

Grimsargh Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 6 April, 2023 held at Grimsargh Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Present: - Councillor Peter Burton (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell; Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer; Councillor Terry Cryer; Councillor Trevor Haines; Councillor Simon Rusling and Councillor Mrs Jayne Woollam.

In attendance: - Sue Whittam – Clerk to the Council
Councillor Stephen Whittam – Preston City Council.

1. (22/23) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Hindle (Vice-Chairman) and Councillor Mrs Agustina Oliver.

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.

2. (22/23) Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7 April 2022

Resolved

That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 7 April 2022 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3. (22/23) Chairman's Report 2022/2023

The Chairman, Councillor Peter Burton gave his report as Chairman for 2022/2023. He said at the end of this first year as Chairman the Parish Council had welcomed two new Councillors in Simon Rusling and Trevor Haines, and with Parish Council elections due to be held in May 2023, he was hoping that we would continue to have a full and active Parish Council.

The Chairman said that the village had continued to grow with residents moving into new properties in five new developments, and he hoped over time some would get involved with village organisations and activities as had happened in the past.

The Chairman then gave a summary of activities over the last 12 months which included: -

A well attended celebration on the park for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

The continued entry into Best Kept village, including the continued support for the planters, together with the 2 new multi-level planters at by the mini roundabout.

A working group working on the data provided by 2 traffic surveys, to assist in looking into traffic calming measures in the village.

Work on obtaining air pollution monitoring to assist with the above, and any future developments. The Parish Council had strongly opposed the potential new sight in the latest call for sites in the Central Lancashire Local Plan, along with measures to ensure the village remained a separate settlement to Preston City and also to Longridge.

The Chairman reported that the small grants scheme had seen grants given to a summer craft club in the Village Hall, and for a heritage sign for Elston Lane. It was good to see that our small grants scheme remained popular with another two grants to be considered later at the Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman said that because of the new developments mentioned earlier meant that the Parish Council had received CIL monies which he felt that the Parish Council had continued to spend wisely, and enabled to give sizeable grants to the village hall to assist in its continued upgrade.

The cricket club had also benefited from CIL monies to bring their playing surface, and practice facilities up to match the level they played at, and to be able to encourage local people to get involved in the sport.

The Chairman also said that on top of these two sizeable grants as a Parish Council we had upgraded the bus shelters and purchased a small area of land adjacent to the Wetlands.

Added to these we had continued supporting the Wetlands Trust who were doing a fantastic job managing the Wetlands on behalf of the Parish Council and the residents.

The Chairman said that we also had other projects in progress which would be shared with residents once the initial ideas have been developed.

All this was on top of day-to-day Parish Council activities, looking at and commenting on planning applications, listening to and acting on residents' concerns, and doing what we could to maintain Grimsargh as an active thriving village. None of this could be done without a team of excellent Councillors, and the guidance and support of our Clerk, and City Councillors.

4. (22/23) Matters raised by the Electors

There being no further matter raised the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.25pm.

Councillor Peter Burton
Chairman Grimsargh Parish Council