

## WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**AN ORDINARY** meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall.

### **Members:**

Cllr Alan Lewis - Chairman  
Cllr Dave Hall  
Cllr Stan Hunter  
Cllr Bernard Huggon  
Cllr Ruth Mills  
Cllr Margaret Rigby

### **Members of the public**

Mr Meades  
Mr Landless  
  
Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

**APOLOGIES** All Members were present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

**MIN 21** it was RESOLVED that the May Council Minutes be signed as a true record. Members NOTED the draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting.

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

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**MIN 22** No members of the public were present and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned to hear from the applicants applying for the Councillor vacancy. Having considered the applications and their reasons for applying, Members commenced the selection process in private, before reconvening the meeting.

### **COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Both applicants were proposed and following a vote, **MIN 23** it was RESOLVED that Mr Landless be appointed as the co-opted Councillor for Higher Ward. He duly signed the Declaration of Office. The Chairman thanked both applicants and stated it was a difficult choice as both were acceptable good candidates. It was confirmed that the Clerk will write to Mr Meades to explain the procedure for applying for any future vacancies.

Members NOTED that the County Training Partnership is running a 2 day new Councillor and Clerks workshop in July but no Councillors were available to attend. It was confirmed that the Clerk would arrange an induction meeting with Cllr Landless.

### **TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT TO GOOSNARGH VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

Members were reminded that the Parish Council acts as Holding Trustee for Goosnargh Village Hall but having received literature from the Village Hall Information Service (ACRE) it was questioned whether the Parish Council could also appoint a Member to act as a Trustee on the Village Hall Management Committee. Clarification was sought from the Charity Commission who have confirmed that the Parish Council may nominate a Councillor to serve on the Management Committee.

Members NOTED that the Charity Commission have placed a copy of the original Deed (held by the Parish Council) in their electronic records and the handwritten amendments relating to attendance at meetings (on the Village Hall copy) no longer applies. Members also NOTED that there is a shortfall in the number of Trustees currently appointed and following a discussion, it was considered that it would be 'community spirited' for the Parish Council to appoint a Trustee to support the Management Committee. Members were reminded that any person nominated would be legally bound by the decisions of the Management Committee.

**MIN 24** It was RESOLVED that Cllr R Mills would be nominated to join the Management Committee with the option to reconsider her position at any time. To assist Cllr Mills with the task, the Clerk will provide her with a copy of the Charity Commission's literature Essential Trustee Guidance which will also be forwarded to the Management Committee Chairman.

### **CUMERAGH PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS / APPOINTMENT OF HANDYMAN**

At the May meeting, Members made several suggestions regarding how to carry out the weekly maintenance inspections required at Cumeragh Village play area.

The Clerk has contacted Barton Grange for a comparable quote to the service currently provided by the City Council and has also made enquiries from neighbouring parishes. One Parish uses Integrate and the Clerk has arranged a site meeting to discuss the requirements with them. Parishes who have a lengthsman have asked them to contact the Clerk if they are interested in the role. Any replies will be reported back to the July meeting.

**MIN 25** Members RESOLVED that there was limited scope to expand the role of a lengthsman to other areas of the Parish and the preferred option, was to use the newsletter to advertise the weekly inspections and ad hoc maintenance tasks as and when required.

### **WHITTINGHAM HOSPITAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

At the May meeting Cllr Lewis explained that 4 configurations for the sports facilities had been presented to the Stakeholder liaison meeting and a further option was put forward to use Gott Field. Copies of all 5 options were circulated with the Agenda.

The Clerk informed Members that Gott Field had previously been refused for housing and had not been included in the approved planning applications. The Clerk referred to the 2007 appeal Report to the Secretary of State which states that the masterplan was agreed following extensive discussion with officers and stakeholders. The school, community and recreational facilities would be grouped together to form a village centre that provided focus to the development with the recreational facilities at its heart.

**MIN 26** Members discussed the merits of all the options and RESOLVED that option 4 was the preferred option as it best reflected the aspirations of the appeal decision.

The Clerk reminded Members that under the S106 agreement, Taylor Wimpey are obliged to communicate with the Parish Council regarding transport provision to the development but despite repeated requests, Taylor Wimpey have not provided any additional information.

**MIN 27** Members RESOLVED that the Clerk sends a further request for the information stating that it must be received by the July meeting otherwise the Parish Council will seek advice on how to enforce the S106 agreement. The email is to be copied to Lancashire County Council, Preston City Council, HCA and Cllr L Smith.

The Clerk was also requested to establish if there was a S106 agreement and Green Travel Plan attached to the Mosses development.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL**

**Note** - Members are advised prior to the meeting that applications can be viewed at [www.preston.gov.uk](http://www.preston.gov.uk).

**06/2016/0323** Listed Building Consent for the installation of a heat pump system at White Farm, Back Lane, Whittingham. **MIN 28** Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

**06/2016/0408** 5no dwellings and associated works Land to rear of Lyndhurst Farm Halfpenny Lane Longridge. Members were reminded that the site has 2 recent planning permissions. A new access was approved to provide safer access to the farm and permission has been granted to convert an agricultural building into 3 dwellings. This application seeks to demolish the agricultural building and build 5no 4 bedroomed bungalows centred around the lake.

