

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 11th Sept 2017** at 7.00pm at Whittingham Sports & Social Club.

Members:

Cllr Alan Lewis - Chairman
Cllr Stan Hunter
Cllr Harry Landless
Cllr Alex Meades
Cllr Dave Hall
Cllr Bernard Huggon,

Members of the public

Lindy King - GWHG
Cllr Lona Smith – Preston City Councillor
PC Chris Banks

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr Margaret Rigby.

Cllr Rigby last attended on the 14th November 2016 and has been unable to attend since due to bad health, however she has kept in regular contact with the Clerk regarding Parish Council matters. In accordance with statutory regulations, on the 8th May 2017, Members approved a 6 month period of absence. A verbal update was provided to the August meeting and it was stated that Cllr Rigby would be attending in September but unfortunately this was not possible. If Cllr Rigby is unable to attend in October, Members will need to formally consider whether to extend the period of absence at the November meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on 14th August 2017.

MIN 60 it was RESOLVED that the Aug Council Minutes be signed as a true record.

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

MIN 61 Cllr Landless declared a pecuniary interest in application **06/2017/0860** relating to the change of use at 853 Whittingham Lane, due to a business interest. Cllr Lewis declared a personal interest in the same application because he knows the applicant.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 62 it was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Cllr Smith confirmed her disappointment in the Holme Fell decision and has sent a letter to the Chief Executive, Director of Planning and Ben Wallace MP to highlight that it will set an unwelcome precedent for other applications. Mr Wallace MP has stated that if there is a point of law, a Judicial Review may be requested, but currently he is unable to do any more. The roadworks on Halfpenny Lane have led to an increase in speeding traffic and highways have erected a temporary SPID to encourage traffic to slow down. 30mph repeater signs have also been requested.

PC Banks advised that the senior policing team had been changed. PCSO Dave Reid had left for a new job in Burnley and would be replaced by PCSO Gemma McDonough who currently works in Sharoe Green and Garrison.

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the changes, several volunteers have left Broughton but are gradually coming back on board. In response to a query, it was confirmed that Gemma is keen to be involved in local community policing and this may lead to volunteers being required to work from the office in Goosnargh Village Hall.

There has been an increase in daytime burglaries, 3 of which have occurred on Church Lane. Entrance was gained by force and residents are advised not to leave a key in rear patio doors. Small items have been stolen which suggests the intruder is on foot. A black male has been recorded on CCTV in Grimsargh and it is hoped this will lead to an arrest. Various assaults and complaints have been received relating to residents at Guild Lodge and there has been a domestic assault in Inglewhite. A quantity of drugs have been recovered at an address in Cumeragh Lane and cannabis plants and harvesting equipment were seized. The offenders were known to the police.

Complaints have been made to LCC regarding a lack of communication relating to traffic management during roadworks. Many routes are blocked by roadworks and unsuitable alternatives are being sought by frustrated motorists. The police are aware of the situation on Brabiner Lane but they can't prevent motorists using an adopted highway. Where possible, details of road closures are included on the Parish Council website.

PC Banks stated that the Police had been involved in the intimidation issues relating to resident parking on Whittingham Lane. Following the involvement of LCC and the Land Registry it has been confirmed that some of the land belongs to the residential properties and some of the land is privately owned. All parties have been advised and the issue should now be concluded.

In response to a query, PC Banks confirmed the police are aware of the planning application for a micro pub in Goosnargh. It was stated that the licencing regulations are strict and other similar ventures have been run successfully.

A Police Cadet section has been set up at Broughton and Longridge to give youngsters an insight into the police force and provide activities in the evening. The cadets will become involved in community initiatives which may be of benefit / help to the Parish Council.

It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened

HOLME FELL PLANNING APPLICATION

Members voiced their concerns regarding the administration and procedures followed in the consideration of the Home Fell Planning application. The concerns may be taken further under the following options :-

Judicial Review – failure to adhere to the NPPF in relation to the definition of Rural Exception sites. “Small numbers of market homes may be permitted to enable the delivery of affordable units without grant funding”. 1/3rd of the homes will be full market sales which is not a small number and a grant has been awarded by the HCA to provide the affordable element. Furthermore, despite the education contribution being reduced, the applicant was permitted to increase the number of homes for sale at full market value.

Planning Case Unit – a significant departure from the NPPF and Local Development Framework in that the application does not comply with numerous policies in the Core Strategy and Local Plan and the Committee report does not address sustainability issues.

