

## **Grimsargh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 at Grimsargh Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman); Councillor Trevor Haines (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor David Hindle; Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver and Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam.

**In attendance:-** Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council  
Councillor Stephen Whittam – Preston City Council  
4 members of the public

### **24. (23/24) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety announcements**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Simon Rusling.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

### **25. (23/24) Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **26. (23/24) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **27. (23/24) Adjournment for Public Participation**

The Chairman Councillor Peter Burton adjourned the meeting for public participation and asked the members of the public present if they had anything they wanted to discuss with the Parish Council. All four members of the public said they had come along to the meeting to raise their concerns about the Planning Application relating to The Plough (ref 06/2023/0674). As local residents living on Langden Fold and close to The Plough pub, they had some concerns about the proposed changes to the outside area. In particular the proposed new seating areas and pergolas would be close to their homes and the height of the cabins would be visible from their properties. There were also concerns about noise and disturbance as the proposed new seating areas were quite extensive and the proposal to move the mobile catering van nearer to their homes would cause issues with food smells. Although none of the residents present wished to object to the application, they asked if the Parish Council would support them in raising their concerns. Possible solutions included leaving the mobile catering van in its current position and moving the seating areas away from the houses at Langden Fold to further across the pub's land. The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton said the Parish Council would discuss

the application under their formal part of the meeting but agreed that the Parish Council would support the residents' concerns. The Clerk reminded the residents to also send their comments to the Planning Department to enable the Planning Officer to take their comments into account when determining the application.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton then asked if anyone else had anything further to raise under this item. Councillor Stephen Whittam gave an update to the Parish Council on some issues that he had been dealing with including drainage issues at Maple Grove, a Planning Application at Cow Hill and the Environmental Crime issue which related to a bin on Old Railway Walk having a sticker placed on it to advise of an environmental incident. Councillor Stephen Whittam reported that a local householder had been using the bin for domestic waste so they had been spoken to about this issue.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam said that she was sad to report the sudden passing of Trustee Andy Small who was one of the original Trustees. The Parish Council were very sad to hear of this news and placed on record their condolences to Andy's family.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam also referred to mess left by a contractor installing an electric cable on the Redrow Estate. The Clerk confirmed that she would get in touch with Preston City Council as it was their land, to see what could be done to rectify the mess.

Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam confirmed that a new sign had been placed at the Nellie Carbis Millennium Woodland kindly supplied by Pam Gallagher. The Parish Council placed on record their thanks for providing the new sign.

Councillor Terry Cryer confirmed that the issues with the CCTV were currently being looked at and would hopefully be resolved soon.

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton thanked the Field Day Committee for another excellent Field Day, he then reconvened the meeting.

## **28. (23/24) Town and Country Planning Act, 1990**

The Parish Council gave consideration to the following Planning Applications: -

- |              |   |  |
|--------------|---|--|
| 06/2023/0674 | - | Plough Hotel, 187 Preston Road, Grimsargh<br>1no seating cabin and pergola, 1no covered pergola, 1no covered pergola and seating area and 1no pergola with retractable canopy. |
| 06/2023/0733 | - | 3 Crofts Drive, Grimsargh PR2 5LW<br>Single storey extension to front porch.   |
| 06/2023/0602 | - | Land to North of Rosemary Glen, Elston Lane, Grimsargh<br>1no dwelling.  |

With regard to Planning Application 06/2023/0674, the Parish Council had listened to the concerns of residents earlier in the meeting, who had made some valid points. The Parish Council agreed to raise some concerns regarding the application, and hoped that suitable solutions to the issues raised could be found.

It was noted that The Plough was in the centre of the village and obviously close to the local community. The grounds at the Plough were quite large and the Parish Council totally understood and supported a local business wanting to improve and increase its attraction by expanding outdoors. However, the positioning of the outdoor pergolas and the cabin were close to residents on Langden Fold and the height of the structures would be able to be seen by the residents. This would of course increase noise and odour coming from the mobile catering van which was being moved from its current position to closer to residents' homes.

The Parish Council agreed to ask the Planning Officer to give some consideration to altering the layout so that the seating, pergolas, cabin etc were away from residential homes which would minimise the impact on the Plough's neighbours. They also agreed to ask if the mobile catering van could remain in its current position to minimise the effect of food smells on the homes closest to the Plough which were the residents of Langden Fold.

The Parish Council felt that this would be a relatively easy solution to ensure that the residents close to the Plough were happy, and could enjoy their own outdoor space, and the Landlord also had their additional seating and food areas.

With regard to Planning Applications 06/2023/0733 and 06/2023/0602 the Parish Council had no comments to make on these applications.

There were no further planning matters for discussion at the meeting.

