

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 8th February 2016** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall.

Members:

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman
Cllr Margaret Rigby
Cllr Stan Hunter
Cllr Ruth Mills
Cllr Bernard Huggon

Members of the public

City Cllr Lona Smith
Lindy King – Heritage Group
Mr Christie re land at Stags Head
Barbara Davies re Belmont farm application
2 members of the public
Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES - Cllr Alan Lewis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on 11th January 2016.

MIN 127 It was RESOLVED that the January Minutes be signed as a true record.

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

MIN 128 Cllr Huggon declared a personal interest in application **06/2016/0041** as the application is in close proximity to his property.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 129 It was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Mr Christie explained that he had taken over some waste land at the Stags Head and was using it as an allotment and to keep pigeons but following a complaint by a resident, Preston City Council has served an enforcement notice on the owner, Mr Gregory. Under the terms of the Notice he has 7 weeks to restore the land to its former condition.

Mr Christie informed Members that since the enforcement notice was issued, he has received 500 signatures supporting his activities on the site, which was previously infested by rats and surrounded by a broken fence. Mr Christie stated that the enforcement notice states that it is highly unlikely that the City Council will approve the works.

As the matter had not been included as an Agenda item, Members were unable to comment further on the matter, however the Clerk suggested that Mr Christie contacts the Planning Advisory Service for advice on submitting a retrospective planning application for the change of use of the land. The Clerk also suggested that Mr Christie refers to the City Council's Supplementary Planning Document Access to Healthy Foods as it may support his cause. Members' attention was drawn to previous correspondence on the land in 2014.

Mrs Davies explained that following concerns about certain elements in a previous planning application at Belmont farm, the application had been withdrawn and a new application has been submitted. This seeks to move the pigs to the rear of a new pig rearing building (to be erected) and to relocate the existing 5 stables which would be available for rent. In response to questions, it was confirmed that the arcs would be located in the paddock at the rear of the pig rearing building (as shown on the previous plans) and the horses would be moved to the paddock bounded by Inglewhite Road and the existing private access road where the applicant has joint access. Concerns were expressed about the welfare of the pigs and the potential to rotate them to other paddocks. Mrs Davies sought confirmation from the Clerk that these concerns had been raised previously and neither DEFRA or Environmental Health had expressed any concerns.

Cllr Lona Smith stated that further to her comments at the last Parish Council meeting, the revised 'call in' procedures were being monitored and the City Council would be considering the budget proposals at the February meeting. Councillor Hall requested that the Clerk query why the Parish Council comments on the budget proposals had not been included in the Cabinet report. Cllr Smith advised that a request for Cold Calling zones at Halfpenny Lane and Inglewhite Road had been submitted to the PACT meeting and attendees had also been advised of a new initiative to issue residents with the key contact details of various departments and agencies. Cllr Smith stated that the County Council would be considering its budget proposal to cut bus subsidies at a full Council meeting on the 11th February – but the consultation on the affected services does not close until 27th March.

Cllr Smith queried progress of the recruitment of a new Parish Councillor and it was confirmed that the Parish Council still has a vacancy which is advertised on the notice boards and will be included in the first edition of the new Parish Council newsletter.

It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened.

TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2016/0022 Expansion and diversification of existing piggery business to include relocation of pig pens to south paddocks including pig rearing building and relocation of stables for commercial use (resubmission of piggery and stable elements only) on land adjacent to Belmont Residential Home, Inglewhite Road.

Members noted that a previous application 06/2015/0191 had been withdrawn and the current application was to move the existing pigs to a new paddock at the rear of the proposed pig rearing building. The number of pigs would also be increased from 80 pigs in 2008 to 750. In addition, the application proposed that 5 stables, currently used for personal use, would be available to rent. The Clerk stated that she had questioned several points with the City Council regarding the location of the pigs and the siting of the stables and was satisfied that the answers had been clarified during public participation.

Members considered the application and a view was expressed that as the use was already established, it was better that the horses would be moved to the paddock bounded by Inglewhite Road and the pigs would be moved to the rear of the pig rearing building. However, views were also expressed that the number of pigs was increasing from 80 to 750 and the stables – currently used for private use - would be available to rent. It was stated that the increase in commercial use would result in an increase in traffic which could cause a danger to the horses and people using the access track to Belmont nursing home and as the site was in close proximity to the home and other residential properties, there would be an increase in complaints about the noise, smell and pollution of watercourses.

The Clerk advised members that the plans showed some improvements to the site drainage. Members queried the Council's response to the previous application and the Clerk stated that whilst the Parish Council supported the retention of fields for agricultural purposes, concerns were expressed regarding the intensity, scale and variety of uses proposed.

A proposal was put forward to support the application as the pigs would be moved from their current paddock to behind the pig rearing building and a counter proposal was put forward to oppose the application for the reasons stated above.

