



**WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on**  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.15pm**  
**in Goosnargh Village Hall – downstairs**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman  
Cllr Martin Carefoot  
Cllr Anthony Eccles  
Cllr Barbara Clarke  
Cllr Michelle Woodburn

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

County Cllr Susan Whittam  
City Cllr Stephen Whittam  
Mr Hickson – Village Clock  
2 residents re Ashley Hall Farm  
1 resident re Swainson House Farm  
Mrs Julie Buttle Parish Clerk

**APOLOGIES**

Councillor Dave Price was unable to attend.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> MAR 2025.**  
**MIN 24/25.164** Members **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the Minutes as a true record.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**MIN 24/25.165** Members **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting for public participation.

County Cllr Susan Whittam stated that she would speak at planning committee to highlight the concerns regarding the Swainson House Farm application. Mr Ingram (resident) and the Parish Council also indicated that they wished to speak at the meeting. It is understood that each speaker will have 3 minutes to make a presentation, however as an elected Councillor has 6 minutes, Cllr Susan Whittam offered to meet the other speakers to ensure all the points are covered in the speeches.

Cllr Eccles queried why LCC are proposing to expand Goosnargh Oliverson's School in addition to creating a new primary school off Henry Littler Way. Cllr Susan Whittam stated that whilst the new school would be going ahead, LCC have not released any further information on how or when the additional provision at Goosnargh Oliverson's will be required.

A resident from Churchgate stated that whilst he had not received Gladman's consultation for 145 dwellings, he had accessed the consultation via the link on the agenda. He expressed concerns regarding the proposed access and the emphasis on the quantity of affordable homes which could be altered at a later stage.

Concerns were expressed regarding the application for 5 commercial / industrial units at Ashley Hall Farm. The concerns related to the ownership of the land, access to the site, inaccurate plans regarding the swept path analysis, visibility from the Public Right of Way and the increase of traffic to be generated. It was also alleged that the number of containers at the existing site exceeds the permitted amount and units and scrap cars have been added to the proposed site to make it look like brown field land.

On behalf of Goosnargh & Whittingham in Bloom, Cllr Woodburn asked if hanging baskets could be attached to the bus shelters. The Clerk confirmed that the bus shelters were owned by the Parish Council but risks assessments would need to be carried out before the baskets are erected. Members stated that they had no objections to the suggestion.

**MIN 24/25.166** In light of the comments expressed regarding planning matters, Members **RESOLVED** to bring the item forward on the agenda.

## REGULATION 19 CONSULTATION ON THE LOCAL PLAN

### PLANNING POLICY

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk circulated draft comments on the Planning Policies to be included in the Local Plan. The comments included a concern that tier 5 includes a reference to “Goosnargh” but there is no reference to “Whittingham”.

**MIN 24/25.167** Members considered the draft comments and **RESOLVED** to respond to the Regulation 19 consultation with the following points

- **SS2** - Include Whittingham as a settlement in Tier 5.
- **HS5** - Show allotments on the Policy map to illustrate whether they can be reached within 15 minutes of a rural area
- **HS6** – Support the policy to provide wheelchair accessible affordable homes
- **ST3** – increase the parking spaces for 2-3 bed homes from 2 spaces to 2-3 spaces and include parking provision at schools to ease congestion and provide parking for collection / drop off and additional activities.

### SITE ALLOCATIONS

Members also considered the site allocations to be taken forward in Higher Whittingham **HS4.13 & HS4.14**. Members stated that there is no supporting evidence to suggest that additional homes for the elderly are needed - especially as homes have been provided off Cumeragh Lane and in Grimsargh. Aldi and Longridge are a fair distance away for elderly people to walk to and the route would involve crossing Whittingham Road which is very busy. Safety concerns expressed by LCC Highways don't appear to have been taken into account and the Parish Council is also concerned about the number of new junctions being created along Whittingham Road where speeding traffic is a known safety concern.

The information omits to mention that nearby properties are on septic tanks instead of the main sewer and if housing is approved in that location, there is no guarantee that developers will submit a scheme solely for the elderly.

**MIN 24/25.168** Members **RESOLVED** to respond to the Regulation 19 consultation by stating that the sites should be withdrawn and included in the area of separation between Whittingham and Longridge.