Local Government Ombudsman – political interference in the decision making process, non-compliance with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations due to a failure to allow the public to attend the meeting, breach of the Council’s Protocol in relation to site visits and forming an opinion on the application prior to the Committee meeting.

MIN 63 Members RESOLVED to submit a formal complaint to the City Council as the preliminary stage of a complaint to the Ombudsman. The Planning Case Unit will be contacted regarding the possibility of ‘calling in’ the application and further enquiries will be made in relation to the procedures and costs involved in requesting a judicial review.

MIN 64 Members RESOLVED to make a grant donation of £100 to the Goosnargh Residents Association to pay the consultant’s fee for assessing the application.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

Note - Members are advised prior to the meeting that applications can be viewed at www.preston.gov.uk.

As Cllr Landless declared a pecuniary interest in the application, he left the room during the discussion and decision on application **06/2017/0860** Change of use from retail to drinking establishment including outdoor seating area at 853 Whittingham Lane, Goosnargh.

Members were informed that the proposal will include an outside seating area which may be in close proximity to the vehicular entrance to the site, however it was felt that LCC were best placed to comment on whether this would represent a safety concern.

Members noted the crime impact statement reported there had been a number of crimes in the area relating to burglary, criminal damage and assaults and Members agreed that the suggested security measures should be included on the planning conditions.

The parade of shops do tend to be an area where youngsters congregate but as the premises will be registered as a licensed premises, it was considered that there is a mechanism in place to deal with any increase in concerns, should the situation arise.

It was noted that there is a downstairs toilet and it was questioned if the upstairs unisex toilet will be made available to the public. If this is the case, access and security of the storage area needs to be considered. **MIN 65** In summary, Members were supportive of the establishment of a new business and RESOLVED not to object to the proposal.

06/2017/0940 Single storey rear extension at 15 Churchgate, Goosnargh

MIN 66 Members RESOLVED to leave to planning

06/2017/0941 Outline planning application for up to 101 dwellings following demolition of 126a Whittingham Lane (access applied for only) on land to rear of 126a Whittingham Lane. Members noted that the site is located between a site for 61 dwellings **06/2015/0816** on previously developed land – and an application for 24 dwellings **06/2016/0124** - which was refused by planning committee. The refusal was upheld by a Planning Inspector and Members consider the reasons for refusal apply to this application.

The site is located in the open countryside and is located in an Area of Separation between Broughton and Whittingham Parishes. Development in the open countryside is expected to be small scale and limited to infilling. 101 properties is not small scale and given that Planning Inspectors have concluded that the City Council has a 5yr housing supply, there is no reason for this area to be expanded resulting in a loss of open countryside. It is considered that the proposed development would have an unacceptable adverse impact on the rural identity and distinctiveness of the local area and would diminish the effectiveness of the Area of Separation contrary to the requirements of the Core Strategy Policy 19, Preston Local Plan Policies EN1 and EN4 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

The proposed development would not be close to local amenities, facilities or services and future residents would be car dependent. The proposal would not constitute sustainable development and would conflict with policy 1 of the Core Strategy, Policy EN1 of the Local Plan and paragraphs 17, 29 and 55 of the NPPF.

The addition of a new access in close proximity to the access serving **06/2015/0816** is considered to be dangerous and the lack of connectivity between the 2 parcels of land is considered to be a poor design for motorists and pedestrians alike. The proposed development would severely affect the efficient, safe and convenient movement of all highway users which would be detrimental to highway safety and accessibility, contrary to Policy 3 of the Central Lancashire Core Strategy and Policy ST2 of the Preston Local Plan.

MIN 67 For the above reasons, Members RESOLVED to object to the application.

06/2017/0950 Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of building and hardstanding for hire and storage of plant and agricultural machinery and equipment and agricultural contracting enterprise at Norshaw Barn, Pudding Pie Nook Lane, Preston,

MIN 68 Members RESOLVED to note the application as it is the applicant's responsibility to prove whether or not the use has been established.

06/2017/1017 Reserved matters application (namely appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline planning permission 06/2016/0963 for 1no. dwelling at Belmont Farm, Inglewhite Road, Whittingham.

Members noted that the outline application established the principle of a dwelling in this location. It was felt that the property was a substantial size but it is on a large plot and will be set back from Inglewhite Road due to the access road approved under outline permission 06/2016/1266. Concerns were expressed that the surface water will drain into a 150mm pipe embedded in a ditch. Given that further properties will be added and their primary drainage connection point is illustrated on the plan, it is questioned whether the drainage strategy is adequate and whether other drainage options should be investigated.

