

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **8th April 2019** at 7.15pm at Whittingham Sports and Social Club.

Members:

Cllr A Lewis (Chairman)
Cllr D Hall
Cllr B Huggon
Cllr S Hunter
Cllr A Meades
Cllr M Rigby

Members of the public

2 members of Goosnargh & Whittingham
against over development
Cllr L Smith – Preston City Council
L King – Heritage Group
Mrs J Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr H Landless

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the meeting held on **11th March 2019**.

It was confirmed that the representatives attending the March meeting were from Barratts / David Wilson Homes and Anwyl Homes. It was also confirmed that a response has been received stating that it would not be possible for the developers to connect existing residents to the new sewer network. **MIN 161** It was RESOLVED that the March Minutes be signed as a true record.

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

There were no declarations of interests.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 162 it was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Cllr Smith requested that it be noted that Cllr Whittam's recollection of the comments relating to the planning department were incorrect, as the budget speech was given by another Councillor. Whilst it is true that Cllr Smith voted against the Conservative budget, she did so because the Labour budget encourages the establishment of small businesses which would be of benefit to those living and working in the rural area. Members acknowledged that Cllr Smith would not be standing for election in May and expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work she had undertaken during her period of office.

A member of the Action Group Against Over Development stated that the developers had indicated that they were not going to continue with their plans to develop the Bushell site. The Clerk replied that whilst the land has outline planning permission, an alternative developer could submit a reserved matters application within 3 years of the outline consent being granted.

In response to a query about whether the applications were approved, the Clerk read out a letter from Ben Wallace MP dated 2nd April in which he confirms that he has asked the Secretary of State to 'call in' the applications affecting the village and he confirms that the planning casework team are currently reviewing the decisions.

With respect to the No Confidence Motion submitted by the Parish Council, he states *that it is clear that whatever powers the City Council is given, its leaders do not want to refuse applications. They could have defended their Local Plan and they could reduce the housing target using the Governments standardised methodology, yet they choose not even to consider these options.* He continues that he will be urging them to do so when responding to the Local Plan consultation.

It was reported that BT are cutting back trees but it was felt that that no action can be taken providing they have the consent of the landowner and the trees are not affected by a tree preservation order.

It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened.

RESPONSE TO NO CONFIDENCE MOTION

MIN 163a Following the March Public Participation comments, Members noted the written reply by Cllr Whittam (APP A) and RESOLVED to take no further action - partly because the Parish will have new City Council representation as it will form part of Preston Rural East following the May elections and partly because a reply has now been received from officers.

With regard to the written reply from the Chief Exec of the City Council, Members expressed their annoyance at the content of the letter and stated that the Parish has not had a 'long standing relationship' with the City Council for the past few years. Indeed, when querying the introduction of greenspace charges, the Parish Council Chairman was astounded to receive a letter from a senior politician implying that residents only had themselves to blame because they voted for Conservative Councillors. Furthermore, the Parish Council has made repeated requests for Planning Officers to attend public meetings which have been ignored and as a result Members became so disillusioned with planning decisions, that they resolved to seek a Judicial Review. Despite the City Council's assurances that the City Council is fully compliant with its statutory planning duties, the barrister gave a clear indication that the decision was flawed but regretfully, the Parish Council was not able to take the matter to a Judicial Review due to a lack of funding.

MIN 163b Members NOTED that whilst the letter states that the City Council Members and Officers genuinely understand and appreciate the frustrations and concerns of the Parish Council, the content of the letter was considered inflammatory to both the Parish Council and residents which the Parish Council is elected to represent. With this in mind, Members RESOLVED not to publish the Chief Exec's reply on the Parish Council website but requested that the Clerk arrange a meeting to discuss the housing need and review of the Local Plan in a more productive way. As the Membership and Chairmanship of the Parish Council may change in May, it was agreed that the meeting would be arranged following the Annual Parish Council meeting.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

Note - Members are advised prior to the meeting that applications can be viewed at www.preston.gov.uk

06/2019/0169 163no. dwellings on land south of Inglewhite Road, Preston altering reserved matters submission **06/2017/0840** (as discussed at the March meeting.)

Members noted that the application already has outline approval but the developer wishes to amend the layout to include a further 31 homes. Members stated that they had concerns regarding the density of the site due to the increased number of dwellings and felt that it would lead to increased demand for the limited goods and services in Longridge.

MIN 164 Members noted that at the March meeting, the developer stated that the NHS were consulted on major planning applications and RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the NHS for their comments on service capacity in the Longridge area.

Concerns were also expressed that there was insufficient access for bin collections which may result in mass bin collection points which will be a hazard for pedestrians and road users alike. In addition, Members reiterated grave concerns that this application will link up 3 housing developments, all of which will come out on Whittingham Road resulting in increased traffic and safety concerns in the area.

MIN 165 In light of the above concerns, Members RESOLVED to object to the application.