### CHURCHGATE CONSULTATION

The agenda confirmed that Gladmans will be issuing a consultation for 145 dwellings with the access to be taken off Churchgate. The consultation can be accessed on the following link [www.your-views.co.uk/landoffchurchgate/](http://www.your-views.co.uk/landoffchurchgate/)

**MIN 24/25.169** As the site has been refused previously, Members **RESOLVED** not to comment until a formal planning application is submitted.

### WHITTINGHAM HOSPITAL SITE

Further to MIN 24/25.145 Cllr Brooks, Cllr Eccles and Cllr Woodburn met with Barratts to discuss **06/2025/0008** for 477 homes at the former Whittingham Hospital site.

**MIN 24/25.170** Members **RESOLVED** to approve the application comments drafted by the Clerk and NOTED the non-material planning comments which Barratts will be asked to respond to, as development of the site progresses.

### SWAINSON HOUSE FARM

It is understood that the Swainson House Farm application will be presented to planning committee on the 29<sup>th</sup> April. If the application is approved, the Clerk has requested that Highways reduce the speed limit between Goosnargh Lane and Whittingham Lane to 30mph.

**MIN 24/25.171** Members **RESOLVED** that Cllr Eccles would register to speak on behalf of the Parish Council. To ensure all the objections are covered in the time allowed, Cllr Eccles will discuss the objections with Councillor Susan Whittam and Mr Ingram - as discussed during public participation.

## **DELEGATED PLANNING REPORT**

**MIN 24/25.172** Further to the objections presented during public participation and the comments on the delegated planning report, Members **RESOLVED** to object to application **06/2025/0207** for 5 commercial / industrial units on land west of Ashley Hall Farm, Inglewhite Road **and** application **06/2025/0343** for 100 dwellings at Broughton Park, Whittingham Lane.

Members had no objections to the following applications

**06/2025/0324** Side and rear extensions including a rear dormer at 67 Cumeragh Lane

**06/2025/0367** vary conditions for the 'mansion house' off Langley Lane

**06/2025/0369** 1no. timber framed canopy to the rear of 6, Lakeside.

## **COMMUNITY CLOCK**

As Mr Hickson was present during public participation, Members agreed to bring the item on the Community Clock donation forward. Mr Hickson explained that he is requesting £5,000 from the Parish Council with the remaining £3,140 to come from community donations. If the community donations exceed that amount, any excess will be used to repaint the clock face. If works starts straight away, the clock may be working for the festival in the first week of June.

**MIN 24/25.173** Members **RESOLVED** to donate £5,000 to the repair of the clock.

The meeting was reconvened and continued in accordance with the agenda.

## **PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

The closing date for residents to call an Election for the Lower Ward vacancy is the 14<sup>th</sup> April. After that, residents can write to the Clerk to request co-option to the Parish Council. Members **NOTED** that an article has been added to the Parish Newsletter and website and a poster will be added to the Noticeboards.

## **PARISH LENGTHSMAN**

Members **NOTED** that Mark Cornforth has been appointed as Parish Lengthsman. The Clerk and Cllr Eccles held an induction meeting with him and he hopes to attend the May meeting.

**MIN 24/25.174** it was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the Contract already approved by the Council.

During the interview process, it was suggested that the Lengthsman should have access to bins for garden waste, litter, packaging etc. Preston City Council can supply the bins free of charge butt the garden waste bin will incur a charge of £40pa.

**MIN 24/25.175** Members **RESOLVED** to order a brown bin from the City Council. All the bins will be located at Cumeragh Village. The Clerk will speak to the City Council regarding 'secure' storage at the suggested location.

## **GOOSNARGH FOOTBALL PITCH**

Members **NOTED** that mowing commenced on the 8<sup>th</sup> May in 2024 and Mr Walling has confirmed he will continue mowing the pitch during 2025/26.

**MIN 24/25.176** As the weather has been milder, Members **RESOLVED** that the pitch be marked out and mown, so that the goal posts can be erected before Easter.

## **BEACON DRIVE WAR MEMORIAL**

As McMurray Brothers installed the original Memorial on Beacon Drive, the Clerk has contacted them to update the inscription to include a reference to the second world war in time for VE day.

**MIN 24/25.177** Providing the alterations are completed by the 8<sup>th</sup> May, Members **RESOLVED** that the Chairman read a VE day Proclamation at the Memorial - probably at 12 noon - before a VE day themed lunch is held at Trinity Methodist Church. Prior to the reading of the Proclamation the Memorial may be blessed. Exact details will be confirmed nearer the date.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

The Chairman verified that finance and bank statements had been reconciled.

