

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 11th February 2013** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall, Preston.

Members:

Cllr Alan Lewis - Chairman
Cllr Stan Hunter - Vice Chairman
Cllr Dave Hall
Cllr Bernard Huggon.
Cllr Margaret Rigby
Cllr Lona Smith

Members of the public

2 Members present

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr R Mills

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AMENDED STANDING ORDERS from the meeting held on 14th January 2013.

MIN 122 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes and Standing Orders be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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

There were no declarations of interests.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Min 123 it was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Trish from Cumeragh Village Association addressed the Council regarding the proposed play area on The Square. She provided copies of the CVA Constitution along with a briefing note explaining progress to date and their desire to work with Community Futures to apply for a grant from the Lancashire Environment Fund for £15,000. She explained that as land owners, the application would need to be in the Council's name or the land would need to be temporarily leased to the CVA but it was believed that sub-letting of the land may breach the HCA purchase contract.

It was stated the project should be 'put on hold' until the Village Green registration was approved. The Clerk stated the application excluded the play area footprint.

It was stressed that if the Parish Council agrees to the grant application, the CVA will need to take the lead in completing / submitting the application and moving the project forward - not the Parish Council. The CVA will also need to keep the Council up to date by attending Council meetings every 2 months and supplying copies of any CVA Minutes or grant conditions / acceptance documents.

Trish acknowledged these terms but stated they were a small group and attendance was not always possible due to work commitments but they would ensure the Council is kept informed of any progress.

Janine Deady presented plans for the refresh of the millennium garden to commemorate the Queen's diamond jubilee. She explained that she had used a mix of reds, golds and purples to reflect the royal theme and had taken into account the soil condition. There would be a mixture of shrubs, perennials and grasses. These will take 3-4 years to reach maturity but should provide interest all year round. In terms of maintenance, a bark mulch 2 – 3" thick will be required to keep the weeds down but some pruning will also be required. Some plants may be split and transplanted to other areas once the plants have matured. In terms of costs, the manual labour will be roughly as quoted but it was suggested that the plant schedule is circulated to local nurseries for quotes / sponsorship. Members stated a desire to press ahead with the scheme as Spring would be the ideal planting time

It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened.

CONSIDERATION OF MILLENNIUM GARDEN PLANS

MIN 124 Janine was thanked for her efforts and it was RESOLVED to approve the payment of £162 for the design and plans which were passed to the Clerk.

MIN 125 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk circulate the planting schedule to local nurseries including an additional quote for the bark.

MIN 126 Members noted that the estimated costs will exceed the budget allocated and it was RESOLVED that any deficit will be met from reserves. It was further RESOLVED that the Clerk will see if any grants can be applied for.

As part of the scheme, Members had agreed that the Holly Tree on Whittingham Lane needed to be cut to a reasonable height. In accordance with the financial regulations 3 quotes had been obtained and these were considered. Each contractor had also been asked to quote for the tree inspection at Cumeragh Lane.

MIN 127 it was RESOLVED that the contract be awarded to P Crabtree at a quoted price of £80. The Tree inspection will be done at the same time.

Members noted that the resident adjacent to the garden had not replied to the Council's letter asking for comments on the proposal to trim the tree but had verbally expressed his concern to a member of the Council. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would send a further letter advising him that the work would commence soon.

CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS CVA PLAY EQUIPMENT

It was proposed that the Clerk will meet the CVA in March to look at the LEF application and discuss the submission of other grant applications. As this is an additional role, **MIN 128** Council RESOLVED to recompense the time worked. The LEF application may be presented in the Council's name but the draft must be presented to Council before submission and the CVA will be requested to attend the April meeting to report on any progress.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORT MASTERPLAN

Members considered the County Council consultation on the Highway Transport Master Plan and the written comments submitted in advance by Cllr Hall.

MIN 129 Members RESOLVED to submit the written comments as the Council's reply to the consultation, altering the last paragraph to read *any housing development* rather than *major housing development*.

SPEEDI-TREE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF HIRE

Members suggested that 'Terms and Conditions of Hire' were drawn up for the Speedi-tree equipment. Members considered the draft circulated with the Agenda. It was proposed not to use the word 'hire' as this suggests a cost is involved.

MIN 130 Members RESOLVED to delete the word '*hire*' and alter it to '*use*'.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2013/0039 Demolition of dwelling and erection of replacement at Lower House Farm, Camforth Hall Lane. **MIN 131** Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

06/2013/0046 Request for a formal scoping opinion under regulation 5 of the Town and Country Planning Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2011, Broughton By-pass, Preston (County Matters application). **MIN 132** Members NOTED the information on the proposed Broughton by-pass.

Members considered the consultation by the Homes & Communities Agency for 300 new homes between Eastway and Durton Lane. **MIN 133** Members RESOLVED to reply to the consultation by quoting the planning inspectors comments in relation to Fox Development and stating that development should not commence until the by-pass is built and a link road is in place.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2012 / 2013

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

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members NOTED the following account already paid in accordance with Standing Order 26 (b) & (c)

MIN 116	Grant donation to FOWGG	FOWGG	£1,000
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MIN 134 Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT
Feb salary	Mrs J Buttle	£336.41
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£79.20
Christmas tree and lights	Preston City Council	£720.00

QUOTE FOR TREE INSPECTIONS

In accordance with the financial regulations, Members considered 3 tree survey quotes for the trees at Cumeragh Village. **MIN 135** It was RESOLVED that P Crabtree carry out the tree survey and the holly maintenance agreed under MIN 127.

REQUEST FOR PLANT POT FUNDING CUMERAGH VILLAGE

Members considered a request to replace damaged plant pots on land owned by the Parish Council at Cumeragh Village. A photograph of a damaged pot was shown to Members. The Clerk informed Members that County Councillor George Wilkins still has £270 to allocate to community groups (not Parish Councils) by the end of the financial year. **MIN 136** It was RESOLVED that the CVA be advised to apply for the funding - allowing them the freedom to choose their own pots and plants. As some of the pots are in a dangerous condition, it was further RESOLVED that the CVA move the dangerous pots to a safe location until the new pots are purchased.

POT HOLES HALFPENNY LANE

Members noted the email stating that potholes had been inspected and repaired on Halfpenny Lane in March last year. Members stated that the repairs were not satisfactory and several were still marked by white paint. Members also expressed concern regarding safety at the junction due to parked vehicles.

MIN 137 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk inform Highways of the problems and request that they re-inspect the area.

MEETING WITH INSPECTOR DAVE BROWN

MIN 138 It was RESOLVED that Cllr A Lewis and Cllr S Hunter attend the meeting at Broughton Police Station at 7.00pm with Inspector Dave Brown on Monday 25th Feb.

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE PROVISION

MIN 139 Members RESOLVED to defer consideration of the consultation on Open Space and Playing pitch policies until the March meeting.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED that LCC wish to place a timetable case in the Parish bus shelters. The Clerk was asked to report a slippery path and an unlit streetlight on the path leading from Green Acre to Goosnargh Village Hall.

The Clerk was also asked to make enquiries regarding the ownership of a triangle of land at Halfpenny Lane which is accessed by footpath no. 3.

Cllr Mills was not present so there was no report on the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Hunter stated he has a copy of the Village Hall constitution to give to the Clerk.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Monday 11th March 2013 at 7.00pm** at Goosnargh Village Hall.