06/2019/0336 Reserved matters application (namely appearance, landscaping, layout and scale), pursuant to outline application **06/2015/0876** for 113no. dwellings including public open space and associated infrastructure on the site of Former TDG European Chemicals, Whittingham Road, Longridge

Members noted that the letter accompanying the application states that the proposal is for minor changes to improve property curtilages, reduce the amount of upfront parking configurations, remove the 2.5 storey houses and integrate new house types as part of the Prospect house type range. The number of houses and the proportion of affordable homes has not been altered. **MIN 166** Based on the above, Members had no further comments on the application but RESOLVED to express concerns that the affordable dwellings were concentrated in the centre of the site rather than being pepper potted throughout.

06/2019/0181 Part single and part two storey front, side and rear extensions at Greystock, Inglewhite Road, Preston.

Members were informed that the property occupied a large plot set back from Inglewhite Road opposite the Alston Arms. **MIN 167** Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

06/2019/0311 Outline application seeking approval for 80no. dwellings with access from Whittingham Lane (all other matters reserved) on land South of Whittingham Lane, Goosnargh (rear of Stags Head)

MIN 168 Members noted that the application was described as 'phase 2' to application **06/2018/0811** for 65 homes and RESOLVED to submit similar objections with respect to the development in the open countryside. In addition, Members stated that whilst LCC Highways may have considered the access acceptable under 06/2018/0811, it would not be acceptable to serve a further 80 dwellings. Members also requested greater clarity regarding the proposed pedestrian link and emergency vehicle exit to the east of the site.

06/2019/0318 Change of use from car sales and servicing / repair to hand car wash and valet (Sui Generis) (retrospective) at Dean Garage, Whittingham Lane. Members stated that in general they would like to support new business especially as the proposal was in connection with an established car sales unit, however, concerns were expressed regarding the waste water which currently drains across Whittingham Lane and is a hazard to road users particularly during freezing weather.

MIN 169 Members RESOLVED that the drainage situation should be resolved before approval is given.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018/19

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements had been reconciled. Members noted that there was a surplus in the budget for maintenance repairs to Cumeragh play area and a deficit in the maintenance budget due to the repairs to the telephone kiosk.

MIN 170 As both budget headings were for maintenance, Members RESOLVED to approve a virement between from the play area to general repairs.

Members NOTED that the end of year accounts have been prepared and are with the Internal Auditor. The Annual Governance Review will be brought to the May meeting following the completion of the Internal Audit in accordance with best practice.

2018/19 BALANCE OF JUDICIAL REVIEW COSTS

MIN 171 As the Solicitors have provided a breakdown of the fees in relation to Holme Fell, Members RESOLVED to pay the withheld amount which amounts to £3,068.40

OPEN SPACES SOCIETY 2019/20

Min 172 Members RESOLVED to renew membership to the Open Spaces Society at a cost of £45.00.

RENEWAL OF LALC MEMBERSHIP 2019/20

Members NOTED that the subscription to LALC has not been subsidised this year resulting in an increase of £130.56. **MIN 173** As LALC provides training, advice and information on local and national policies Member RESOLVED to renew the Membership and contribute to the provision of an Area Secretary for the Area Committee.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 174 Members RESOLVED approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
Solicitors fees for Holme Fell	Winkwood Sherwood	£3068.40	1391
Play area Insp Jan - March	Barton Grange	£402.00	1392
Quarterly Exp Jan - March	J Buttle	£46.86	1393
Production of Spring Newsletter	J Buttle	£49.60	1394
Delivery of Election Newsletter	Carrier Pigeon	£85.00	1395
Printing of Spring Newsletter	City Council	£129.00	1396
Payment for extra hours in 2018/19	J Buttle	£100.00	1397
April 2019 Clerk Salary	J Buttle	£536.24	1398
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£134.00	1399
Open spaces membership	Open Spaces Society	£45.00	1400
LALC membership	LALC	£455.18	1401

CIL UPDATES

Members NOTED the following updates in relation to CIL items.

Circular walks – After a promising start with the contractors, the promised quotes have not been forthcoming. Further emails have been sent and new contractors are being sought. The Heritage Group have requested that work commences on their walk - but until we can get a company to agree to any of the work, we cannot make any commitments.

Speed cameras – The Network Management Highway Engineer has inspected the proposed locations for the SPIDs and has advised that it will cost a further £500 - £750 to erect each pole that the SPID will be mounted on. LCC have also advised that the Parish Council contacts residents and the landowner before going any further.

MIN 175 Members RESOLVED to persevere with the task and requested that the Clerk consider how best to notify the land owner and affected residents.

Bench & litter bin – The new bench will be ordered by PCC at a cost of £371.89 and the litter bin will cost £285.00. Both items will be installed on Halfpenny Lane by the City Council. The orders should be submitted before the financial year end.

Village Green signs – PCC are still investigating if by-laws are appropriate for the proposed new signs on Goosnargh Village Green.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED that the action group GWAOD are organising a community protest on Goosnargh Village Green on the 11th May. Further details are on their face book page.

Following the closure of nominations for the elections on the 2nd May, those present were informed that a poster has been erected in the Notice Boards seeking applicants for co-option to both wards. Written applications should be received by the 6th May and will be considered at the 13th May Annual Parish Council meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Council Meeting on **Monday 13th May 2019** which takes place after the Annual Parish Meeting. Members requested that the Annual Parish Meeting commence at 6.30pm.