MIN 130 Following a vote, it was RESOLVED to oppose the application by 3 votes to 2.

06/2016/0041 Variation of condition no13 attached to planning permission 06/2007/0133 for external amendments at The Bunker, 504 Whittingham Lane, Goosnargh

MIN 131 Members had no objections and RESOLVED to leave to planning

06/2015/0896 Erection of stables for private use to include sand paddock and storage building for storage of items ancillary to the land - plot 1 & 2 Field 6637, Old Clay Lane and

06/2016/0897 plot 4 & 5 Field 6637, Old Clay Lane.

Members were informed that the applications are recommended for approval despite previous applications being refused on appeal. Members were also informed that Cllr Lona Smith had requested that the applications be considered by planning committee on the 11th February. Unfortunately no members were available to attend on that day.

MIN 132 Members stated that the Parish Council's objections would be covered by Cllr Smith and RESOLVED not to duplicate the comments by speaking at planing committee.

AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS

From 2017 Parish Councils can choose whether to have an external auditor appointed by a 'sector-led body' (SLB) or whether to opt out and procure the audit itself - which could be considerably higher than using the auditor appointed by the SLB.

MIN 133 Members RESOLVED to use the auditor appointed by the Sector Led Body.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements had been reconciled.

PLAY AREA INSPECTION FEE

MIN 134 Members RESOLVED to pay the City Council invoice for weekly inspections at Cumeragh Village from April 15 to March 16. Members also RESOLVED to continue the service from April 16 to March 17. Members noted that the fee includes an annual inspection, but will determine if an independent report is required when the annual inspection is due.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 135 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
Clerk Salary	J Buttle	£419.77	1169
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£49.80	1170
Play Area Inspections	PCC	£2371.20	1171

PARISH LOGO

MIN 136 Members considered the suggested designs for a Parish logo based on the Chain of Office and RESOLVED to proceed with the top design identified by green leaves.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

MIN 137 Members considered the 2 quotes for the Newsletter and noted that other quotes were pending. Subject to the outstanding quotes not exceeding the £190 already quoted, Members RESOLVED to delegate the printing of 800 copies of the newsletter to the Clerk.

MIN 138 Members RESOLVED that the Carrier Pigeon would be used to deliver the Newsletter to the densely populated areas of Goosnargh and Higher Whittingham and that copies for other residents would be made available at the Post Office. A draft of the first issue of the Newsletter will be brought to the March meeting.

WITHDRAWAL OF BUS SUBSIDIES

Members were informed that Bus Service 4 is one of the services which may be affected if LCC cut bus subsidies. LCC have launched a consultation about the proposed cuts and Members were requested to consider promoting the survey. Since issuing the Agenda, negative comments have been expressed regarding the intrusive, personal nature of the questions in the survey and residents have stated they are not willing to participate. In addition, during public participation it was stated that LCC were making the decision about the subsidies on Thursday prior to the closing date of the survey.

MIN 139 Members RESOLVED that the Clerk contact County Cllr John Fillis to express concerns regarding the above points.

COMMUNITY TRUST AND S106 UPDATE FORMER HOSPITAL SITE

Members NOTED that the consultants are continuing to liaise with stakeholders and will present recommendations regarding the layout of facilities to the next meeting in March. The Clerk explained that under the terms of the S106 agreement, the Parish Council will have 20 working days to make any comments on the proposals. Members also NOTED that the Clerk has approached LCC to request a progress report on the S106 commitments including the requirement for LCC to appoint a green travel co-ordinator to meet with the Parish Council at a minimum frequency of 6 monthly intervals.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Members referred a letter about 'Clean for the Queen' to Whittingham community action group who advised they will be holding a litter picking day to commemorate the event. The litter pick will be preceded by an assembly at Goosnargh Oliverson's school and a member of the Council has been invited to attend and say a few words.

MIN 140 Members considered that Cllr Alan Lewis would be best suited to attend and RESOLVED that the Clerk confirm the arrangements with Cllr Lewis and the action group.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED that a petition has been launched calling on the Government to give Parish Councils a right of appeal against a planning approval made by a district council! The appeal can be found at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/110489>

Members NOTED further correspondence from the stone mason which included the revised wording as suggested at the last meeting. He states he may be able to incorporate the Parish logo but advised that slate is not recommended for this type of engraving and recommends a honed finished, dark grey granite with white enamel lettering. Further drawings will be presented to the March meeting for final approval.

Members NOTED that the LCC Parish Champion has awarded a grant of £500 towards the memorial. The Clerk and Chairman will draft an article on the project for inclusion in the Parish Champion's newsletter.

DECEMBER MEETING CONSIDERATION

MIN 141 Members RESOLVED to alter the December meeting from the 12th to the 19th December, with the option to postpone the meeting depending on the items on the Agenda.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 14th March 2016 at 7.00pm.**