



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on
Thursday 13th April 2023 at 7.15pm
in Goosnargh Village Hall – downstairs

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman
Cllr Barbara Clarke
Cllr Eddie Marginson
Cllr Dave Price.
Cllr Michelle Woodburn

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

1 resident from Cumeragh Village
Chief Insp Sue Bushell
Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Cllr Tony Brooks. Cllr Huggon was present during public participation but had to leave shortly afterwards.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on **9th March 2023.**

MIN 22/152 it was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the Minutes as a true record.

TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Woodburn declared a personal interest in planning application **06/2023/0236** as she knows the applicant.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 22/153 it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Cllr Clarke stated that she had provided the Heritage Group with photographs of the inside of St John's Church following the 2022 site visit with Homes England. Members were reminded that Homes England require a Business Plan confirming the Parish Council's aspirations for the building but to date, it has not been possible to source any grants to help the Council determine the most appropriate use for the site. In January 2023, Cllr Hall referred to a Newspaper article regarding a Community Trust which had been set up refurbish Emmanuel Church in Plungington. The Clerk confirmed the intention to invite a Trust representative to a meeting following the May elections, so that any newly elected Councillors can be involved in the initial discussions. Members expressed a preference for a separate meeting which could be attended by members of the Heritage Group or other parties who may be able to suggest ideas.

It was confirmed that a letter was sent to the recommended contractor to replace the tiles on the bus shelter roof, but a reply has not been received and work has not commenced. Cllr Woodburn and Cllr Marginson will contact him again.

Further to the Police Crime Commissioner's attendance in January and the 20th Feb Preston Area Committee meeting, Chief Inspector Sue Bushell had been invited to the meeting to discuss rural policing. She explained the policing structure in Preston and confirmed that following a national uplift in police recruitment, additional officers had been employed which would result in Community Beat Managers going back to neighbourhood policing. Inspector Dave Burn will start on the 17th April and he will work with Sgt Martin Hughes, PC Rumandeep Takhar and PCSO Chloe Pearson. Eventually 2 other PCSO will also be recruited locally.

It was explained that resources are allocated according to the risk and threat of an incident which means the inner-City areas will remain a priority, however, the visibility of local officers should increase, especially with the introduction of mobile police surgeries which the PCSO's will set up from Longridge Football Club and Goosnargh Village Hall.

Reference was made to the Lancashire Talking initiative where residents can sign up to an email system for alerts in the local area and give feedback on issues of concern. The Clerk was requested to send the information to Members. Cllr Woodburn also stated she would add the link to a local Whatsapp group which operates as a neighbourhood watch scheme.

Cllr Marginson repeated his concerns that 3 PCSO's was insufficient to cover the whole of the rural areas. In reply, Chief Insp Bushell stated that TAC op patrol vehicles pass through the area and she referred to the rural task force which reviews reports looking for patterns and trends in rural crimes. The task force has access to a 4-wheel drive car and another larger vehicle. Mounted police can also be moved in to areas to offer reassurance and increase the police presence. It was confirmed that the rural PCSO are not assigned a police vehicle but assurances were given that they have access to fleet vehicles which they can use. In response to a question, it was confirmed that police staff still use Broughton as a base but it was unclear if Longridge police station was still open to the public

In response to a question, it was confirmed that the police have a dedicated team to respond to domestic violence, modern slavery and exploitation.

Cllr Hall referred to the Deputy Crime Commissioner's visit in January and the long await review into GATSO speed cameras. It was stated that speeding is still a serious problem in the Parish and concerns were expressed that additional housing leads to more people, more cars, and ultimately more crime. It was confirmed that the Speed Indicator units are working and recording data but preventative measures are not forthcoming. Chief Inspector Bushell referred to the work of the Road Safety Team and Community Road Watch and took away a request to provide direct feedback on any speeding measures which will benefit the parish.

Chief Inspector Bushell was thanked for her attendance and the meeting was reconvened. Cllr Huggon gave his apologies at this point as he needed to return home.

2022/23 CIL ANNUAL FINANCE REPORTS

MIN 22/154 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the CIL Infrastructure and Finance Reports.

2023/24 CIL BUSINESS PLAN

Members **noted** the CIL business plan and requested an amendment to the estimated cumulative total which was incorrect.

Cllr Marginson reported an accident relating to the existing floodlights at Longridge Football Club and stated that a company called Abacus had been approached to quote for the replacement lights. It was queried whether the Club can claim back VAT, if so, the VAT element should not be included in any CIL monies awarded. The Clerk will make a note on the file to check when the Invoice is received.

Concerns were again expressed that the City Council have not made any progress on the lighting requested on the path near the tennis courts. A further email will be sent.

