

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 13th January 2014** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall, Preston.

Members:

Cllr Alan Lewis – Chairman
Cllr Stan Hunter
Cllr Dave Hall
Cllr B Huggon
Cllr M Rigby
Cllr Lona Smith

Members of the public

5 Members of the public

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr R Mills

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the meeting held on 9th December 2013.

MIN 117 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

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

MIN 118 Cllr Huggon declared a personal interest in planning application **06/2013/0846** for the siting of a caravan on land adjacent New House Farm, Whittingham Lane as the site is to the rear of his property.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 119 It was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

In relation to the agricultural building at Belmont Farm, Inglewhite Road, the applicant stated she had attended to hear the Council discussion. No comments were made.

Representatives from the CVRA explained that they had declined the BIFFA bid partly due to the 3rd party contribution and partly due to the fact that the LEF and Awards for All bids had been successful. They were still approximately £1,000 short and were holding a meeting with residents as a final push to raise funds but hope to order the equipment soon. The Parish Council has set aside £1,000 and they would like the Council to consider contributing this amount towards the installation costs, as it is understood this would alleviate the need to apply for planning permission.

A resident expressed concern regarding the proposal to cut evening and Sunday bus services. It was stated that not all people living in the area can drive and the bus service is needed even if only used by a few people. The bus service has already been cut significantly with passengers having to wait an hour and half between services compared to every 8 minutes in Longridge. The proposals will result in an additional cost as residents will have to use taxis. The Council was also asked to note that it takes 45 minutes to get in to town as the bus takes a 'scenic' route and the number of passengers may increase if a more direct route was offered.

It was RESOLVED to reconvene the meeting and adjust the order of the Agenda to prioritise the above issues.

CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2013/0846 Certificate of lawfulness for the siting of a static caravan for permanent residential occupation on land adjacent New House Farm, Whittingham Lane, Goosnargh

The Clerk explained that the application is to establish a legal principle regarding *where* the caravan can be sited. The applicants own a parcel of land and already have permission for a residential caravan. The application is to determine whether the caravan should be restricted to a specific location or whether it may be moved anywhere within the site boundary. In addition, the applicant wishes to replace the caravan with a larger timber structure. Cllr Huggon added that part of the site was used for plant hire and part of the site is open fields used for grazing sheep. It is understood that the caravan was occupied in association with the plant hire business not the site in general.

MIN 120 Members expressed concern that the caravan has consent for unrestricted residential occupation, and as such, it should be located on a hardstanding, with an adequate water supply and drainage and should comply with fire regulations. Taking the above points in to account, Members **RESOLVED** that it is not acceptable to establish a principle where the caravan can be moved to any location within the site boundary and if the applicant wishes to site a new timber caravan on the open fields, he should be requested to submit a fresh application for the new location.

06/2013/0868 Erection of agricultural building at Belmont Farm, Inglewhite Road. The Clerk explained that the site is being used as a pig unit. The stock has increased significantly and a new barn is proposed to store feed and straw which is currently stored outside and is susceptible to the weather.

Concerns were expressed that residents had previously objected to the pig farm on the grounds that it was located too near to their properties. The Chairman reminded members that Environmental Health had inspected the site and found no cause for complaints. A view was expressed that the barn could be beneficial as storage was clearly an issue and it would help to keep the site tidy. However, as the barn will be located on the site of the pig arcs, it was suggested that planning permission also gives consideration to where the pig arcs would be moved to.

MIN 121 Members **RESOLVED** not to object to the application but to raise the above points with planning.

WHITTINGHAM BUS SERVICES

Members were informed that Lancashire County Council is proposing to withdraw evening and Sunday bus services as part of their budget proposals. The cut will affect Service 4 which travels through Goosnargh and Whittingham to Longridge. No alternative route is available.

