

WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINARY meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 14th July at 2014** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall, Preston.

Members:

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

Members of the public

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES Cllr R Mills.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the meeting held on 9th June 2014.

Cllr Lewis stated that the invitation to attend the Annapolis Valley Apple Blossom Festival was an invitation to the Parish Council not an individual invitation to him to attend as Chairman and he expressed his disappointment at the response from Members. He went on to state he wished to distance himself from MIN 36 which states *that Members felt a civic attendance would not be of benefit to the Parish.* He stated that many other organisations including schools, the rotary club and St Catherine's hospice had created links and he had hoped the Council would do the same. Members reflected on the discussion at the last meeting and noted that a specific proposal was not put forward to specify how the Parish Council could develop such links. Cllr Lewis stated he will remain interested and involved as an individual but he was disappointed he would not be doing so with the Council's blessing and he felt this was a sad reflection on the Council.

MIN 38 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the last 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

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present and the police also gave their apologies. When doing so, they gave the Clerk a verbal report which was presented to members. It was stated that 5 staff are now working at Broughton as officers from Garrison and Sharoe Green are now based there. A site worker committed a crime at the Whittingham hospital site and was arrested and deported to Romania. A vehicle has collided with a wall in Whittingham and a person is helping the police with their enquiries.

JAPANESE KNOTWEED

The Parish Council notified Highways and the Countryside Service of Japanese Knotweed growing in a hedge at Cumeragh Village. Members noted that Lancashire County Council have contacted the landowner to advise him that he may need to seek specialist advice on the weed's removal but they *will only take an interest if the weed started to damage their own property* ie the highway.

Members expressed their extreme disappointment that LCC are prepared to look after their own interests but not those of neighbouring residential properties and by not taking action when they clearly have the power to do so, it was deduced that the County Council is allowing the weed to become even more established.

MIN 39 It was RESOLVED that LCC be advised that the Parish Council would keep correspondence relating to this matter on file to assist any residents wishing to pursue a future claim for structural damage against the landowner and the actions of a 3rd party ie LCC. Copies of the correspondence will also be forwarded to County Councillor George Wilkins.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

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

06/2014/0399 Erection of single storey extension to existing detached garage at Camforth Hall Barn, Camforth Hall Lane.

MIN 40 Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

06/2014/0404 Erection of detached double garage at 95 Cumeragh Lane.

MIN 41 Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

06/2014/0410 Reserved matters application for the erection of 10no detached dwellings following demolition of existing building at Former DJ Ryan Depot, Inglewhite Road, Longridge.

Members were reminded that the application was originally refused due to a lack of affordable housing but was granted at an appeal. Members noted that the appeal application included 3 bedroomed homes but the new application is solely for 4 bedroomed homes. As the site is a brownfield site and was a former foundry, it was felt that some of the site could be contaminated and appropriate care needs to be taken during demolition and construction to ensure that all risks are properly considered. As the site is small and in close proximity to other properties, conditions need to be applied to limit the noise, deliveries and the parking of contractors' vehicles. **MIN 42** Members RESOLVED to reply to this effect.

06/2014/0439 Conversion of existing barn to 1no.dwelling and erection of 1no. building to accommodate 6no. stables following demolition of existing redundant agricultural building at Marlings Barn, Cumeragh Lane

Members noted that the application is a resubmission of 06/2014/0049 which was withdrawn and that in the revised application, the conversion of the barn has been restricted to single storey. The original application was for 5 stables and the new proposal is for 6. Paragraph 39 Supplementary Planning Document 3 on Rural Development states *a small private development will involve no more than 2 or 3 horses and the stables should be located at least 30 metres away from neighbouring properties*. There is no additional information stating why 6 stables are required and this number is not considered suitable due to the proximity to other properties.

MIN 43 Members RESOLVED not to oppose the barn conversion but to object to the stables. Notwithstanding the objection, if the application is approved, members requested a condition restricting the use to private use only.

06/2014/0452 Variation of condition no 2 (Approved Plans) attached to planning approval 06/2012/0544 Residential development consisting of 78no dwelling houses with associated site access, open space, landscaping, new pumping station and supporting infrastructure on land south of Whittingham Road and west of Green Nook Lane, Whittingham

Members opposed the original application 06/2012/0544 on the grounds that the site is included in an Area of Separation in the Preferred Site Allocations map of the Emerging Local Plan and the access is considered too close to Green Nook Lane. Members noted the application was granted on appeal but remain opposed to the principle of the development.

