree system could be used in any area of the Parish - providing the hirer purchased the tree, charged the battery and undertook responsibility for any risks.

The City Council supplied and erected a tree at Beacon Drive which has access to an electricity supply however, due to escalating costs, Members made the decision to convert the Speedi tree battery pack to a mains supply so that the system could be used there instead.

Following complaints that the lights were ineffective and the spike was too small for a 6ft tree, Members made a decision to use Barton Grange (now known as Nurture) to supply, erect, light and dispose of a tree at a current cost of £495 + VAT.

If the Speedi tree system is brought back in to use, a new battery pack and lights will be required, however, solar lights are now far more reliable and need charging less frequently.

**Members are requested to consider the above information and decide if and how the request for a Christmas tree can be actioned, bearing in mind that there is no electric supply to illuminate it.**

**8. FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st – 31<sup>st</sup> OCT 2023**

The Chairman is requested to verify that the monthly finance statement has been reconciled against the bank statements.

**9. INFLATIONARY PAY INCREASE**

The Clerk is employed subject to the National Joint Council terms and conditions for Local Government staff. The NJC has agreed a flat rate payment of £1,925 on each pay scale point with effect from 1 April 2023. See attached letter.

**Members are required to approve 6 months backpay (Apr – Oct) to be added to the Nov monthly payment at the new rate as detailed in the attached breakdown.**

The amount will be subject to Tax and National Insurance payments.

**10. 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)**

Mastic to repair telephone kiosk	Cllr E Marginson	£2.75	BACS
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**Members are required to approve the following accounts for payment**

Poppy wreath donation Min 23/24.99	Royal British Legion	£40.00	CQ 518
Zest Snowden Obelisk Min 23/24.93	J Buttle	£117.98	BACs
Oct Grounds Maintenance	Nurture	£627.00	BACS
Clerk Salary Oct with backpay	J Buttle	£602.36	BACs
PAYE	HMRC	£150.40	BACs

Members are requested to **note** that Easy websites will be increasing their fees by 10% from January 2024. They stress this is the first increase since their inception in 2007. The monthly **direct debit** will increase from £27.60 to £30.36. This has been factored into the budget.

**11. LANPAC MEMBERSHIP (Lancashire Partnership Against Crime)**

**Members are requested to determine if they wish to renew the Membership at a cost of £60.00.**

**12. CONSIDERATION OF 2024/25 BUDGET ITEMS**

At the October meeting, Members were requested to identify new budget items for consideration at this meeting and the Clerk has produced a draft budget to reflect the points noted. Additional items or alterations may be noted at the meeting and a final version will be brought to the January meeting where Members will be required to set the 2024/25 Precept.

**Members are requested to consider the DRAFT budget attached paying particular attention to existing and proposed expenditure increases shown in green.**

**13. CIL FINANCE PLAN**

There are no updates to the CIL Business plan, however, Members are requested to note the October CIL income of £139,019.34. Cumeragh Village Association have organised the planters for The Square as agreed under MIN 22/155.

**Members are requested to approve the CIL transfer of £200**

**14. PARISH PLAN**

**Theme 6 – Housing** The November Preston Area Committee meeting covered an update on the Preston Local Plan. Notes of the meeting were forwarded to Members on the 20<sup>th</sup> November. A verbal update on the meeting may be provided by Cllr Hall or Cllr Brooks.

**15. ST JOHN’S CHURCH COMMUNITY PROJECT**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> October, Cllr Price emailed a summary of his meeting with Homes England and the Chairman replied to suggest that we send a copy of the summary to Safe Regeneration, seeking their views on how to proceed. Unfortunately, Cllr Price has emailed his apologies for the November meeting.

**Members are requested to confirm the Chairman's suggestion and suggest a date for a further meeting to discuss the project.**

**16. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

**Members are requested to NOTE and approve the delegated representations attached.**

**Members are requested to comment on the following application which is not routine.**

**06/2023/1201** Part single / part two storey 14-bed Acute Mental Health inpatient unit for adults with a learning disability, including associated access, parking, soft and hard landscaping and PV panels on land South of Guild Park, Whittingham.

**17. NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

LCC have replied that they are aware of the missing Chevron sign and they are in ongoing discussions with the developer regarding the crash barrier and the need to install a new chevron sign. The sign will be to an agreed specification in line with the existing Section 278 agreement. At time of writing, LCC cannot say exactly when the chevron sign will be replaced.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 at 7.15pm** in Goosnargh Village Hall.