



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th Sep 2023 at 7.15pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman
Cllr Tony Brooks
Cllr Martin Carefoot
Cllr Eddie Marginson
Cllr Dave Price
Cllr Michelle Woodburn

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

City Cllr Stephen Whittam
Staff from Great Places housing association
Several residents as detailed on the attendance sheet

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Barbara Clarke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Council meeting held on 13th July 2023

MIN 23/24.67 Members **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the Minutes as a true record.

TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 23/24.68 it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Residents outlined an antisocial behaviour problem on the new Barratts estate off Cumeragh Lane. It was noted that City Cllr Whittam had been working with the residents to resolve the issues and 2 senior staff from Great Places housing association were present. Cllr Woodburn disclosed that she knew of the problems as a resident but did not act or intervene as a Parish Councillor. The residents confirmed that the issues had been reported to the police, housing agency staff, City Cllr Whittam and other agencies.

It was noted that the estate has a variety of housing tenures including market value, shared ownership, rental etc. It was stated and confirmed that tenants had been relocated on to the estate from St Helens. The housing association staff explained that they could not disclose any personal details regarding the tenants but rigorous checks had been carried out, which included meetings with the City Council, who also have a role in rehousing people.

With regards to the police involvement, residents were reminded that all incidents should be reported to the police however, concerns were expressed that whilst this might calm the situation for a few days, they quickly flare up again.

Residents expressed concerns that as several incidents related to the tenants' visitors, the housing association were unable to act. The housing agency staff confirmed that they have a Policy for dealing with anti-social behaviour which can be viewed on their website. Other measures have also been taken to ease the conflict but these can't be divulged due to confidentiality issues.

The housing association staff confirmed that their inhouse legal team were constantly reviewing the situation however due process had to be followed.

The residents made it clear that they 'won't be happy' until the tenants have been moved. Members reassured the residents that they had been listened to by repeating some of the concerns expressed.

To ensure that all the issues are collated and reported, it was suggested that the residents appoint a representative to communicate with the housing association staff who will endeavour to update the residents on any changes or concerns, whilst ensuring that due process and confidentiality are observed.

The meeting closed amicably and members of the public left.

Members acknowledged that the conflict needs to be resolved between the residents, police and housing association – possibly with Cllr Whittam acting as a negotiator – however, concerns were expressed that tenants from outside the area had been moved on to the estate. It was questioned how this could happen when there is allegedly a shortage of affordable homes for Preston residents. The Clerk explained that the S106 agreement attached to the planning application sets out the affordability criteria and compliance with the criteria can be checked with the City Council.

MIN 23/24.69 It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should **a)** contact the City Council through Cllr Whittam to question the affordability criteria and how it had been applied in this case and **b)** contact the housing association to ask for an update on any progress or major issues relating to the case.

Cllr Woodburn advised that Homes England had cleared some of the paths in the cemetery at the former hospital site. It was also **NOTED** that Goosnargh Oliverson's School were working with County Cllr Sue Whittam to divert a public right of way which runs through the school playground as it is a safeguarding concern.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

MIN 23/24.70 Further to the public participation session at the July meeting, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Clarke and Woodburn be appointed as the Parish Council's representatives on the Best Kept Village Group. It was **NOTED** that they may not commit the Council to any expense or involvement with the Group's actions, without first placing the matter on the Parish Council's agenda.

The agenda confirmed that Goosnargh Parish Council have historically submitted an entry for "Goosnargh Village" – which includes St Mary's Church, Goosnargh Oliverson's School, the Grapes and Bushell House in addition to Goosnargh Village Hall, Goosnargh Village Green and Goosnargh playground – which are in Whittingham Parish.

Rather than split the village or submit a duplicate entry, it was proposed that Goosnargh and Whittingham should work together to improve the village as a whole and submit a joint entry. It was also **NOTED** that the group were considering entries for Cumeragh Village Square and Halfpenny Lane.

MIN 23/24.71 It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk approach Goosnargh Parish Council for their comments on a joint entry.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (PROW) LOCAL DELIVERY SCHEME 2023/24.

LCC have published details of the 2023/24 PROW Local Delivery scheme which once again includes the biodiversity small grants project. As LCC did not award the 2022/23 grant payments until May 2023, it was agreed that the 2022/23 amounts could be carried forward.