With regard to the specific application 06/2014/0452 **MIN 44** Members RESOLVED to strongly object to the proposed phasing of the development. Planning permission has been granted for 78 properties of which 30% should be affordable according to Policy 7b of the Core Strategy. The phasing plan proposes 19 homes – with no affordable housing. Members believe that the developers are unscrupulously manipulating the planning system in order to gain maximum profit on the development. Objections were also raised with regard to a poor sewerage system and flooding in the area, but the pumping station required for the development is not proposed until phase 2 resulting in the question, how will services to the new properties be managed. With regard to the layout of the site, members expressed concerns that some garages are not contained within the house plot eg plot 54 and plot 2. Concern is expressed that this could increase incidents of residents parking on the road outside their property impeding access and visibility for others.

ONSHORE OIL AND GAS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT – NOTIFICATION OF SCOPING CONSULTATION

Members NOTED that LCC is preparing a Supplementary Planning Document on Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution and are consulting on the scope and level of detail that should be included in the Document.

MIN 45 Members RESOLVED to request that the SPD includes some background and comparisons regarding fracking and other renewable energy sources such as solar, tidal, wind and water. Members also requested that the SPD gives prominence to the health and safety implications and what weight will be given to this when determining planning applications and what consultation / reassurance will be given to local communities – not just during the planning application process - but also with regard to the monitoring and recording of any approved sites.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed that the statement of accounts reconciled with the bank statements for the end of June.

REVIEW OF 1st QUARTER ACCOUNTS

Members considered expenditure against budgeted items following the completion of the 1st Quarter – April to June. Members NOTED the following points

1. **Play Area** - an invoice for £1976 has not yet been received for the inspections at Cumeragh play area and this will be an unbudgeted expenditure as the cost was incurred after the budget had been approved.
2. **Christmas Trees** - new lights are required for the 'mains electric' tree at Beacon Drive as the lights were damaged in the wind. Provision is included in the budget to purchase an additional battery operated Speedi Tree which can be located anywhere in the Parish
3. **Maintenance** - £500 is included in the budget to enhance the maintenance at Goosnargh Village Green and £220 is included in the budget to cut the hedge opposite Guild Park at Cumeragh
4. **Repairs** - CVRA have reported that the benches at Cumeragh Village were rotten and needed replacing

Members discussed the likelihood of the Council receiving funds from the Community Infrastructure Levy in this financial year because if funding is received, the Council could do more with the funding. It was agreed that funds should not be allocated to existing or new projects until the CIL monies are received.

Consequently, **MIN 46** Members RESOLVED

1. That as the Parish Council has informed the City Council that the invoice has not been received the onus is on the City Council to provide the invoice for the inspection reports.

2. That new lights will be purchased for the Christmas tree at Beacon Drive but as the Council faces many financial demands, this would be the extent of the commitment this year.
3. That the £500 maintenance enhancement will not be allocated this quarter as additional maintenance tasks have not yet been identified but quotes will be sort for the cutting of the hedge at Cumeragh Village.
4. That as there are 6 benches at Cumeragh Village, Cllr Huggon and Cllr Lewis will assess the benches to see which ones are rotten and whether they should be removed and replaced.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
Electricity Bill	E-On	£14.54	1083
July salary	Mrs J Buttle	£392.53	1084
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£53.80	1085
1/4ly expenses Apr - June	Mrs J Buttle	£73.18	1086

SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICE ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION

Members recalled that Lancashire County Council proposed to withdraw evening and Sunday bus services as part of their budget proposals. The proposal was subsequently withdrawn and LCC are now proposing to revise the criteria to measure services in a more sustainable way. **MIN 47** Members RESOLVED to respond to the consultation with the following comments,

The Parish Council wishes to express its disappointment that LCC is still considering criteria to make cuts in bus services at a time when developers are putting forward plans for new development where public transport is a condition of the planning approval. When assessing the criteria the obligation to meet planning conditions must be taken into consideration. Members also feel that more weighting must be given to areas with limited bus provision compared to areas which have a variety of frequent services. Consideration should also be given to the fact that a lot of people work shifts and they should have equal access to a good bus service.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members NOTED the following correspondence received since the issue of the Clerk's report July 13 (3) and the Agenda.

Members noted that the meeting proposed by HCA to discuss developments at the Whittingham hospital site had been delayed as the Sports and Social club had stated the meeting was premature. Members were also informed that the HCA met Club members on the 11th July but no progress was made as the HCA were not able to make a decision as a key person from HCA allegedly failed to attend. Members expressed their disgust that the matter is 'limping on' and **the Clerk was asked to query when the meeting would be rearranged** and to request that the key stakeholder meeting is held as soon as possible.

The Clerk mentioned that following Taylor Wimpey's presentation to the Parish Council regarding the phasing of the development, they were about to submit their detailed planning application. **Members requested that the Clerk contact HCA** to ask if they are planning to hold a public meeting updating the public on the phasing proposals and the plans / details for the later phases.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 8th September 2014 at 7.00pm.