MIN 122 Members **RESOLVED** to respond to the consultation incorporating the points made in public participation and including the point that more effort should be made to distribute services and subsidies more equally. Concerns were also expressed that residents will not be able to attend evening visiting at the Royal Preston hospital and LCC is creating an environment where they are increasing the vulnerability of young ladies wanting to use the bus for a safe and reliable journey home in the evening. Workers employed at Whittingham hospital will be dependent on car travel and as Whittingham has been earmarked for 650 new homes, it is short sighted on the County Council to remove a subsidy and cut the services now, when the population of the area is likely to increase in the future.

PLAY AREA DONATION TO CVRA

This matter was brought forward on the Agenda for the benefit of the public present. Members were reminded that they have allocated £1,000 towards the refurbishment of Cumeragh Village Play Area and that the CVRA have requested that the money is put towards the installation costs as it is understood that as the Parish Council is contributing to the erection of the equipment on its own land, planning permission is not required.

MIN 123 Members RESOLVED that the Parish Council would contribute £1,000 towards the installation costs of the equipment, however, it will be up to the City Council to determine whether this negates the need for planning permission. The Clerk agreed to inform the City Council of the donation and on behalf of the Parish Council and CVRA will request confirmation that permission is not needed

Members requested clarification on the role of the Parish Council and the partnership arrangements with the CVRA with regard to future maintenance costs, insurance liability and risk inspections. This will be added to the February Agenda.

DECEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements reconciled.

QUARTERLY BUDGET ANALYSIS 2013 / 14

Members considered variances between the budget allocation and the budget expenditure and assessed progress on items which had not yet been purchased.

MIN 125 Members RESOLVED to accept the quarterly budget analysis.

SLCC MEMBERSHIP

MIN 126 Members RESOLVED to renew the Clerk's membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks with the cost being equally shared with Woodplumpton Parish.

DONATION TO THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

MIN 127 Under Section 137 of the LGA 1972, Members RESOLVED to donate £25 to the Royal British Legion for a poppy wreath.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 128 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

| DETAILS | PAYEE | AMOUNT |
|--|----------------------|----------|
| Poppy Wreath | Royal British Legion | £25.00 |
| SLCC Membership (Half) | SLCC | £73.50 |
| 1/4ly Admin Expenses | (Attached) J Buttle | £62.50 |
| Millennium Garden Refresh | Karl Shorrocks | £1938.00 |
| Nursery Plants for garden | Spout Farm | £847.47 |
| Jan salary | Mrs J Buttle | £351.87 |
| Tax / National Ins | HMRC | £83.20 |
| E- Electric Supply | E-On | £15.50 |
| Polycarbonate sheet for Alston Arms Notice Board | Howick Forge | £144.00 |

TRAINING

MIN 129 Cllr Lewis and Cllr Hall expressed an interest in attending the Community Engagement Training and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk apply for 2 places.

GOOSNARGH & WHITTINGHAM UNITED CHARITY

Whittingham Parish Council is entitled to nominate a person to serve as a Trustee on the above Charity. Cllr Hunter is the current Trustee and explained the work of the Charity. **MIN 130** It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hunter be re-appointed to the role.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS SESSIONS

The City Council is supporting the 'Dementia Friends' campaign which aims to increase awareness of dementia and change the way people think, talk and act about dementia. **MIN 131** Members supported the initiative and expressed an interest in publicising and attending a session.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

MIN 132 Members RESOLVED that the Chairman's name be entered in to the ballot to attend the Garden Party.

LANCASHIRE CIVIC CAROL SERVICE

MIN 133 Members RESOLVED that the Chairman attend the Civic County Carol service at Blackburn Cathedral on Sunday 2nd February at 6.30pm.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED the following correspondence

Members were issued with a programme for the LALC Annual Spring Conference on Saturday 5th April at the Leyland Hotel, Junction 28 M6 Motorway.

The City Council has confirmed that the number of Band D equivalent properties is 768 resulting in a Band D Parish Precept of £20.01

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 10th February 2014 at 7.00pm.**