Cllr Marginson advised that the Scouts and the Tennis Club were making progress on a new building and Cllr Landless was assisting discussions with the planning department.

CUMERAGH VILLAGE PLANTERS

Further to MIN 22/147, Members noted that the Cumeragh Village Association (CVA) have submitted a request for 4 ERGO raised beds at a total cost of £199.96. In terms of match funding, CVA will provide the labour to fill them with soil, perennials and bedding. Ongoing maintenance will be undertaken by CVA.

MIN 22/155 Members **RESOLVED** to add the amount to category one of the CIL business plan. It was confirmed that CVA may purchase the planters and forward the invoice to the Clerk who will release the funds. The invoice will then be paid by CVA.

BEACON DRIVE WAR MEMORIAL

Members noted the photographs showing the moss in the grass at the side of the war memorial and the cracked flagstones which need power washing and grouting.

MIN 22/156 Members confirmed that both jobs need attention and **RESOLVED** to request that Nurture treat the moss under clause C3 of the Maintenance Contract. Under 10.3 of the Financial Regulations 3 estimates will be sought for the flagstone repairs. The Clerk will contact Nurture and Cllr Marginson and Cllr Woodburn will make enquiries to see if any local contractors can also provide quotes.

2022/23 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

MIN 22/157 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the following invoices paid before the financial year end, in accordance with Standing Order 2020 15 (xii)

MIN 22/121 SPID repair & install	Traffic Technology	£1575.00	BACS	REF 88
Spring 2022 Newsletter	Preston City Council	£140.00	BACS	REF 89
Parish Plan Survey	Preston City Council	£487.50	BACS	REF 90
Greenspace contribution	Preston City Council	£990.00	BACS	REF 91
Autumn 2022 Newsletter	Preston City Council	£240.00	BACS	REF 92

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

MIN 22/158 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the end of year 2022/23 accounts which will now be presented to the Internal Auditor.

2023/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 22/159 Members noted that the E-ON Electric Bill will be deducted monthly by Direct Debit and **RESOLVED** to note and approve the following accounts already paid in accordance with Standing Order 2020 15 (xii)

Min 22/146 Play area repair	Playdale deposit	£867.61	BACS	REF 1
Spring 2023 Newsletter printing	Preston City Council	£140.00	BACS	REF 2
Spring 2023 Newsletter delivery	J P P Media	£156.60	BACS	REF 3

MIN 22/160 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the following accounts for payment

2 x 4 pack of multi-Ink and A4 Paper	Woodplumpton PC	£109.28	BACS
Clerk Salary April	J Buttle	£602.36	BACs
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£150.40	BACs

MEMBER SUBSISTENCE CLAIM

MIN 22/161 Further to MIN 22/10 where Members resolved to adopt an allowance scheme to reimburse Councillors for Council related expenses, Members **RESOLVED** to reimburse Cllr Marginson for a HP 912 multi-ink pack at £51.99.

PLANNING TRAINING COURSE

Cllr Dave Price expressed an interest in attending a planning training session in February which was fully booked. The Clerk booked a course on the 25th April which Cllr Marginson also expressed an interest in attending.

MIN 22/162 Members **RESOLVED** to confirm payment of £40 for Cllr Marginson to attend.

PARISH PLAN FINAL DRAFT

Further to the Parish Plan consultation, Cllr Price has updated the Plan with the results of the survey and has added suggested leads, dates and actions. Members agreed to discuss the content at a working group meeting on the **17th May at 7.00pm.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

MIN 22/163 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the delegated planning representations which included a 'discharge of condition' application relating to a Travel Plan for the housing development at the former hospital site. The Travel plan refers to a contact at LCC who has responsibility for ensuring the Travel Plan is implemented. Members requested that he be invited to the June meeting.

Members also noted that the planning application for the new social club has not been submitted yet and whilst no further details were available, concerns were expressed that Homes England may be scaling down the project. The Clerk will contact Homes England for an update.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted a request to clean the telephone kiosk on Halfpenny Lane. The request will be referred to Nurture under the maintenance contract.

The Clerk also reported that the lock on the Halfpenny Lane notice board was broken. It was confirmed the Clerk should contact a locksmith to repair it under delegated authority.

LCC have emailed some changes to the 45 and 46 bus services. The Clerk will request a time table or summary to the changes so that the information can be added to Facebook and the website.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Council Meeting on **Thursday 11th May 2023** which takes place after the **Annual Parish Meeting** commencing at **6.30pm**. Members confirmed that local community groups who have received funding or who have approached the Council for help with projects should be invited to attend.