

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Council Meeting

The Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM) of Whittingham Parish Council took place on the 9th May 2016 at Goosnargh Village Hall after the Annual Parish Meeting.

Members:

Cllr Dave Hall
Cllr Margaret Rigby
Cllr Alan Lewis
Cllr Ruth Mills
Cllr Stan Hunter

Members of the public

3 members of the public

Mrs Julie Buttle (Parish Council Clerk)

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Members NOTED Standing Order 8 (b) *No person shall be nominated as Chairman of the Council if they have acted as Chairman for 2 years immediately prior to the Annual Parish Council Meeting.* Members were reminded that Cllr Hall was elected Chairman in 2014 and his term of office was due to expire.

MIN 01 Cllr Lewis was proposed as Chairman. As there were no other nominations, it was RESOLVED that Cllr Lewis be elected as Chairman unopposed. He duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

MIN 02 Cllr Mills was proposed as Vice Chairman. As there were no other nominations, it was RESOLVED that Cllr Mills be elected as Vice-Chairman unopposed.

APOLOGIES

Members were reminded that apologies are recorded in the Minutes but if a Councillor is absent for 6 consecutive months, an apology must be approved by Council prior to the 6 months elapsing. **MIN 03** Apologies were recorded for Cllr Bernard Huggon.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the meeting held on 11th April 2016

It was clarified that multipurpose bins (dog and litter) have been requested at Green Nook and Halfpenny Lane. **MIN 04** It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed as a true record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirement to check and update their 'notification of interest' forms relating to themselves and their partner or spouse. Any changes or updates should be forwarded to Member Services at the City Council within 28 days of the change.

MIN 05 There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Members were reminded that Parish Council committees are subject to the same rules as Council meetings. The meeting must be advertised and open to the public and minutes must be taken. **MIN 06** It was RESOLVED that there was no need to establish committees at the moment, but the option may be reconsidered during the municipal year.

Members noted that up to 3 members may be appointed to Preston Area Committee.

MIN 07 It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hall would be appointed with Cllr Lewis and Cllr Mills acting as deputies if he is unable to attend.

The Council has previously been requested to appoint a Councillor to act as a Trustee on the Village Hall Management Committee, however, as the Council also acts as Holding Trustee, the situation is being clarified with the Charity Commission. **MIN 08** Members RESOLVED not to consider the appointment until the situation is clarified.

MIN 09 It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hunter would continue as Trustee to Goosnargh & Whittingham United Charity.

The Council has previously appointed Cllr Lewis to the Whittingham Hospital Stakeholder Liaison Group. **MIN 10** Following confirmation that he was happy to continue in the role, it was RESOLVED that Cllr Lewis continues as the Council's representative.

ADMINISTRATION

Members noted that disability legislation requires the Council to make its meetings accessible to all, however meetings are held in an upstairs room. Members noted that no complaints have been received regarding the current arrangements and the public is given the opportunity to contact the Clerk to discuss access requirements prior to the meeting, so if necessary, alternative arrangements could be made. Members also noted the lack of freely available public meeting facilities in the Parish and that there may be an option to relocate to Whittingham Club in the future. **MIN 11** Members RESOLVED to

1. Continue to hold meetings in Goosnargh Village Hall on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7.00pm.
2. Receive a hard copy of the summons and supporting Agenda material by hand with other documents being forwarded by email where possible.
3. Note that the Council may make payments other than by cheque in accordance with the Financial Regulations adopted in October 2015
4. Renew the following items delegated to the Clerk under S101 of the Local Government Act 1972
 - Make routine decisions
 - consult with the ward Parish Councillor before making representations on planning applications which can't be brought before the Council
 - deal with emergencies
 - spend small sums of money - not to exceed £100
 - grant a dispensation to Members - in circumstances where the number of Members prohibited from participating, would impede the transaction of the business

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 12 It was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Cllr Thompson asked if the Parish Council had a collective view on the European Referendum. Members replied they would be voting as individuals.

A question was asked regarding the street names for the former hospital site.

An explanation was given and it was suggested that this is included in the parish newsletter.

TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2015/0254 Erection of covered external seating area Alston Arms Inglewhite Road Longridge Preston. **MIN 13** Members RESOLVED they had no objection to the proposal.

06/2015/0323 Listed Building Consent for the installation of a heat pump system at White Farm Back Lane Whittingham Preston. Members NOTED new plans were to be provided and an amended scheme should come before Council in June.

06/2015/0326 1no replacement dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings St Anthonys 734 Whittingham Lane, Broughton. Members noted the modern design and that the property will be set back from the road. **MIN 14** Members RESOLVED they had no objection to the proposal.