MIN 23/24.72 Members **RESOLVED** to apply for the 2023/24 PROW and biodiversity grants.

REPAIR TO HALFPENNY LANE TELEPHONE KIOSK

At the June meeting, Members approved the purchase of new panels for the telephone kiosk and noted that new keys were required. Keys were issued to Cllr Carefoot and Cllr Marginson who will replace the panels and clean the interior. However, on further inspection, it was noted that the door hinges need replacing and the kiosk needs repainting as it was last done in 2018.

MIN 23/24.73 Members **RESOLVED** that Cllr Carefoot will clean the interior and the Clerk will seek quotes to replace the hinges and repaint the kiosk this financial year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st – 31st Aug 2023

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

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

MIN 23/24.74 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the following invoices already paid in accordance with Standing Order 2023 15 (xii)

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	REF
02.08.23 Goal post repair and spare parts	E Marginson	£36.85	40
Summer Newsletter delivery	J P P Media	£156.60	41
July Grounds Maintenance	Nurture	£627.00	42
Clerk Salary Aug	J Buttle	£602.36	43
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£150.40	44
Electric bill to 22 nd Aug	E-ON	£18.23	45
Longridge Town FC Floodlights	LTFC	£33,688.17	46
Summer newsletter Printing	City Council	£237.50	47
13.07.23 Cllr Marginson Black Ink cartridge	J Buttle	£31.08	48

MIN 23/24.75 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD
2 new keys for Telephone Kiosk	J Buttle	£15.00	BACs
Aug Grounds Maintenance	Nurture	£627.00	BACs
Clerk Salary Sept	J Buttle	£602.36	BACs
Tax / National Insurance	HMRC	£150.40	BACs
Electric bill to 21 st Sept	E-ON	£18.23	DD
More spare parts to repair goal posts	E Marginson	£24.16	BACs

MIN 23/24.76 Members noted and **RESOLVED** to approve an additional invoice for £200 which related to the 2023 uncontested elections.

MIN 23/24.77 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the £1008.00 invoice for the External Audit noting that whilst the expense was above the budget estimate, savings had been made on the election costs above. The Audit report will be presented to the October meeting for approval.

GOOSNARGH FOOTBALL PITCH

The CIL business plan included plans to prepare and equip the Village Green with a football pitch and the preparatory costs and the provision of goal posts are itemised on the CIL Finance Plan. Maintenance of the pitch needs to be funded from the precept and £4,200 was included in the 2023/24 budget. The Clerk presented an invoice for £1,440 covering the grass cutting period from 7th July to 15th September.

MIN 23/24.78 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the payment in accordance with the budget.

The football pitch has been extremely well received however the goal posts have been damaged resulting in a suggestion that more robust posts are required. Repairs to date (itemised above) total £61.01.

Members were informed that a local resident had offered to provide a set of metal hybrid nets however concerns were expressed that these might not comply with the City Council pitch licence as Samba nets had been detailed. In addition, whilst the repairs were annoying, spare parts had been purchased and the nets could be repaired quickly. Members were also informed that a donation may be offered to help the Council fund future repairs.

MIN 23/24.79 Members **RESOLVED** to trial the posts for a bit longer. The Clerk will also contact the City Council to check if the posts can be changed if the problems continue.

Further to MIN 23/24.51 of the July meeting, the City Council have replied that they will allow the Parish Council to erect dog bag dispenser bins on the Village Green providing the exact locations are submitted in advance of the installation.

MIN 23/24.80 Members **RESOLVED** that Cllr Marginson would confirm the locations for 2 dog bag dispensers on the Goosnargh Village Green. LCC will be approached to see if an additional one can be erected on the verge at Halfpenny Lane and the Parish Council will install a dispenser on its own land at the Cumeragh Village Square.

CIL FINANCE PLAN

The CIL Finance Plan has been updated to reflect payments relating to the flagstones £4,740, football pitch £957.55 and Longridge Town FC Floodlights £33,688.17. A request for the Village Hall roof retention has **not** been received.

MIN 23/24.81 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the CIL Finance Plan.

CIL BUSINESS PLAN

MIN 23/24.82 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the CIL Business Plan which has been updated to include a planting request at St John's cemetery MIN 23/24.54 and a declined request to use CIL funds to purchase burial land at St Mary's Church.