### **Resolved**

- i) That with regard to Planning Application 06/2023/0674, the Parish Council agreed to raise some concerns regarding the positioning of the pergolas and food van as outlined above.
- ii) That with regard to Planning Applications 06/2023/0733 and 06/2023/0602 the Parish Council had no comments to make on these applications.

### **29. (23/24) Parish Council land adjacent to the Wetlands**

The Clerk reported that the grass on the newly acquired land next to the Wetlands had now been cut. There had been a complaint sent to United Utilities regarding the length of the grass and the Clerk had asked United Utilities to forward any future complaints/concerns to her so she could deal with these. A resident had also been in touch advising that there was a disused culvert running diagonally across the land and this could be seen on Google Earth. The Clerk confirmed that a ride on mower had been used for cutting the grass to reduce the possibility of disturbing the disused culvert. The cutting of the grass had been carried out by the contractor who was working on the Wetlands, so the Parish Council would need to arrange payment for

the grass cutting either via the contractor or the Wetlands Trust. The Clerk had also obtained the code for the padlock on the gate and the Parish Council agreed that a new padlock could be purchased and the code changed to limit access to the site.

There was a brief discussion regarding future use of the site, but it was agreed that this was not an issue at the moment and just keeping the general maintenance of the site was sufficient at this present time.

### **Resolved**

- i) That the update on the land adjacent to the Wetlands is received and noted.
- ii) That approval is given to the Clerk to purchase a new padlock for the gate.

### **30. (23/24) Broadband in Grimsargh**

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell had asked for this item to go on the Agenda as she had some information about B4RN.org.uk who specialised in providing broadband links to rural areas. Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell said that she was aware of a number of issues with broadband in Grimsargh and that this Company may be useful. It was felt that possibly an item in our next newsletter my be helpful to ask residents if they still had issues with broadband in the village.

### **31. (23/24) Financial Matters and banking**

It was noted that we currently had an estimated £179,054.78 in the Nat West bank as at 5 June 2023.

It was also noted that the following invoices had been paid since last meeting: -

Councillor Trevor Haines reimbursement for santa sack and jubilee napkins – total £17.47 (Cheque no 1214).

Adam Cooper contractor – March 2023, 33 hours @£15.00 per hour = £495.00 + April 25 hours @£15.00 per hour = £375.00 (total £870.00) (Cheque no 1215).

Adam Cooper contractor – May 2023 61 hours @£15.00 per hour + paint for benches/planters/store doors £112.98 + wood/soil for planter repairs and filling £61.78 = total £1089.76 (Cheque 1216).

Sue Whittam, Clerks salary £1,265.30 + expenses £378.50 (zoom, ink, postage stationery covering 15 months) + cost of newsletter delivery £171.60 = total £1,815.40 (Cheque 1217).

Donna Kidd, internal audit fee £70.00 (Cheque no 1218).

HMRC Q1 Tax and NI - £587.51 (Cheque no 1219).

Farley's Solicitors £210.00 for additional Cricket Club Lease costs. (Cheque 1220).

We had also been advised that the bank charges bank charges 29 April to 2 June 2023 were £5.25. NEST pension Clerk £48.88 paid 11 May and 5 June – direct debits.

**Resolved**

- 1) The following invoices were approved for payment: -

Sue Whittam, Clerk 15 July £1,265.50

Adam Cooper Contractor – to be confirmed at the next meeting.

Grimsargh Wetlands Trust – Membership fee £100.

- 2) Internal Audit Report

The Clerk reported that the internal audit had now been completed and that there were no issues to report. The paperwork for the external audit had now been submitted to PKF Littlejohn LLP.

**32. (23/24) Clerk's report – for information only**

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had paid an additional £210.00 to Farley's Solicitors to cover the Cricket Club Lease fees. This was due to an amendment to the Lease following consultation with Fields in Trust who should have been contacted originally about any clauses they wished to include in the lease. Our Solicitors had not charged the Parish Council any additional legal costs which was appreciated by the Parish Council. As it had been an error, Preston City Council agreed to pay half of the £420 costs which resulted in the Parish Council paying £210.00. Likewise, Preston City Council had paid £210.00.

The Clerk also reported that she had completed her pension declaration to confirm that she was still enrolled on a pension scheme.

The Clerk reported that she had received a response from Sir Mark Hendrick MP regarding the latest fire at Recycling Lives. The fire had been caused by some waste deposited on the site on the Saturday and was spotted by sensory equipment on the Sunday. It was noted that for a period of time there was a lack of water to deal with the fire due to the fire brigade being unable to connect to the five-million-gallon tank on site due to the valve not being compatible with their equipment. However, this issue has now been resolved and should not occur in the future. It was noted that the Environment Agency are still finalising their investigation into the fire.

**33. (23/24) Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30 pm at Grimsargh Village Hall.