**MIN 24/25.178** Members **RESOLVED** to approve the End of Year Finance Statement so that the accounts can be passed to the Internal Auditor. The Clerk explained that the preparation of the Audit may take longer this year, due to several notable changes introduced as the Joint Practitioners Guide is replaced by the SAPP (Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel).

### 2025/26 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

**MIN 24/25.179** Members **RESOLVED** to note the following invoice already paid in accordance with Standing Order 2023 15 (xii)

Grounds Maintenance (March)	Millars	£840.00	Online
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**MIN 24/25.180** Members **RESOLVED** to confirm that Easy Websites, NEST pension and E-ON electric may continue to be paid by direct debit throughout 2025/26.

**MIN 24/25.181** Members **RESOLVED** that 2 signatories authorise the following invoices online

Final contract payment	Nurture	£664.62	Online
Clerk Salary Apr	J Buttle	£1521.67	Online
PAYE	HMRC	£279.74	Online
Employer Nat Ins	HMRC	£215.67	Online
Pension	Nest	£93.45	DD
Grounds Maintenance (April)	Millars	£840.00	Online

### 2024/25 CIL END OF YEAR SUMMARY

**MIN 24/25.182** Members **NOTED** the CIL Summary for all years and **RESOLVED** to approve the 2024/25 End of Year CIL Finance Report.

### CIL BUSINESS PLAN

Members **NOTED** the matters pending on the CIL Business Plan and advised that the date of the Village Green meeting with the City Council was Dec 2024 - not Dec 2025.

**BENCHES** – Members were informed that the cost of the benches has increased by £44 a bench with an additional an option to add a plaque “*Provided by Whittingham Parish Council*” at a cost of £48 per plaque. The Lengthsman has been asked to confirm the fixings required to secure **4** benches on grass at Cumeragh Play area and **2** benches on concrete outside Goosnargh Village shops

**MIN 24/25.183** Members **RESOLVED** to approve the plaque wording and the increase in price.

As stated on the Business Plan, Preston City Council have agreed to supply and install **2** benches in Goosnargh play area whilst the park is closed for drainage works. The cost of the benches and installation will be paid for by the Parish Council.

Members considered a request to add a plaque to one of the benches, as a tribute to a resident who helped raise funds for the playground. It was stated that many residents were involved in the fundraising efforts and it would not be possible to acknowledge them all.

**MIN 24/25.184** Members **RESOLVED** to decline the request.

### ST JOHN'S CHURCH FEASIBILITY QUOTE

The Clerk contacted the Procurement Officer regarding the revised Invitation to Quote. Further alterations to the document were requested before it can be added to the portal. As the document had already been updated and altered, the Clerk requested that the procurement officer explain the alterations directly to Cllr Price.

**MIN 24/25.185** As the project is proving to be beyond the expertise of the Parish Council, Members **RESOLVED** to move it to Category 3 of the CIL Business Plan.

### **CLAY LANE FOOTPATH MODIFICATION ORDER**

As mentioned at the Feb meeting, LCC have evidence to suggest that the Public Right of Way along Old Clay Lane was recorded in error and they are proposing to modify the Definitive Map to show it as Restrictive byway. It was stated that a restricted byway refers to a road which can be used as a public path but prohibits vehicles.

**MIN 24/25.186** Members **RESOLVED** to note the alteration and seek clarification on whether vehicles will be able to access the Restrictive byway, as the path is currently being used to access unauthorised portacabins which are being investigated by Preston City Council under reference **E/2025/0041**.

### **SPRING NEWSLETTER**

**MIN 24/25.187** Members **RESOLVED** to approve the content of the Spring Newsletter subject to the Clerk clarifying the Parish Council Tax contribution and minor amendments to the Memorial article and Church clock funding to reflect decisions taken during the meeting.

### **NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

The Chairman advised that he had attended a meeting of the Goosnargh and Whititngham United Charity. The Clerk confirmed that the appointment of the Parish Council representative was due to be reconsidered at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING –** The next meeting will be the Annual Parish meeting which will be held on **Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> May** at **6.30pm** at **Trinity Methodist Church**.

The meeting will be followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting.

Attention is drawn to the **different venue and time** which has been included in the Parish Newsletter and is on the Parish Council website.

**END**