



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Thursday 11th Nov 2021** at 7.15pm in Goosnargh Village Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr D Hall - Chairman
Cllr T Brooks
Cllr B Clarke
Cllr B Huggon
Cllr M Woodburn

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk
Mr Marginson

APOLOGIES

All Members were present so there were no apologies for absence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on 14th Oct 2021.

MIN 21/85 it was RESOLVED that the Chairman sign the Oct Minutes as a true record.

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

There were no declarations of interests.

CO-OPTION

As advertised in the Autumn Newsletter, the Parish Council has **2** vacancies in Higher Ward which may be filled by co-option. Members noted that an application had been received from Mr Marginson and this was circulated with the agenda. Members considered the application and Mr Marginson was invited to say a few words in support of his application.

MIN 21/86 Mr Marginson left the room whilst Members considered the application and it was RESOLVED that he be co-opted to one of the Higher Ward vacancies. He was issued with a copy of the Code of Conduct and signed the Declaration of Office. The Clerk will arrange an induction session early in the New Year.

The Clerk informed Members that an additional application had been received on the 10th November and a further one had been received on the day of the meeting. As the applicants' details could not be issued with the November agenda, the Chairman stated that in the interests of openness and transparency, the applications should be added to the January Agenda for consideration at the January meeting. The Clerk will inform the applicants.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 21/87 It was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Cllr Whittam had indicated that she may be able to attend regarding County Council issues and the planning appeals, but as there were no updates, the Clerk will keep in touch by email.

Cllr Woodburn made a request to purchase for some commemorative WW1 benches from CIL monies. This will be considered under the review of the CIL Business Plan – agenda item 14.

Cllr Brooks queried the background to the War Memorial on Beacon Drive. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had erected the Memorial as part of the 100-year commemoration of WW1 and it had been dedicated to everyone that had played a part in the war - not just the fallen. It was confirmed that the Chairman will be laying a wreath at the Memorial following the Remembrance Day Service at St Mary's Church.

It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened.

SPEEDING TRAFFIC

Further to MIN 21/53 of the Sept Meeting, Members **noted** that County Cllr Edwards' site visit to look at traffic problems had been put on hold due to the number of road closures and diversions relating to the UU waterworks. Members advised that a wagon had collided with a tree on Short Lane resulting in the tree being felled and stated the end of the works could not come soon enough.

MIN 21/88 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk establish if LCC / UU will be repairing the potholes and verges damaged by the road works and whether the works would be completed in accordance with the 18th November timescale.

Following a Freedom of Information request, Members **noted** that data from the mobile speed enforcement camera on Whittingham Lane did not support the level of concern regarding speeding incidents and Community Road Watch, who can train residents / Councillors to use speed guns to raise awareness of the speeding concerns, have stated *they are currently in the process of changing the way in which they work and will be able to respond more accurately in the coming weeks.*

The Clerk advised that new reports will be generated now that the anti-race feature has been installed on the SPID on Whittingham Lane. Members stated that they still wish to pursue a GATSO camera and it was confirmed that speeding concerns will be kept under review alongside any responses to the Community Tool Kit initiative as documented under MIN 21/72

SOCIAL MEDIA

Members considered a draft Social Media Policy to support a proposal to set up a Parish Council Facebook page. All Councillors will be set up as 'admin' so that they can view and add posts to the page however Members of the public will only be able to comment on posted articles. They will not be able to create new topics. Whilst the administrators will be able to reply to comments and remove inappropriate posts, the Social Media Policy makes it clear that whilst an individual post will not always receive a reply, residents will be signposted to appropriate agencies to enable them to take their concerns further. **MIN 21/89** It was RESOLVED to adopt the Social Media Policy to allow the Clerk, Cllr Woodburn and Cllr Clarke to set up the Facebook page which will be trialled over a 6-month trial period.

PLANNING APPEALS / 5 YEAR SUPPLY

Further information on the appeal decisions has not been received, however, Cllr Whittam has stated that as the appeals were recorded, it is unlikely that they will have to be heard again especially as one of the planning officers involved has since left the City Council. Members will be emailed as soon as any announcements are made.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

MIN 21/90 Members RESOLVED to approve the delegated planning comments and requested that a condition be added to **06/2021/1386** to state that the outbuilding should only be used as ancillary accommodation to the existing dwelling at 65, Halfpenny Lane.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – to end of Oct 2021

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

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

Members **noted** the receipt of the **£500** grant from LCC for the maintenance of the Public Rights of Way. **MIN 21/91** Members RESOLVED to **approve** the following accounts for payment.

