



# WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr D Hall – Chairman  
Cllr B Clarke  
Cllr B Huggon  
Cllr M Woodburn

#### PUBLIC PRESENT

City Cllr R Woollam

Due to the remote nature of the meeting, the Chairman checked everyone could be seen and heard and reminded people to raise their hand when speaking and voting.

#### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr A Meades.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**MIN 20/117** Members RESOLVED to approve the March Minutes. They will be signed at the next face to face Council meeting in accordance with LGA 1972 Sch. 12 Part VI para 41 (1)

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS / WRITTEN DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**MIN 20/118** It was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

The Chairman acknowledged the passing of HRH Prince Phillip, The Duke of Edinburgh and on behalf of the Parish, expressed his condolences to Her Majesty the Queen.

City Cllr Ron Woollam stated that the City Council had continued to meet remotely and he was still available for any queries. He has been monitoring the housing situation and hopes the Whittingham applications will be refused.

Given that the City Council is very close to declaring a 5-year supply (see the supply update below) Cllr Huggon asked whether the approval of one or two applications will 'tip the balance' so that others will be refused, and if so, how will the City Council determine which ones to approve or refuse. Cllr Woollam stated that the situation was very much 'up in the air' and a lot depended on the Cardwell farm appeal.

The Clerk suggested that as the applications are being considered collectively, a collective decision is likely - but expressed concern that even if the City Council does declare a 5-year supply, the situation could still be challenged because the City Council has not held a robust review. With this in mind, Cllr Woollam was requested to check progress on the Local Plan. It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened.

#### PLANNING APPEALS / 5 YEAR SUPPLY UPDATE

Prior to the meeting, Members were informed that a Planning Inspector has determined that *as the City Council reviewed its housing supply figures in 2017, it needs to use the Core Strategy to determine its housing supply not the Government's Standard Formula*. The Standard Formula gives a supply of **13.6yrs** but the Core Strategy only equates to **4.95yrs** as the historic shortfall of homes not built, has to be included. The City Council is challenging the Inspector's decision and applications are currently being assessed on the basis that the Council has a housing supply of **13.6yrs**. Consequently, the tilted balance is **not** engaged; the Local Plan Policies are considered to be up to date and the Whittingham appeals will go ahead on the **13<sup>th</sup> April**. Members NOTED that a timetable and a link to observe the appeals has been included on the Parish Council website. Members thanked Cllr Woodburn for her involvement in the appeals and it was further NOTED that Cllr Clarke would also speak against the applications.

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

**MIN 20/119** Members NOTED the delegated representations submitted in March.

Reference was made to the planning consultation regarding a proposal to build 20 dwellings on land to the west of Henry Littler Way – the entrance to the Taylor Wimpey site.

Residents were of the opinion that the land would be managed as an Orchard but the Clerk explained that housing was approved under the outline application **06/2019/0365**. The Parish Council considered the matter when commenting on the outline, but were given assurances that the land is not part of Gott Field which will be protected from development. The Chairman stated that the Whittingham Hospital site was a huge application with many aspects negotiated between officers and Homes England. **MIN 20/120** It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would comment on the planning application rather than the consultation.

### FINANCE STATEMENT

Members NOTED that the end of year accounts had been reconciled and emailed. The accounts will now be sent to the Internal Auditor and the Annual Governance Assurance Review will be brought to the Zoom Annual Parish Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> May.

### OPEN SPACES SOCIETY 2021/22

**MIN 20/121** Members RESOLVED to renew membership to the Open Spaces Society at a cost of £45.00 as they can assist with queries on the Village Green and Public Rights of Way.

### RENEWAL OF LALC MEMBERSHIP 2021/22

Members noted that the LALC membership had increased as it is based on the number of electors in the Parish. **MIN 20/122** Members RESOLVED to renew the Membership at a cost of £493.14 as the Association provides training, advice and information on local and national policies. Members noted that the Membership includes a £20 contribution towards the provision of a Secretary for Preston Area Committee.

### ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

**MIN 20/123** Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	PAYMENT
Quarterly Exp Jan - March	J Buttle	£45.30	BACS
Jan – March Play area Insp	Barton Grange	£402.00	BACS
2 <sup>nd</sup> April E-ON electric DD	E-ON	£11.97	BACS
April 2021 Clerk Salary	J Buttle	£551.07	BACS
April PAYE	HMRC	£137.60	BACS

### CIL EXPENDITURE / ANNUAL REPORT

Members NOTED that the Barton Grange quote for the PROW repairs had increased by £550 + VAT due to additional materials and essential repairs to a footbridge as notified by email. The amount will be claimed back by applying for the 2021/22 PROW delivery grant.

Barton Grange	PROW repairs	£7,746.00	BACS
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**MIN 20/124** Members RESOLVED to approve the invoice and the end of year CIL report for 2020/ 21.

### RETURNING TO FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

Members NOTED that the legislation to hold remote meetings lapses on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and after that date, the Council should revert to face to face meetings. The Clerk reminded Members to complete the Government's survey regarding the merits of remote meetings in future.

**MIN 20/125** Bearing in mind the restrictions that need to be followed during face-to-face meetings, it was RESOLVED that it would be 'safer' to hold the Annual Parish Meeting remotely on the **26<sup>th</sup> April**. The Annual Parish Council meeting will also be held remotely but as the 3<sup>rd</sup> May is a Bank Holiday, it was RESOLVED that the meeting be held on **Tues 4<sup>th</sup> May**.

**MIN 20/126** Members noted that the Village Hall is only available to 'monthly' hirers on a Thursday, however in order to comply with social distancing, risk assessments and disability legislation, it was RESOLVED that when face to face meetings resume, they will be held in the downstairs room of the Village Hall on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** of the month. Members NOTED that they will be obliged to adhere to risk assessments and help set up and clean the premises.

**MIN 20/127** It was RESOLVED that full details are circulated before the meetings resume.

### BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Members noted that the Closing date for entries to the Best Kept Village competition is the 17<sup>th</sup> April with judging will take place June - August. **MIN 20/128** Members RESOLVED that it was too soon to submit an entry this year but an entry may be entered next year.

### **NEWSLETTER – SPRING EDITION**

**MIN 20/129** The Clerk noted a minor amendment to the Newsletter and it was RESOLVED that it be printed and distributed in time to advertise the 26<sup>th</sup> April Annual Parish Meeting.

### **NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

Members NOTED that the Clerk is looking into a tree planting initiative and hopes to bring a report to the May or June meeting.

### **DATES OF NEXT MEETING**

Members confirmed that the next meeting dates are as follows

- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April** - Annual Parish Meeting – remotely by Zoom
- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May** - Annual Council meeting – remotely by Zoom
- **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June** - ordinary meeting face to face in Goosnargh Village Hall (following completion of risk assessments) – see Agenda item 13.

**END**