MIN 69 Members RESOLVED to leave to planning to assess the drainage and whether the scale of the application will have a negative impact on the area.

06/2017/1021 Engineering operations to provide an earth pit for the storage of slurry (resubmission of planning application 06/2017/0325) at Whittingham Hall Farm, Whittingham Lane, Whittingham.

Members noted that 06/2017/0325 was refused due to the absence of an odour management plan. **MIN 70** Whilst that has been addressed in this application, Members RESOLVED to request that Environmental Health comment on whether the proposal will result in an increase in insects, flies and vermin as the slurry pit will be uncovered.

CHANGE OF SPEED LIMIT – WHITTINGHAM LANE

Members noted that the Broughton by-pass will open on the 5th October and as part of the changes, LCC are proposing a 20mph restriction along the A6 between Broughton roundabout and the northern edge of Broughton.

The 20mph will also extend through Broughton crossroads increasing to 30mph through the residential areas.

MIN 71 Members RESOLVED to reply to the consultation with the following points

- How will the 20mph through Broughton be enforced?
- Why make the A6 20mph but allow traffic to increase to 30mph through the residential areas including past Broughton Secondary School.
- What is the speed limit for the 'orange patch' on Whittingham Lane between the 2 30mph zones? (see plan)
- Why isn't the route of the by-pass, including the new roundabout with Whittingham Lane, shown on the map?
- Members were under the impression that traffic travelling to Whittingham would need to travel north and double back to the new roundabout on Whittingham Lane instead of turning right at Broughton crossroads. If traffic can still use the A6 and turn right at the crossroads - how does this encourage traffic to use the by-pass?

ELECTORAL REVIEW

The Boundary Commission have issued draft recommendations to alter the ward boundaries of the City Council. Currently there are 57 Councillors and under the proposals, this will reduce to 48. Under the proposal Whittingham will come under Preston Rural East rather than Preston Rural North, however Goosnargh will remain in Preston Rural North. Members commented that Goosnargh and Whittingham are intrinsically linked and share an identity and community facilities and it would be wrong to divide them and place them in different wards.

MIN 72 Members RESOLVED to respond and object to the proposals which put numerical accountability over and above local communities.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements had been reconciled.

EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Members noted the external audit has been completed and no issues have been raised.

MIN 73 Members RESOLVED to approve the Annual Return and Certificate and approved the payment of £120.00.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 74 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
Sept salary	Mrs J Buttle	£426.47	1274
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£78.80	1275
Grounds maintenance	Envirocare Statement	£708.00	1276
Audit return	BDO	£120.00	1277

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

2 wreaths have been ordered for the Remembrance Day services in St Mary's Church and at the Parish Council Memorial on Beacon Drive. Last year an inaugural service was held at the Beacon Drive memorial but as Armistice Day falls on Saturday, Members felt that residents should be invited to lay a wreath or pay their respects at the Beacon Drive Memorial on Saturday or Sunday. **MIN 75** Members RESOLVED that the Chairman would say a few words and lay a wreath at the Memorial at 11.00 on Saturday 11th November however, there would not be a formal Service. Members of the public will be invited to attend via the Parish Newsletter. The Chairman will also represent the Parish Council at the Church Service on Sunday.

A proposal was put forward to make the memorial stand out by changing the floor material and cordoning it off. Quotes will be sought and included in the November budget proposals.

ORDERING OF 17/18 CHRISTMAS TREE

The budget includes the provision of a Christmas tree at Beacon Drive. Barton Grange provide a complete package supplying the tree, dressing it, removing it and storing the lights. A comparable package at a similar price is not available.

MIN 76 Members RESOLVED to renew the arrangements for this year.

UPDATE ON CIL ITEMS

Members NOTED the following updates on CIL items.

Footpath Village Hall – Concern was expressed regarding the concrete setts round a tree near the Village Hall carpark, however the work is not yet been completed due to a problem with the tarmac.

Litter / dog bins – Confirmation has been received that a bin will be installed at Green Nook Lane. Negotiations are continuing regarding Halfpenny Lane.

Speed cameras – Members have expressed a preference for the design and location and this has been emailed to LCC. We are waiting for LCC to confirm the design is acceptable.

Circular walks – Feedback will be requested from the volunteers but it would appear that the routes need to be walked with a view to collecting reliable data.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

There were no comments on the Universal Broadband Service Obligation consultation.

The Goosnargh Whittingham Heritage Group AGM will be on the 18th Sept at 7.30pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled to take place on **Monday 9th October 2017** at 7.00pm.