06/2015/0770 Outline planning application for 2 dwellings and a new access at Oaklands Farm, Ashley Lane, Whittingham. This application was refused by the City Council and is going to appeal. **MIN 15** Members RESOLVED to write to the inspector supporting the application as it is a small scale development on brownfield land which has the potential to provide individual rural housing which is considered preferable to the large scale estates currently being approved on green fields in the open countryside.

CUMERAGH PLAY AREA WEEKLY INSPECTIONS

Members noted that in response to MIN 162, the CVA have requested a contribution of £800pa (£15.39 per week) to litter pick and visually check the play area for signs of damage. Members discussed that the requirement is primarily to litter pick the area (completed by volunteers in other areas of the parish) and note any obvious changes in the condition of the play equipment. Whilst the amount was lower than the City Council quote, any payment would be in addition to the quarterly and annual equipment inspections.

Members felt that the amount requested was not commensurate to a voluntary role and other options should be considered. It was suggested that an article should be included in the parish newsletter to establish if there were any other volunteers in the parish. It was also suggested that as some parish councils contract a lengthsman or handyman to carry out tasks on their behalf, it may be possible to 'buy' an hour of their time. This could also be expanded to cover other maintenance tasks in the parish. **MIN 16** As these alternatives had not been included on the Agenda, it was RESOLVED that they be included for further discussion at the June meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st April – 30th April 2016

The Chairman verified that the financial and bank statements reconciled and RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts were correct.

INSURANCE

MIN 17 Members noted the insurance renewal information supplied by the Clerk and RESOLVED to delegate the renewal to the Clerk on the basis that an alternative quote should not exceed the renewal of £801.51.

NEWSLETTER

Members NOTED the positive comments received in respect of the 1st edition of the Parish Newsletter and that the Clerk was putting material together for the summer edition.

MIN 18 Members RESOLVED to authorise the following cheques for payment

- CQ 1183 – Printing of the Newsletter £150.00
- CQ 1184 – Delivery of the Newsletter £75.00
- CQ 1185 – Design and publication £44.76

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

MIN 19 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

Longridge Agricultural Show	£250.00	CQ 1181
Goosnargh & Whittingham Festival	£500.00	CQ 1182
Clerk's May Salary	£392.51	CQ 1186
May Tax Contributions	£92.40	CQ 1187
Jan – March Quarterly Expenses	£46.06	CQ 1188

WHITTINGHAM HOSPITAL COMMUNITY TRUST UPDATE

Cllr Lewis advised that there had been a further meeting of the Community Trust Liaison Group. The consultants have now completed their assessment of the sports needs but there has been no further progress on the provision of land for the caravan site or beer festival. It was felt that the consultants were focussing on where things are going – rather than the business options for the site. 4 sports options were presented to the liaison meeting and a further option was put forward to use Gott Field.

MIN 20 Members RESOLVED to consider the options at the June meeting and the Clerk was requested to ascertain if Gott Field was 'protected' by the S106 or planning policy.

Cllr Hunter repeated his concerns regarding the bus service. Stagecoach have reduced the level of service but during the public inquiry into the housing development, it was stated that there should be provision every 30mins. It was confirmed that Taylor Wimpey are obliged to communicate with the Parish Council regarding the transport provision but they had sent apologies to the May meeting. An update / attendance has been requested for the June meeting.

CPRE AGM

Members NOTED the CPRE AGM will be held at 10.30 on Friday 20th May at County Hall, Preston.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED that LCC have advised that

- Back Lane will be closed for carriageway resurfacing between Carnforth Hall Lane and Cumeragh Lane on the 19th and 20th May.
- Ashley Lane will be closed for carriageway surface dressing between Inglewhite Road and Carnforth Hall Lane between the 20th and 23rd May.

Further to previous correspondence Members NOTED that the boundary commission has not recommended any changes to the LCC divisional boundaries affecting Whittingham.

Members NOTED that the City Council are introducing a charge for brown bin collections. Residents will receive information from the City Council from the 16th May onwards. The charge will come into effect on the 4th July and a discount will apply if residents apply for the service before the 19th June.

Members NOTED a letter from the CVA to Guild Lodge stating that problems were still being encountered with litter and people smoking outside the premises.

Members NOTED that neither the Chairman nor Vice-Chairman are available to attend the festival on the 4th June. Cllr Lewis confirmed he would pass the information to Cllr Hunter.

Cllr Lewis stated that the Bowland Mountain Rescue service may have a defibrillator to donate to the village hall. The Clerk advised that Parish Council had RESOLVED to delegate the choice of equipment to the village hall and it was suggested that the information is passed on.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Monday 13th June 2016 at 7.00pm** at Goosnargh Village Hall.

END