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD
Play area Annual Inspection	Wicksteed Leisure	£72.00	Online
Perspex window – bus shelter	Chris Holden PP MIN 21/52	£180.00	Online
Poppy Wreaths Min 21/65	Royal British Legion	£34.00	CQ 1511
Commemorative Tree	So Plants	£35.00	CQ 1512
Commemorative Plaque P&P	Brunel engraving	£171.90	Online
Autumn Newsletter - Printing	Preston City Council	£115.00	Online
Autumn Newsletter - Delivery	JPP Media	£60.00	Online
Clerk Salary Nov 2021	J Buttle	£551.07	Online
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£137.60	CQ 1513
LEF Windows Min 20/91 & 21/58	Goosnargh Village Hall - CIL	£3,832.00	Online

CUMERAGH VILLAGE PLAY AREA

Members **noted** that the annual inspection has been completed on Cumeragh Play as detailed in the Inspection report circulated with the agenda. **MIN 21/92** Members RESOLVED to approve the actions requesting that the City Council replace the litter bin, Barton Grange remove the fungi and the Cumeragh Residents Association trim the willow tunnel.

CONSIDERATION OF 2022/23 BUDGET ITEMS

Members considered the DRAFT budget proposal which included variances in the existing budget headings, contractual increases and the following estimates for new items

- Additional printing cost associated with the refresh of the Parish Plan
- Refreshing the Beacon Drive Garden for the Queen's platinum jubilee.
- Contracting a Parish Lengthsman / Handyman

Members were also reminded that the grants and donations budget was increased to £1,500 to support community groups affected by Covid, however as the budget is underspent, the surplus will be carried forward to the 2022/23 accounts.

MIN 21/93 Members noted the £500 request from the Festival Committee and RESOLVED to reduce the grant allocation back to £1,000 leaving the DRAFT budget requirements totalling £23,902. A final version of the budget - including estimated income – will be brought to the January meeting so that Members can confirm how much will be funded by the Precept.

CIL FINANCES AND BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

The Master Log of CIL Income and expenditure was circulated with the Agenda and Members noted the Oct receipt of **£29,038.04** and the CIL account balance of **£197,220**. Members were reminded, that where possible, CIL should be spent within 5 years of it being received. Projects have been identified on the CIL Business Plan and Members were given an update on the timescales for each item.

Following a grounds maintenance incident at Whittingham Cemetery, valuable contacts were made with Homes England, their maintenance contractors TEP and their sub-contractors Nuture. A meeting was held on site to discuss the incident and afterwards, Homes England (via TEP) agreed to lay a woodland walk along the edge of Whittingham Lane as requested by the Parish Council when the Barratts housing application was submitted. It is understood that Homes England will be financing the work, possibly in conjunction with Barratts, but as the woodland walk will exit on to Whittingham Lane, a safety barrier may be necessary which may require a contribution from CIL. **MIN 21/94** Members RESOLVED to **add the woodland walk / barrier** to the CIL Business Plan and discuss the costs / timescales with TEP.

The CIL Business Plan also includes financial support towards the provision of a new scout hut providing a new location can be found. TEP suggested that the Parish Council contact the Cricket Club regarding the availability of land and the information was passed on to the Scout Leader. If an agreement can be reached, the scout hut may progress more quickly than anticipated and the CIL Business Plan has been updated accordingly.

During the above discussion, it was noted that the Cricket Club pavilion is in need of repairs.

MIN 21/95 As this will be an improvement to an existing community building, Members RESOLVED discuss the works required with the Cricket Club and **add repairs to the cricket club pavilion** to the CIL Business Plan, subject to the provision of quotes / timescales.

MIN 21/96 Members RESOLVED to **add war memorial benches** to the CIL Business Plan as suggested under public participation. The cost, type and quantity of benches will be confirmed at the January meeting.

Under MIN 21/83 of the October meeting, Members resolved to establish a 'Working Group' to discuss the CIL improvements for **sports facilities on Goosnargh Village Green**. The first meeting of the working group took place on the 9th November and a written report was **noted** pending further discussions on the requirements, maintenance, drainage and parking.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

MIN 21/97 Members RESOLVED to note the following updates / correspondence

- The Chairman attended a meeting of the United Reform Charity, who can make charitable donations to residents in need. Residents need to apply to the charity and it was suggested that an article be added to a future edition of the Parish Council newsletter.
- Further to MIN 21/71, UU have been contacted to provide an update on the Developer Impact Reports regarding an increase in additional foul water from new developments.

The Clerk has also contacted Ben Wallace MP to see if the government policy which requires UU to allow a connection to a sewer – even if the sewer is unsuitable – can be changed.

- Further to MIN 21/81 the Community Gardening Hub have been contacted regarding the provision of fruit trees
- Thanks were expressed to a local resident who cleaned and greased the locks on the Cumeragh Noticeboard following his attendance at the October meeting.
- The commemorative plaque for Cllr Rigby has been delivered. The Clerk and Chairman will arrange for the tree to be planted with a view to unveiling the plaque in the New Year once a date has been agreed with the family.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 13th Jan 2022 at 7.15pm** in the downstairs room of Goosnargh Village Hall.