

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Residents will be aware that the Parish Council has repeatedly **opposed new housing development** in Whittingham as the Parish Council does not consider there are sufficient amenities, services and employment opportunities to serve existing residents, let alone new residents! In addition the Parish Council has **grave concerns** that the narrow, rural roads will not accommodate the additional traffic.

Unfortunately, officers and the majority of the Members of Preston City Council Planning Committee, feel they have **no grounds to refuse housing applications** because Preston (as a whole) has a housing shortage and Central Government is asking Councils to make up the shortfall.

The Parish Council has repeatedly questioned if the City Council can **demonstrate the local level of need - so that homes can be built according to where the demand is** - and, in the absence of a satisfactory reply, the Parish Council made a carefully considered decision to submit a **Motion of No Confidence** in the City Council Planning Department. The City Council has strongly objected to the Parish Council's action and a meeting has been arranged to see if an 'understanding' can be reached.

In addition to the above, the Parish Council and local residents asked Ben Wallace MP to call the 'approved' applications before the Secretary of State so he can assess if the situation in Whittingham is **in accordance with Government Policy**. Until the Secretary of State rules on the policy position, the City Council's decision to approve the applications is currently '**on hold**'.

HOLME FELL

The only exception to the above is Holme Fell which was approved **prior to** the City Council establishing it did not have a 5 year housing supply. The application was approved with a **Community Charter** and we have arranged a meeting with Contour Homes to discuss how the community can be assured that the 'commitments' in the Charter will be delivered.

We are expecting building work to commence shortly and we would like to advise residents that **any problems with construction work** such as mud or construction vehicles blocking the road should be reported to the City Council.

You can telephone your complaint to **01772 906912** or use this link to report concerns online

<https://selfservice.preston.gov.uk/service/forms/PlanningEnf.aspx>

WHITTINGHAM HOSPITAL SITE

Residents will be aware that Taylor Wimpey are building **150 homes** at the former **Whittingham Hospital site** off Henry Littler Way and Homes England have submitted an outline application **06/2019/0365** for a further **750 homes** taking the total number of dwellings to 900.

The application seeks **approval for access** for the development of up to 750 dwellings; the redevelopment of the Sports and Social Club and associated outdoor facilities; reservation of 1.5 hectares of land for a primary school, 3 dwellings at the former waste water treatment works, landscaping, public open space and other on-site infrastructure.

Obviously this is a complex application - especially as a Legal Agreement exists 'promising' various amenity and service improvements as part of the original application. With this in mind, the Parish Council has requested a meeting with the City Council to establish what aspects of the application can be considered at this outline stage and if the Legal Agreements will still apply. As soon as we have a steer on this, we will advise residents so that relevant comments can be made in response to the application.

CIL MONIES

Most housing developments have to pay a Community Infrastructure Levy and 15% of the money collected is passed to the Parish Council to be spent on infrastructure improvements in the Parish. Full details of the income and expenditure for 2018/19 can be found on the Parish Council website www.whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk.

During 2018/19 the Parish Council added a new surround to the Memorial on Beacon Drive and increased the awareness of the Parish through the addition of new boundary signs.

During 2019/20 we provided a bench and litter bin on Halfpenny Lane and our thanks are expressed to the kind resident who anonymously added some bedding plants to the location.



The Parish Council is also aiming to improve the Public Rights of Way with a view to producing leaflets to promote walks around the village and is considering the installation of Solar Powered Speed Devices.

If you have any other ideas for expenditure please contact the Parish Clerk.

LOWER WARD

Cllr Bernard Huggon
Arran House
500 Whittingham Lane
Goosnargh
Preston
PR3 2JJ

Tel: **01772 865690**

3 Vacancies

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please email or write to the Clerk explaining your interest and identifying any knowledge or skills you could bring to the role.

HIGHER WARD

Cllr Dave Hall
Chairman
1 Brooklands
Whittingham Road
Whittingham
Preston
PR3 2AB

Tel: **01772 783538**

Cllr Margaret Rigby
Moss Deeping
Whittingham Road
Whittingham
PR3 2AB

Tel: **01772 784573**

Cllr A Meades
Thorndale
Whittingham Road
Preston
PR3 2AJ

Tel: **07920 825277**

FOR ANY PROBLEMS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS WITHIN THE PARISH CONTACT

Mrs Julie Buttle
Parish Clerk
16 Minster Park
Cottam Hall
PR4 0BY

Tel: **01772 761637**

wparishclerk@gmail.com



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2019

OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE PARISH COUNCIL

Following the recent Parish Council elections in May, there are **3 Parish Councillor vacancies on Lower Ward** which covers Goosnargh Village which is currently being swamped by planning applications. To become a Parish Councillor you need to be over 18 years of age, on the list of electors for the Parish and either reside or work within 3 miles of the Parish.

The Parish Council needs to be at full strength to continue to challenge planning applications in the Parish and comment on the proposed development at Whittingham Hospital and we are appealing for residents to come forward to represent the community on this and other Parish Council matters.

For more information please contact the Clerk whose details are on the rear of the Newsletter.

The Parish Council usually meets at **Whittingham Sports and Social Club** on the **2nd Monday** of the month at **7.15pm**.

Dates for 2019 are

10th June 2019	8th July 2019	12th Aug 2019
9th Sept 2019	14th Oct 2019	11th Nov 2019
9th Dec 2019		

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings and the Agenda usually includes a period set aside for public participation so that residents can raise any concerns regarding items in the Parish.

If your concern requires a decision or action by the Council, you must contact the Clerk at least 1 week before the meeting so that the item can be included on the Agenda.

Our website **www.whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk** includes copies of the Minutes and Agenda, Councillor contact details, financial information and a news page updating residents on items of interest that come to the Parish Council's attention. Please visit the website and let the Clerk know if you have any ideas for additional information using the 'Contact Us' form.