



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on
Thursday 13th Jan 2022 at 7.15pm
in Goosnargh Village Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr D Hall - Chairman
Cllr T Brooks
Cllr B Clarke
Cllr E Marginson
Cllr M Woodburn

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk
G Paton & P Clarke – Goosnargh Tennis Club
Cllr H Landless – Preston City Council

APOLOGIES

County Cllr S Whittam, Cllr R Woollam and PCSO J Anyon sent their apologies.
Apologies were also received from Cllr B Huggon after the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on **11th Nov 2021**.

MIN 21/98 it was RESOLVED that the Chairman sign the Minutes as a true record.

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

MIN 21/99 Cllr Clarke declared a personal interest in the tennis club request for funding as her husband is a member of the club.

All Members present declared a pecuniary interest in relation to the setting of the Precept and submitted a written request for a dispensation. **MIN 21/100** The Clerk considered and granted the requests under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011. As some Members do not live in the parish, the Clerk will check if a dispensation is required next year.

CO-OPTION

Both applicants for co-option presented their apologies for personal reasons.

MIN 21/101 It was RESOLVED that the matter be deferred to the February meeting. The Clerk will inform the applicants.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 21/102 It was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Cllr Landless stated that there was no update on the planning appeals but a resident had contacted him to express an interest in using the Parish Council bus shelters as a 'book swap' facility. It was noted that a resident already offers this service on Whittingham Lane. The Clerk will establish what the resident has in mind and if necessary, it can be put on a future agenda for consideration.

Cllr Landless also explained that he was involved in Environment and Community Safety meetings at the City Council and he would happily deal with issues relating to those matters. He referred to 2 grants available from Preston City Council - a hardship grant and a grant to help disabled people carry out household alterations. The Clerk will check the details and add an article to the webpage.

The representatives from Goosnargh Tennis Club explained the history of the club, outlined the detail of their funding request and answered questions relating to current membership levels. They were thanked for their attendance and it was explained that a decision will be taken under the agenda item.

Cllr Marginson and Cllr Woodburn informed Members that the Cricket Club and the Scout Leader had been put in contact with Homes England. With regards to the repairs to the cricket club pavilion, Homes England's surveyors visited the site at the beginning of December and a report on the works needed is expected in the New Year.

MIN 21/103 It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened and the CIL matter relating to the tennis club funding could be brought forward.

CIL SUGGESTION – TENNIS CLUB

Prior to the meeting, Members were forwarded a letter from Goosnargh Tennis Club requesting financial support to improve their facilities. As CIL can only be spent on infrastructure improvements - not general maintenance issues – the City Council has been asked to advise if any of the items can be financed by CIL, however notwithstanding their response, it was suggested that the Tennis Club produce a business plan to prioritise the items which need funding first. In addition, it was explained that they could apply to the Parish Council for a small community donation to help with the repair or replacement of some items.

MIN 21/104 Members stated that the tennis club was a valuable community asset and **RESOLVED** that the CIL request for funding should be added to the Business Plan – pending further information from the City Council and the production of a business plan to help prioritise expenditure items.

TRAFFIC ISSUES

Members noted the reply from LCC stating that substantial patching has been completed on Goosnargh Lane and repairs to Langley Lane and Short Lane will be carried out shortly.

MIN 21/105 It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk notify LCC that resurfacing is also required at Dean Farm Garage on Whittingham Lane.

With regards to the request for a GATSO camera and speed gun training, the Clerk has been contacted by an officer from the Road Safety Partnership who advised that the police were moving away from fixed devices such as GATSO cameras in preference to mobile enforcement. However, as there are 3 mobile enforcement sites in Whittingham - we couldn't have speed gun training because motorists caught speeding by the enforcement car would receive a fixed penalty notice and a motorist caught speeding with a community operated speed gun would receive a warning letter. Apparently, this discrepancy is 'unfair' and the fixed penalty notice could be appealed. Members noted that the WiFi function on the SPIDs is intermittent which means the data can't be downloaded regularly. The Clerk will try to resolve the issue and establish if other Councillors can download the data and produce the reports.

MIN 21/106 it was **RESOLVED** to leave County Cllr Edwards attendance until a later meeting when more information has been collated – however, it was noted that Cllr Hall will attend the next Preston Area Committee meeting to raise the speeding concerns with Andy Pratt the deputy Police Crime Commissioner who is also the Chair of the Lancashire Safety Partnership.

PLANNING APPEALS / 5 YEAR SUPPLY UPDATE

A decision has still not been announced on the planning appeals however, it is understood that local City Councillors are pressing for more information.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

To reduce the time spent in meetings post Covid, the Clerk is dealing with routine planning matters under delegated authority in accordance with Standing Order 2020 (15 xiv).

The Clerk advised that an application had been submitted to demolish and rebuild Sandbank Farmhouse and demolish the industrial units at Sandbank Industrial estate and re-build them on grassland further to the east of the site. An earlier application had proposed 10 dwellings on the site of the demolished buildings but this element has been dropped from the revised application. When considering the original application, Members were of the opinion that the units should be re-built on the same footprint. **MIN 21/107** Members resolved to **NOTE** the representations made during December and confirmed their objection to the Sandbank proposal as the units would encroach further into the open countryside.