It was noted that the site is to the north of Old Rib Farm and a proposal south of Old Rib Farm was not taken forward at the preferred option stage of the Local Plan, because the site is in open countryside and did not comply with Policy 1 of the Core Strategy - Locating Growth. Policy 1 also takes into account local need but as there are already 500 houses with planning permission in the Higher Ward / Longridge area, any local need is well provided for. As the bungalows are 4 bedroomed with integral garages and gardens, they are not considered suitable to meet the needs of the elderly. For the above reasons the application is considered contrary to Policy 1 of the Core Strategy.

According to the Local Plan policy map, the application is in open countryside and development is limited to uses appropriate to a rural area, re-use of existing buildings and infilling. Members consider that the application does not meet any of these criteria and is contrary to Policy EN1.

Concern was expressed that the proposal states that as 3 properties have already been approved, only 2 more properties are being added - so the affordable housing requirement does not apply.

Each application should be considered on its own merits and as this is an application for 5 dwellings, The Parish Council considers that the policy should apply.

Notwithstanding the above policy reasons, Members considered the site to be unsustainable as the nearest local transport is ½ a mile away.

**MIN 29** Members RESOLVED to strongly object to the application.

**06/2016/0416** Engineering operations to provide an earth pit for the storage of slurry Whittingham Hall Farm, Whittingham Lane, Broughton.

**MIN 30** Members had no objections to the application and RESOLVED to leave to planning but requested that environmental health is consulted to reduce potential problems with flies and smells.

**06/2016/0424** Driveway and gates to the front of Ridgend House, Tenterhill Farm, Ashley Lane, Goosnargh. **MIN 31** Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

**06/2016/0439** Removal of condition no.3 attached to planning permission 06/1976/0634 (the occupation of the dwelling shall be limited to a person solely or mainly employed or last employed in agriculture) Hermanus, Whittingham Road, Longridge. **MIN 32** Members RESOLVED that they had no objections to the application as the land has been developed.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman verified that accounts and bank statements had been reconciled.

### INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Members NOTED that the internal audit has been completed and no issues have been raised. **MIN 33** Members RESOLVED to approve the payment of £85.

### ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members NOTED that the National Joint Council has reached an agreement on the pay scales for local government staff for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. As a result of the agreement, the Clerk's annual salary will increase by £58.11 from £5,819 to £5,877. The Clerk's salary has been adjusted to reflect the agreement which is backdated to the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

**MIN 34** Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment.

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
June salary (including back pay)	Mrs J Buttle	£404.23	1189
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£95.20	1190
Insurance Policy		£801.51	1191
Internal Audit	Mr L Slade	£85.00	1192
Data Protection registration	Information Commissioner	£35.00	1193

### LOCAL LIST

Following the dialogue with Preston City Council regarding whether parts of the Parish were eligible for conservation status, the Parish has now received information from the City Council regarding the introduction of a Local Heritage List. In summary, the Parish Council is invited to identify any buildings, monuments, landscapes or areas which contribute to the character of an area or are valued by local people. Following a selection criteria and public consultation, successful items will be added to an Approved Heritage List which will have material weight when determining planning applications.

**MIN 35** Members RESOLVED that they are keen to engage in the process and RESOLVED that an approach is made to the Local Heritage Group to assist with the identification of assets. It was noted that Cllr Hall is happy to meet with the Heritage Group and exchange ideas about the areas and assets to be included. A final report will come back to the September Parish Council in readiness for the final comments to be submitted before the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### LCC SURVEY

Members NOTED that Lancashire County Council is running a 12 week consultation regarding changes to where the Council delivers some of its local services. The proposals will mean the closure of Willows Park and Longridge Children's Centres but Longridge library will remain open.

As the Centres are in Longridge, Members expected that Longridge Town Council will comment on the proposals. **MIN 36** Members RESOLVED to express any comments to the consultation on an individual basis.

#### **NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

Members NOTED

- An update on the Broughton by-pass construction
- Repairs will be carried out to the M6 / M55 Bridge parapet resulting in overnight closures to the motorway commencing the 13<sup>th</sup> June
- Publicity regarding armed forces day on the 25<sup>th</sup> June

Members were informed that the City Council is carrying out a consultation on the allocation of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. The consultation was received after the Agenda had been published and has a closing date of the 1<sup>st</sup> July. An extension of time will be requested to allow the Parish Council to consider the consultation at the July meeting.

LCC have replied stating that they won't place weight restrictions on Brabiner Lane as the road is used by legitimate businesses, signs saying 'don't follow sat navs' will be misleading and they are unable to introduce a one way or access only system due to the low level of recorded injury collisions. A letter to this effect will be sent to Mr Proctor.

Following the emergency closure of Whittingham Lane due to a burst water main, concerns were expressed regarding the inadequate signage of the diversion. It was stated that the road will need to be closed again for more permanent repairs and the Clerk was asked to check this with LCC and request advance warning of the closure and adequate signage for any diversions.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.00pm.**