

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 8th December 2014** at 7.00pm in an upstairs meeting room at The Grapes Public House Goosnargh due to the heating being switched off in Goosnargh Village Hall.

Members:

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman
Cllr Stan Hunter
Cllr Alan Lewis
Cllr Margaret Rigby
Cllr Lona Smith

Members of the public

Mr Alan Wheatley - FOWGG
Mr Geoff Sumner - Church Warden
Mrs Tricia Parker - CVRA
Mr Mike Molyneux - Preston City Council
Ms Jackie Wilding - Preston City Council
Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr Ruth Mills and Cllr Bernard Huggon

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting held on 10th November 2014.

MIN 90 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the November meeting be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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

Members declared a pecuniary interest in relation to the setting of the Precept and submitted a written request for a dispensation under S31 of the Localism Act 2011.

MIN 91 The Clerk considered the requests in accordance with SO 38 and S101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and granted the requests under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed those present and apologised for the change in location due to a lack of heating in the Village Hall. With regard to the query about the plastering up of a door at the Village Hall, Members noted a reply confirming that the door was not a fire exit. Members requested that a suggestion to change the venue to The Grapes be added to the January agenda.

MIN 92 Members RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting for public participation.

Mrs Parker addressed the meeting and explained that the CVRA had been awarded £1,000 in the Lloyds Community grant scheme. The money will be spent on 2 areas of sensory planting to the east of the play area site. The Clerk suggested that details of the planters and the exact location are presented to the Council so that planting and future maintenance can be established.

The CVRA remained disappointed that the Parish Council had decided not to fund a Christmas tree at the Square and requested permission to erect a tree with battery lights which they will fund. The Clerk advised that a formal decision could not be made as the matter was not on the Agenda, however in view of the timescales and as the CVRA have used The Square for community events previously, Members felt it would be appropriate to agree in principle to the request providing the Clerk issues a letter reminding the CVRA to ensure their liability insurance covers any associated damage or incidents and that any damage to the grassed area must be restored.

Further to MIN 80, Mr Wheatley addressed the Council regarding the purchase and erection of a bench on Goosnargh Village Green in memory of Mr Birkby. It was explained that the bench will cost £634.00. FOWGG has £220.86 in the bank, and members of the executive have made personal donations amounting to £120.00 leaving a shortfall of £293.14. FOWGG have submitted an application for £100 to the County Council Grant Scheme and depending on the success of the grant, the amount required will either be £293.14 or £193.14.

A photograph of the bench and plaque wording were shown to Members along with a copy of a new sign to be placed on the notice board thanking sponsors for their contribution to the play area. Members were informed that the bench would be sited opposite existing seats and is not considered to be of any particular disadvantage to surrounding residents.

Mr Sumner addressed the meeting to inform Members of a community development project at St Mary the Virgin Church. The project focuses on community based facilities within the Church and will provide a community room and social space for meetings, concerts, social events, clubs and education. It was stated that the project is likely to cost in the region of £272,000 plus vat and the Church is hoping to raise the amount through donations and grants. The Parish Council is not being asked to make a contribution at this stage but is being invited to attend a viewing of the plans on Saturday the 13th December between 10.00 and 11.00. Mr Sumner was advised that any funding request would need to be presented to the Council as a formal agenda item with details of the costs and other funding secured. Members would also need to be clear exactly how the donation will be used. The Clerk requested a copy of the plans for the Council's records.

Officers from Preston City Council gave a presentation on the regulations and procedures for CIL payments (Community Infrastructure Levy). They also gave Members some literature from Norfolk County Council which has been prepared for Parish Councils and can be used for guidance. The main points were

1. The purpose of CIL is to levy a charge on relevant development to fund infrastructure - loosely defined as roads and transport, flood defences, schools and educational facilities, medical facilities, sporting and recreational facilities and open spaces.
2. If the Clerk has training on the General Power of Competence the Parish Council may be able to fund more strategic items.
3. CIL is calculated on the new gross internal floor space of every floor – not just the building footprint
4. The District Council will pass 15% of CIL revenue to parishes where development has taken place. The amount will be capped to £100 per existing council tax dwelling. This amount rises to 25% if the Parish Council has a neighbourhood plan.
5. Upon commencement the developers pay the levy to the City Council. There is an option for them to pay by instalments. The City Council will make 2 payments to Parishes
 - Developments commenced April – Sept – paid 28th October
 - Developments commenced Oct – March – paid 28th April
6. Parish Councils must spend the levy within 5 years and provide an annual report to say how the levy has been spent. The City Council does not have to approve the report, but if they feel CIL has not been spent in accordance with the regulations they can ask for it to be returned.
7. There is no obligation for the Parish Council to accept the levy, but if the parish declines, the amount may well be spent on other areas of the City.
8. If the Parish Council decided to accept the levy now, it could opt out in the future and if it decided not to accept the levy now it could opt in at a later date.

