

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 9th February 2015** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall.

Members:

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman
Cllr Stan Hunter
Cllr Alan Lewis
Cllr Margaret Rigby
Cllr Bernard Huggon

Members of the public

City Councillor Stephen Thompson
Mrs Tricia Parker - CVRA
(Cumeragh Village Residents Association)
Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr Ruth Mills and Cllr Lona Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on 12th January 2015.

MIN 113 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the December and January meetings 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 114 Members RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting for public participation.

Cllr Stephen Thompson stated he was a current Preston City Councillor hoping to transfer to the Preston Rural North area who wished to introduce himself and observe the meeting.

Mrs Parker of the CVRA explained that the CVRA were seeking approval for the planters as detailed under Agenda item 5. The planters would be as shown on the play area plans and would be supplied by a company called Wood BlocX. They would be made of pressure treated pine giving 20 years of use. The soil will be covered with a weed suppressant membrane topped up with bark. In response to questions, it was confirmed that the planters will be a Parish Council asset but ongoing maintenance will be undertaken by Cumeragh Village residents. It was also confirmed that the CVRA would like to purchase the planters before the end of March so that they can close the books on the play area.

CUMERAGH VILLAGE PLANTERS

The Clerk confirmed that as the planters were of a specified design there should not be a problem adding them to the play area assets. Barton Grange had also confirmed that the location would not cause any problems with maintenance.

MIN 115 Members RESOLVED to approve that the planters be added to the play area. The CVRA were thanked for enhancing the play area by using grant money.

CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2014/0960 Erection of pitched roof to existing dwelling to form first floor living accommodation; two storey extension to front following demolition of existing car port; two storey extension to rear of dwelling; external alterations (including erection of pitched roof) to facilitate conversion of existing detached garage and single storey link extension between dwelling and garage at Whittingham Hay 302 Whittingham Lane, Preston. **MIN 116** Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

ONSHORE OIL AND GAS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Members acknowledged that Parish Councils will be a statutory consultee but requested clarity regarding whether the consultation will be extended to Parishes neighbouring the application site. It was noted that each application will be considered on its merits and as a result it is assumed that LCC will not be taking a blanket 'for' or 'against' policy with regard to certain types of renewable energy.

Concerns were expressed that the document shows the licensed sites as of 2013 and it was felt that the document should be updated if and when more licences are granted. It was also felt that the map showing the extent of the licensed area is too vague as it is difficult to ascertain if Whittingham is in an affected area and clarity is requested on this point. **MIN 117** Members RESOLVED to respond to the consultation by making the above comments.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements reconciled.

QUARTERLY BUDGET ANALYSIS 2014 / 15

Members considered the 3rd quarter’s budget analysis (April to December), deferred from the January meeting.

MIN 118 a) Members RESOLVED to carry forward the £550 for community engagement and the printing of any consultations.

MIN 118 b) Members NOTED that the City Council has still not issued the invoice for the play area inspections as discussed under MIN 46.1

MIN 118 c) Members noted that there has been no further communication regarding the incorrect installation of the bus shelter window. Members RESOLVED that the Clerk issue a formal letter to the contractor offering him the option to meet on site and discuss how to correct the matter. A reply is to be requested within 14 days and if this is not forthcoming, it was suggested that another contractor be employed to do the work at the original contractors expense. It was noted that a specific agenda item will be required to confirm this action.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 119 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
Clerk Salary	J Buttle	£400.35	113
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£55.80	114
Electric Bill	E-ON	£28.35	115

GRANT REQUESTS FOR 2015/2016

MIN 120 Members RESOLVED to approve a request for a grant of £250 towards Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Show. The cheque will be presented at the May Annual Parish meeting.

Members NOTED that the Church had sent further details of the Heritage Project stating that it would be appreciated if the Council would consider financial support. The Clerk has replied stating that a general donation to the refurbishment is unlikely to meet statutory requirements but a specific request for equipment once the project is complete may meet the criteria.

INVESTMENT OF CIL MONIES

MIN 121 Further to the discussion at the January meeting, Members confirmed their intention to open a separate account for the receipt of Cil monies. It was noted that the CCLA property fund requires a minimum investment of 5yrs and as the money may need to be drawn earlier than that period, it was RESOLVED that other investment opportunities be considered. The Clerk was requested to request advice from the City Council and establish if other Parish Councils had carried out any research into this matter. It was NOTED that the Parish Council will need to consider how to spend this money at a later date.

TRANSPARENCY CODE FOR SMALLER AUTHORITIES

Following the adoption of the above code, Parish Councils will be required to publish more information. The Clerk advised that many of the required documents can be added to the website as PDF documents but a refresh of the website may be required in the future. **MIN 122** It was RESOLVED that the Clerk adds the required documents to the website to comply with the code. Publication of the website address and an update on the Council's activities also need to be advertised and the Clerk was requested to establish if information can be included in a local magazine.

LCC PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CONFERENCE – 21st MARCH.

MIN 123 It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hall attends the conference in Burnley. Members Further RESOLVED to approve the payment of mileage in accordance with the subsidence allowance (if claimed).

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED the following updates

Following several complaints about construction works, the planning department have advised that problems are initially discussed with the site manager, with repeated breaches referred to <http://www.preston.gov.uk/yourservices/planning/enforcement/>. Members were informed this matter is being taken further by Preston Area Committee.

Preston City Council have sent an advance notice of the likely charges for the forthcoming elections and have advised they will be sending re-election details shortly.

Planning confirmed that the lights at the former MOD building on Whittingham Lane had been approved. The Clerk was requested to report back that they were being left on when the building was not in use and they were causing a distraction to road users.

The enforcement team are investigating the addition of a shed and greenhouse on land at the rear of the Stags Head car park.

The Clerk was requested to check if the new building at Seed House is occupied and whether the old building has been demolished.

Members noted the email from Taylor Wimpey requesting street names for the proposed development at Whittingham Hospital. Members repeated their frustration that Taylor Wimpey had not consulted the Council earlier and requested that the Clerk ask them to note that the existing names reflect the rural nature of the area and the word 'street' was not currently used.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 9th March 2015 at 7.00pm**