DEC 2021 FINANCE STATEMENT

MIN 21/108 Members noted that the December bank statements had been reconciled with the accounts and **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices already paid in accordance with Standing Order 2020 15 (xii)

Dec salary	Mrs J Buttle	£551.07	BACS	Ref 60
Dec PAYE	HMRC	£137.60	CQ 1514	Ref 61
Dec Electric	E-On	£13.58	DD	Ref 62

QUARTERLY BUDGET ANALYSIS 2020/21 OCT - DEC

MIN 21/109 Members RESOLVED to approve the 3rd quarter budget analysis noting the surplus in the grants and donations account and the budget excesses in relation to the safety repairs at Cumeragh play area and the bus shelter.

ACCOUNT SIGNATORY DETAILS

As the Clerk has changed her home address, the CCLA account signatories need to confirm that correspondence can be sent to the new address and at the same time, the signatories need updating to reflect the addition of 3 new Councillors.

MIN 21/110 It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hall and Cllr Huggon as existing signatories on the CCLA account, should sign the authorisation form to replace Cllr Lewis and Cllr Rigby with Cllr Clarke and Cllr Woodburn and add Cllr Brooks. In addition, Cllr Hall and Cllr Huggon signed the authorisation form to amend both the Clerk's address and that of Cllr Hall as Chairman.

ACCOUNTS SLCC MEMBERSHIP

MIN 21/111 Members RESOLVED to renew the Clerk's membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks. As the Clerk works for 2 Parishes the £215 membership will be shared by both Parishes at £107.50 each.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 21/112 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

2/4 expenses July - Sept	Mrs J Buttle	£39.00	BACS
3/4 expenses Oct - Dec	Mrs J Buttle	£46.56	BACS
Viking stationary contribution	Woodplumpton	£21.50	BACS
Christmas tree erection & removal	Barton Grange	£534.00	BACS
Jan salary	Mrs J Buttle	£551.07	BACS
Jan PAYE	HMRC	£137.60	CQ 1515
SLCC Membership	Woodplumpton Parish	£107.50	BACS
Jan Electric	E-On	£18.67	DD

SETTING OF THE PRECEPT FOR 2022/2023

At the November meeting, Members considered the **draft** budget for 2022/23. Following the inclusion of the following expenditure items, the draft budget totalled **£23,902**

- 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 considered the final budget which included projected income and an email from the Clerk detailing how the precept would impact on reserves. Members considered a proposal to balance the income and expenditure without impacting on reserves, but after considering the financial hardship Covid has caused and after taking into account that more households will contribute to the precept, **MIN 21/113** Members RESOLVED to agree a 2% increase resulting in a precept of **£21,961**

MIN 21/114 Members RESOLVED to approve a grant of £500 for the 2022 Whittingham Festival. Unless a request is made earlier, the cheque will be presented at the Annual Parish meeting in May.

CIL FINANCES AND BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

Members noted that quotes had been requested for the following items which were added to the CIL Business plan in November and the Clerk will now add improvements to the tennis club as agreed under MIN 21/104.

MIN 21/94 – Woodland Walk adjacent to the Barratt development

MIN 21/95 – Repairs to the cricket club pavilion

MIN 21/96 – War memorial benches

MIN 21/115 Members considered the quote for the metal war memorial benches and RESOLVED to make further enquiries for 4 benches to be installed at Whittingham cemetery, the exact location of which will need approval by Homes England.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members **NOTED** the following updates on current matters / new correspondence received since the issue of the agenda.

The Chairman stated that he had read a lesson at the Carol Service on the 19th December and also stated that the next meeting of the United Reform Charity would be on the 25th January.

A resident had contacted the Clerk stating that the Stakeholder meetings regarding the new Sports and Social Club facilities had resumed but the Parish Council has not been informed. The Clerk will ask the Chairman of the Sports & Social Club for an update and will remind him that Cllr Brooks has been appointed to attend as the Parish Council's representative.

Cllr Marginson expressed concern regarding the lack of lighting on the footpath at the back of the tennis court on Goosnargh Village Green. As this is owned by the City Council, the Clerk will make enquiries regarding whether new lights can be added.

Cllr Woodburn referred to the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations and questioned if it was possible to hold a party on the village green rather than individual street parties. It was established that as the Whittingham Festival is also scheduled to take place during the jubilee weekend further discussions are needed. It was stated that the Parish Council may be able to provide a community donation towards any events proposed and next year's budget also includes a refresh of the community garden on Beacon Drive.

Members were informed that Cllr Rigby's commemorative tree had been planted on Halfpenny Lane and the Clerk will check with the family regarding an unveiling ceremony.

It has been established that administrators need to be added to the Facebook page so that Cllrs can add posts and delete inappropriate comments. As the project is more technical than first thought the Clerk will seek some additional help to get the page live.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Thursday 10th February 2022 at 7.15pm** in Goosnargh Village Hall.