Members stated that many of the developers would not be providing infrastructure such as new schools until the later development phases and queried whether the Parish Council would be under pressure to contribute to schools etc in order to bring them forward. It was felt this would not be the case as the trigger point for additional infrastructure is set out in the planning permission.

If the Parish Council accepts CIL, the first payment will be made on the 28th April 15.

PURCHASE OF BENCH FOR FOWGG

Under MIN 80 Members RESOLVED to make a donation to support the provision of a seat at Goosnargh Village Green but requested further information on the type of seat, location and a breakdown of additional funding.

MIN 93 Further to the update under public participation, Members RESOLVED to make of contribution not to exceed £293.14 reducing to £193.14 depending on the outcome of the County Councillor grant. This donation will be made under section 137 of the Local Government Act.

TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2014/0848 Erection of detached domestic storage building within rear garden of dwelling at Lynfield 208 Whittingham Lane Goosnargh.

06/2014/0852 Erection of hay / log store to existing detached garage at Camforth Hall Barn, Camforth Hall Lane, Goosnargh

MIN 94 Members RESOLVED to leave the above applications to planning.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

MIN 95 Further to the CIL information provided under public participation Members RESOLVED to accept the CIL contributions relevant to the Parish.

Members stated that the payment may be a poisoned chalice in respect of the administration and demands to spend the funds but as Whittingham has suffered the anguish of new developments, the opportunity to receive something in return should not be wasted.

Members acknowledged that it would be sensible to keep CIL separate from the Parish Council accounts and RESOLVED that the Clerk seek professional advice regarding how the money should be invested.

Members also acknowledged the requirement to engage with residents to seek opinions on how CIL should be spent and to publish the annual CIL report. Members have discussed community engagement previously and are waiting for the new criteria to be produced regarding the Quality Council scheme. Websites and Newsletters were discussed and it was RESOLVED that this should be a future Agenda item.

INSTALLATION OF WINDOW IN THE BUS SHELTER

Members noted that the contractor has misinterpreted the instructions to install a new window in the bus shelter and has replaced the existing window with a bigger one. To correct the error the contractor is requesting additional payment. It was also noted that there is a stone inscription on the back wall which will be demolished if a new window is installed.

MIN 96 Members RESOLVED that the Clerk and Cllr Lewis or Cllr Hunter meet the contractor on site to establish if the situation can be resolved amicably.

In addition the Clerk was requested to seek advice on the Council's position as the contractor has requested payment for the works undertaken in error.

REMOVAL OF BEACON DRIVE CHRISTMAS TREE

The Clerk was tasked with the provision and erection of a Christmas tree at Beacon Drive and sought approval from Members in accordance with the financial regulations. Payment for the tree is included on the accounts for payment.

MIN 97 Members RESOLVED to pay an additional £50 to the contractor to safely remove and return the lights and dispose of the tree.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 98 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CQ No
Dec salary inc £100 pay award	Mrs J Buttle	£472.33	1104
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£74.00	1105
Erection of Xmas tree	Barton Grange	£242.40	1106
Replacement tree lights	J Buttle	£39.00	1107

NOVEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements reconciled.

TO CONSIDER THE PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2015 / 2016

MIN 99 Further to the discussions on the budget under MIN 89 Members considered the draft precept requirement and RESOLVED to leave the precept at £15,375.

The grant fund will be decreased to £1,000 but as the Council has satisfactory reserves, this would not prevent grants being awarded if the allocation was exhausted. The Clerk stated the grant advert had not yet been placed in the Longridge news and only one grant request for £500 has been received from the Goosnargh and Whittingham Festival.

To ensure awards are fairly distributed, the grant policy states that grants will not be permitted to exceed 20% of the budget. **MIN 100** It was RESOLVED that the Goosnargh and Whittingham Festival would be an exception to the above policy as the Parish Council has historically awarded £500 for the road closure and public liability insurance and without this assistance, the event could not be held.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED the following correspondence received since the issue of the Agenda.

- A report on Local lists will be going to the City Council's Cabinet in February 2015
- A public inquiry will be held on the Broughton By-pass on Tuesday 14th April 2015 at Preston Grasshoppers RFC
- It has been established that the construction method statement for the DJ Ryan site has not be approved prior to work starting. Progress is being questioned.
- The erection of a cabin / greenhouse at the Stags Head has been queried with the planning enforcement officer.
- Ribble Valley's Core Strategy has been found legally compliant and sound by the planning inspector.
- Carol Service at 6.30pm on Sunday 21st December at Saint Mary the Virgin, Goosnargh.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 12th January 2015 at 7.00pm.**