

## **WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**AN ORDINARY** meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall, Preston.

### **Members:**

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

### **Members of the public**

PC Chris Banks  
Trisha Parker – CVRA

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

**APOLOGIES** Cllr Alan Lewis and Cllr R Mills.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013.**

Members NOTED the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May.

**MIN 19** It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council 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**

**MIN 20** it was RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

Trish Parker of the CVRA updated the Council on the grant applications for the Cumeragh Village play area. Expressions of interest have been submitted to BIFFA and the Lancashire Enterprise Fund and one will be sent to the Lancashire Initiative Fund later this month. CMEX has a closing date of September. BIFFA have stated they are not concerned that the applicant was not the land owner. Trish was thanked for the update and it was confirmed that another update in July or August would be appreciated prior to the LEF submission in September.

PC Chris Banks addressed the meeting after the Ribble Valley Core Strategy agenda item. He apologised for his late arrival which was due to the arrest of a burglar from the Wigan area who had been challenged by neighbours and was thought to be responsible for crimes in Broughton and Grimsargh.

- In general crime is low and is comparable with last year's figures.
- Work has started on the Broughton roundabout. The work has been scheduled outside peak hours but is still causing major delays. The police are liaising with LCC regarding the works especially following an accident involving a child which could be due to a closed footpath.
- Broughton police volunteers have been presented with a team award for volunteering. There are 10 volunteers and this may shortly be increased to 12. The volunteers cover Broughton police station from 9.00 – 6.00pm with the police starting later to cover the evenings. A new shift pattern will operate from the 1<sup>st</sup> July also providing better coverage. It was confirmed that the PCSO's would be taking a test to drive the 4 x 4 but if successful they will not be able to respond with blue lights. Access to the vehicle will increase police mobility and will enable the PCSO's to operate out of Goosnargh Village Hall. A board will be placed outside to advertise their presence. It was requested that the police car is parked in a more visible place to reassure residents that the police are there.
- The Clerk was requested to see if the Parish Council (or other organisation) had a Community Award which could be presented to people who have worked tirelessly for the community.

- The Whittingham and Goosnargh Festival was a great success and passed without any incident or arrests. The police had monitored the approaches to the village and turned away known trouble causers or people under the influence of drink. Unfortunately this did not occur at the Longridge Festival and trouble broke out in the afternoon and evening. Longridge police are looking into this to see what lessons can be learned.
- Following an email expressing concern about roof fitters, it transpired that they belonged to a genuine company. Trading standards have been asked to look into the methods they used to access elderly people's property.
- It was noted that Ribble Valley has successfully prosecuted some metal thieves.
- LCC have put sensor strips down to monitor speed in the 20mph areas and a decision will be taken shortly whether enforcement is required.

It was RESOLVED that the meeting be reconvened.

### **RIBBLE VALLEY CORE STRATEGY**

As discussed at the Annual Parish meeting, various planning documents are now reaching a critical stage. Members have stated that they wish to be kept informed of the updates and may wish to appoint a spokesperson to add to or strengthen the wording of the Council's objections based on any changes announced. It was accepted that it would be difficult to call an extraordinary meeting of the Council every time an update on the documents was received.

**MIN 21** It was RESOLVED that the 3 Higher Ward Councillors and the Chairman if available, would form a working group to discuss any revised information or updates on the Fox planning application, Mosses application, the Preston Site Allocations and the Ribble Valley Core Strategy. The group may also appoint a spokesperson from amongst its members to speak in support of the Council's objections but if time allows, this appointment should be ratified by Council. The working group will appraise any new reports or updates and will collectively assess how they sit with the views already expressed by the Parish Council. Under guidance from the Clerk, the group will be able to rephrase or strengthen the Council's original objections in response to any changes or alterations to the documents. **Members were clear that the group would not be able to overturn any objections or decisions already agreed by Council.**

### **CUMERAGH TREE UPDATE**

The Planning department confirmed that planning permission is not required to fell the trees as they are not protected by preservation orders and are not in a conservation area. Quotes are still being sought for the felling work.

**MIN 22** It was RESOLVED that once the contractor is appointed, residents will be informed why the work is required and when the felling will occur.

### **CONSIDERATION OF CARRIAGEWAY WIDENING AT J32 OF THE M6**

**MIN 23** Members considered the carriageway widening and RESOLVED that the Clerk query whether the works will include the closure of Broughton Hall Bridge as this is an incredibly busy route.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL**

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

**06/2013/0303** Change of use of stable building to residential annexe and extension of residential curtilage (retrospective application) at Ashley Lane Head Farm, Ashley Lane, Goosnargh.

Members expressed concern that the stable was only constructed in 2010, had never been used for stabling horses and was simply a ruse to get round planning permission. If the application is approved it could set a precedent for others to flagrantly breach planning rules. **MIN 24** Members RESOLVED to strongly object to the application and requested an enforcement condition to return the building back to stables. Notwithstanding these strong objections, if the planning department were minded to approve the change of use, as the building is self-contained, conditions must be applied to state that the property must not be used as a holiday let or sold for commercial gain. It must remain as an annexe tied to Ashley Lane Head Farm.

### **CONSIDERATION OF A CONSERVATION AREA**

Prior to the meeting, Members met as a working group with external members of the Parish Council to discuss the merits of establishing a Conservation Area in Higher Whittingham. The notes of that discussion are filed separately and the Conservation Officer has stated that she will try to get a report back to Council in time for the July meeting. **MIN 25** Members stated they were happy to consider the report in August if more time was required to produce a comprehensive report.

### **CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO LCC'S PLANNING APPLICATION VALIDATION CHECKLIST AND ASSOCIATED GUIDANCE.**

**MIN 26** Members considered the changes and guidance and RESOLVED to respond that they supported the provision of additional information to aid applicants. The Clerk was asked to check that LCC will routinely consult the Parish Council if an application for mineral extraction or fracking was received in or around the Parish.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The Chairman confirmed that the accounts and bank statements reconciled.

### **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**Min 27** Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT
Insurance Renewal (16mths)	AON	£643.69
June salary	Mrs J Buttle	£348.36
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£82.40
Pack of 3 Toner cartridges	Mrs J Buttle	£46.97

### **MILLENNIUM GARDEN UPDATE**

Members NOTED that a grant application has been submitted to Community Gateway and we are awaiting confirmation of the amount awarded. A new Parish Champion has been appointed following the LCC elections and information on the grant process has been requested. The contractor and Spout Farm Nursery are now in contact with each other and will be proceeding with the work as soon as work commitments, plants and weather conditions are favourable.

### **CONSULTATION ON A DRAFT INTEGRATED FIRE RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**MIN 28** Members considered the Fire & Risk Management Plan for Lancashire and RESOLVED to question whether there are any key performance indicators relating to responses to customer satisfaction / enquiries by email or telephone.

### **NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

Members NOTED the CVRA Minutes from the 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013** at 7.00pm.

The Clerk was requested to make enquiries regarding the units at Ashley Hall and see what can be done about horses using the footpaths near the tennis courts.

**END**