NEW CIL BUSINESS PLAN REQUESTS

Members considered the request to install a bus shelter at the tennis court bus stop on Goosnargh Village Green but queried the usage as the majority of children use the stop on the Goosnargh side of the road to access the bus to Longridge. Unfortunately, there isn't space for a shelter on that side.

MIN 23/24.83 Members **RESOLVED** not to add the request to the CIL business plan as a specific item, however they asked the Clerk to follow the matter up, as part of the bus service / S106 Agreement review, already listed under category 3.

DOG CONTROL ORDERS

Further to MIN 23/24.51, Members **NOTED** that the City Council had advised that they no longer fit signs to lamp posts as all dog owners should know it is an offence not to pick up after their dogs. Problem locations should be reported to the Council via their website. A web link has been added to the Parish Council website.

With regards to the request for the Dogs on Lead Order to be extended to the Village Greens, the City Council stated that the Parish Council would need to provide evidence to show that dogs not on leads were having a detrimental effect on the community. To provide the evidence, a specific parish consultation would be required.

MIN 23/24.84 As no complaints had been received, Members **RESOLVED** not to proceed with the matter.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH COMMUNITY PROJECT

Further to the working group meeting, Jill Cowgill's information relating to St John's Church was circulated to Members, however, Homes England have stated that they don't have any information relating to the current condition of the building.

The Clerk contacted Plungington Community Land Trust regarding their aspirations to fund and renovate improvements to Emmanuel Church in the hope that their experiences will help the Parish Council start the project.

MIN 23/24.85 Members **RESOLVED** to invite representatives from the Plungington Community Land Trust to a working group meeting on the 5th October.

PARISH PLAN

Theme 5 - Speeding Issues – Members were emailed a copy of the 20mph zone in Goosnargh Village but were referred to a press article stating that the Road Safety Partnership will [no longer investigate new concerns relating to speeding in the 20mph zones.](#)

With regards to the Preston Area Committee suggestion that temporary Speed Indicator Devices can be erected on existing SPID brackets, it was noted that the existing brackets were not in suitable locations and LCC had advised that new locations need to be approved and licenced by LCC prior to temporary or permanent SPIDs being erected.

MIN 23/24.86 Members **RESOLVED** not to finance more devices to prove that speeding was an issue – instead, the Council will continue to work with the Police and the Road Safety Partnership to reduce the number of speeding incidents, by promoting Community Road Watch and the Slow Down-Save Lives campaign.

Theme 3 - Community Services – A community resuscitation engagement officer had asked to attend the meeting to discuss resuscitation training opportunities.

MIN 23/24.87 As the officer was not present, Members **RESOLVED** to defer the item to the October meeting.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

MIN 23/24.88 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the delegated planning comments.

With regards to the planning refusal to extend the floodlight hours at the tennis club, the planning officer has replied to the Council's questions by stating that they were still of the opinion that the extended hours, additional noise and light spillage would cause a significant loss of amenity to surrounding residents.

MIN 23/24.89 Members **RESOLVED** to take no further action.

Members **NOTED** that Homes England have not yet submitted the Sports & Social Club planning application, however it is understood that they have entered into discussions with the Scouts to identify some land following the withdrawal of the joint application for a new facility.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members **NOTED** the following correspondence and updates received since the issue of the agenda.

1. Residents contacted the Parish Council regarding drainage concerns at Carroway Green where the downfall pipes had not been connected to the drains. Cllr Price and Cllr Brookes helped the residents whilst the properties were in danger of flooding and it is understood that the residents have since contacted Seddons builders to resolve the issue.
2. Whittingham Lane, Grimsargh will be temporarily closed between 0930 and 1530 hours on 30th October 2023. The diversion will be down Brabiner Lane.
3. A resident has expressed concerns regarding parking issues outside the Post Office. Highways and the Police are aware of the matter and the Parish Plan confirms that the Parish Council is working with them to try to identify a solution.
4. Cllr Hall attended the Preston Area Committee meeting and advised that the review of enforcement GATSO cameras was not going ahead which means new locations cannot be put forward. The first draft of the Local Plan will be presented to the next meeting which will be held on the 8th November.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 12th Oct 2023 at 7.15pm in Goosnargh Village Hall.

END