

## WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**AN ORDINARY** meeting of Whittingham Parish Council took place on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015** at 7.00pm at Goosnargh Village Hall.

### **Members:**

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman  
Cllr Bernard Huggon  
Cllr Margaret Rigby  
Cllr Stan Hunter  
Cllr Ruth Mills

### **Members of the public**

Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

**APOLOGIES** Cllr Alan Lewis,

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**MIN 52** It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the July meeting be signed as a true record. The Clerk was requested to write to the Alston Arms regarding repairs to the dripping gutter affecting the notice board.

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

There were no declarations of Interests.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members NOTED that approximately 50 replies have been received in relation to the publicity regarding the interest in allotments. A report will be produced for the Homes and Communities Agency and it is hoped this will be presented to the next meeting.

Members NOTED that there had been no response to the publicity for the vacancy in higher ward. The Clerk will double check that the article appeared in the Longridge news.

Concerns were expressed regarding the parking of cars on the junction of Inglewhite Road and Halfpenny Lane during football matches. It was suggested the situation is monitored and if the matter persists, it needs to go on the Agenda for further action to be considered.

It was stated that a resident from Longridge had been turned down for a home at Green Nook as she lived outside the catchment area. The Clerk advised that the criteria is complex and other factors may have been a consideration but without the personal details it is not possible for the Council to comment on an individual case.

It was stated that planters near the parade of shops need attention but it was felt these were privately owned. The Clerk was requested to ask Highways to check the overgrowth is not affecting sight lines.

### **GUILD LODGE SMOKING**

Members noted a complaint about people smoking outside Guild Lodge. It was noted that Guild Lodge had offered to hold a meeting with the complainant.

**MIN 53** It was RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Guild Lodge to advise we are aware of the complaint, enquire about their smoking policy and state we wish to be kept informed of the outcome.

### **WORLD WAR ONE TRIBUTE / MEMORIAL**

The Parish Council has allocated £1,000 towards a memorial / tribute to commemorate World War One. It was acknowledged that there is a memorial in St Mary's Church, Goosnargh but it was not considered accessible to all. The Clerk advised that 'not accessible' had been queried and Members confirmed they wished the tribute to be located outside, in an area of open space and accessible to people passing by. **MIN 54** It was RESOLVED the tribute would be located in the Parish Council garden at Beacon Drive. Members discussed design options and stated they wanted a visual, non-denominational, non-religious tribute. Members were requested to find examples and the Clerk will contact stonemasons for an idea of prices. Ideas are to be brought to the November meeting for discussion. It was suggested that the Heritage Group are kept informed as they may wish to make some comments on the suggestions. It was also suggested that a public consultation is carried out to ascertain the most preferred design.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL**

During the summer break the Clerk considered 2 applications under delegated authority.

**06/2015/0551** single storey extension at Tenterhill Cottage, Ashley Lane, Goosnargh and

**06/2015/0561** new vehicular access at Lyndhurst, Halfpenny Lane, Longridge.

No objections were raised on either application.

Following agreement with the Chairman, the Clerk also attend planning committee and spoke on **06/2015/0425** an application for 26 dwellings off Pudding Pie Nook Lane. The Parish Council had objected to the application but officers had recommended it for approval. The Clerk presented objections that the site was in the open countryside and was contrary to the Area of Separation and after a lengthy debate the application was refused.

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

**06/2015/0629** Variation of condition 3 relating to the Code for Sustainable Homes at Whithy Tree Farm Cumeragh Lane, Whittingham.

**MIN 55** Members noted that the Code was being varied due to changes in Government legislation. Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

**06/2015/0661** Agricultural workers dwelling (access only) at Wayside, Back Lane, Whittingham. Members were advised that the applicant had previously applied for the dwelling to be located at Meadow Barn but the application had been withdrawn. Members noted that the application was accompanied by an agricultural workers statement and would be using an existing access. **MIN 56** Members RESOLVED to leave to planning.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

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

## **ANNUAL AUDIT**

**MIN 57** Members NOTED that the external auditor queried the addition of Cumeragh Village Play Area in the Council's assets. The full value of the play area was stated, but the auditor has advised that community assets should be given a nominal value of £1. The Chairman and Clerk altered the Annual Return to reflect the auditor's comments and an additional admin charge of £30 has been incurred.

## **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Members were advised that the existing Financial Regulations need to be updated and replaced by a new version produced by NALC / SLCC. Members familiarised themselves with the old documents and made suggestions for inclusion in the new Regulations to be brought back to Council in October.

**MIN 58** Members RESOLVED that the Council prepares a 3 year budget forecast with particular reference to CIL monies. Members also expressed a desire to include payments by BACS and Standing Orders and the Clerk was requested to make further enquiries regarding tenders from 'an approved list'.

## **CUMERAGH PLAY AREA – RISK ASSESSMENT REPORTS**

The City Council and Wickstead Leisure have independently inspected the Cumeragh Village Play area. Members commented on the information contained in the reports.

### **a) Create a hard standing path system between the equipment and ancillary items.**

Members considered this as an advisory requirement and noted that there is firm access to the roundabout and swing areas. No risk has been identified.

### **b) Install ownership / information sign**

An information / ownership sign is included in the Parish notice board but a free standing sign was originally discussed. No risk has been identified but it could be a future consideration when determining the budget..

### **c) Remove old wood in bark pit area and top up bark.**

This was identified as a low risk needing short term attention.

**d) Basketball goal is nearing end of lifespan. Old metal fixings could cause abrasions. Erect sign not to climb on framework or hang on the ring.**

This was identified as a medium risk. As the equipment is nearing the end of its lifespan and has lateral movement Members considered the equipment should be removed.

**e) Seats – decay in timber slats. Repair or replace.**

Attention has been drawn to the condition of the seating previously.

**MIN 59** Members RESOLVED to contact the CVRA to advise that the Basketball Hoop needs to be removed and the Clerk will seek quotes for its removal. Quotes will also be obtained for repairs / replacement seating and the number and positioning will also be queried with the CVRA.

New signs and repairs to the bark pit will be added to the long term forecast to be created.

**HEDGE CUTTING**

**MIN 60** Members RESOLVED to authorise the cutting of the hedge at Cumeragh Lane using a local contractor who provided a competitive quote last year.

**ORDERING OF 15/16 CHRISTMAS TREE**

**MIN 61** Members RESOLVED to authorise the purchase, dressing and removal of a Christmas tree at Beacon Drive under the same competitive arrangements as last year.

**ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**MIN 62** Members RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE
Aug Salary	Mrs J Buttle	£463.97	CQ 1143
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£50.60	CQ 1144
Tax / National Ins	HMRC	£125.86	CQ 1145
Sept Salary	Mrs J Buttle	£343.71	CQ 1146
CPRE Membership	CPRE	£36.00	CQ 1147
Wickstead Leisure Inspection	Wickstead Leisure	£72.00	CQ 1148

**NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

Members NOTED that the Heritage Group were holding their inaugural meeting tonight.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**MIN 63** It was RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled to take place on **Monday 12th October 2015** at 7.00pm.