

MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd May 2022 in the Village Hall Warton.

PRESENT: Councillors K Briggs (Chairman), D Clough, Mrs J Cody, A Hilling, W Muckle C Peacock, F Senior and Mrs L Simmonds.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council, District Councillor A De La Mare and Mr P Hardcastle – Gardner Road Flood Action Group.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: No apologies for absence were received.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest were received from members in relation to items covered by this agenda.

22.080. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 5th April 2022 having been previously circulated be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings at the meeting and be signed as such by the chairman.

22.081. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS NOT COVERED BY OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: The clerk reported that;

- i. Bea Cornwell had been contacted and an explanation for the extent of pruning to her Fushia bush had been accepted. Agreed that future pruning would be carried out by herself.
- ii. An objection to planning application 22/00235/FUL had been forwarded to Lancaster City Council Planning Control.
- iii. Preparation of the 2021/2022 AGAR was in hand.
- iv. The dropped drain near to St Oswalds Vicarage in Main Street had been reported to Lancashire County Council Highways.
- v. Lancashire County Council had been advised that Councillor Muckle and Mrs Muckle would represent Warton Parish Council at the Blackburn Cathedral Platinum Jubilee service on 29th May 2022.
- vi. An access problem on a Crag path had been dealt with by County Councillor Mrs Williamson. Councillors thanked County Councillor Mrs Williamson for her action.
- vii. Other items had been reported to members as received.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The chairman reported that he had been contacted by Richard Bracegirdle to report that his property had been damaged by youths throwing stones. The police had been informed and had attended at the scene but had not been able to apprehend the offenders. Members requested the clerk to contact Mr Bracegirdle to express their concern and sympathy and hope that the police would be able to take the necessary action to stop further incidents.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

22.082. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON: County Councillor Mrs Williamson was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not available, although her monthly update covering events and developments of interest had been received and circulated.

County Councillor Williamson was thanked for her continued support.

22.083. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR A De La Mare: District Councillor De La Mare reported that Mr Mark Davies had been appointed as CEO of Lancaster City Council and an invite to a future meeting of the parish council would be arranged. The 2022/2023 budget for the district had been agreed by councillors and included numerous creative ideas for future development. The 2021/2022 budget had been successfully managed and balanced without the use of reserves.

District Councillor De La Mare was thanked for his report and his continued support.

22.084. STANDING ORDER 25: No actions under Standing Order 25 had taken place since the last meeting.

22.085. PLANNING MATTERS: a) No planning applications had been received for review by members since the last meeting of the parish council.

b) Members noted the current status of planning applications reviewed by members at previous meetings as follows:

19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 5th March 2019 meeting – Awaiting Decision
 20/00358/OUT – Reviewed 2nd June 2020 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 20/00358/OUT – Reviewed 2nd March 2021 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 21/00181/CCC – Reviewed 2nd March 2021 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 22/00001/REF – Reviewed 18th January 2022 Meeting – Appeal in progress
 21/01144/FUL – Reviewed 18th January 2022 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 22/00235/REM – Reviewed 5th April 2022 Meeting – Awaiting Decision

22.086.FINANCE: a) Members noted the financial summary for April 2022 as follows:

Opening Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	23346.41
Village Improvement Account	12462.09
Investment Account	8058.47
Playground Account	4527.17
E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>746.80</u> 49145.47

Opening Balance – Current Account 23346.41

Receipts

Lancaster City Council – 2022/2023 Precept 20805.00
 44151.41

Payments

05.04.22 Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd – Toilet Consumables 28.06
 05.04.22 P Doey – Parish Lengthsman 752.75
 06.04.22 J W Ball – Salary 385.17
 07.04.22 Npower – Toilet Electricity 29.82 1195.80
 42955.61

Closing Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	42955.61
Village Improvement Account	12462.09
Investment Account	8058.47
Playground Account	4531.70

b) Members authorised the signing of cheques covering the following payments:-

LALC – 2022/2023 Membership Fees - £436.74 – 2253
 Lancashire Event Table and Chair Hire Ltd - £784.80 - 2254
 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work April - £150.00 – 2255
 Zurich Municipal – Insurance Renewal - £1529.24 - 2256

c) Provision of Internet Business Banking System.

The clerk reported that the provision of email addresses to members covering Warton Parish Council business had been finalised and would be issued shortly.

d) Review of 2021/2022 Draft Financial Statement

The clerk issued copies the 2021/2022 Financial Statement and advised members that until the audit of the financial records by the Internal Auditor to the Parish Council had been completed and agreed the accounts should be considered as draft only. The clerk reviewed the account entries with members and cleared any queries raised.

22.087: WELL LANE TREE: The clerk reported that a site visit had been arranged with David Turner of Rolling View Landscape for 5th May 2022 to discuss the options available.

22.088: LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS: The clerk reported that members responses to the Lancashire County Council Highways Main Street restrictions had been forwarded including a request for further consideration to the restrictions at the Coach Road/Main Street junction.

22.089. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT: The clerk reported that as yet no further contact had been received from Alan Cox Lancashire County Council. Members agreed that the questionnaire received from Lancashire County Council concerning current speed recording equipment held by parish councils should not be completed at the present time because of possibly influence on current speed recording equipment purchase and operation.

22.090. 2022/2023 LALC MEMBERSHIP: Members agreed to continue Warton Parish membership of LALC for the 2022/2023 year at a cost of £436.74.

22.091. QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION: i) Warton Crag Beacon – Councillor Mrs Simmonds reported that arrangements were in hand to construct the beacon, clear the site and complete crowd management arrangements. An objection to the event going ahead had been received by Leighton Hall from the Wildlife Trust because of their concerns for the welfare of wild life in the beacon area during the event. The objection had been considered but had been rejected as it was felt that no harm to wildlife would result.
 ii) Village Gathering – Arrangements for the gathering were in hand.
 iii) Commemorative Gifts – The clerk reported that medals at a cost of £3.14 each plus presentation boxes had been identified. Members discussed the maximum age of children eligible for medals and a ballot was carried out with 5 members voting for distribution restricted to children under 12 and 1 member for distribution to all under 16. Members agreed that medals be distributed to children resident in Warton and Millhead under 12 years of age.

22.092. WARTON MIRES PROJECT: The chairman reported that Colin Peacock, the clerk and himself together with Phillip Hardcastle representing Gardner Road Flood Action Group had attended a meeting convened by Jane Birch RSPB Project Manager to discuss matters involving the pumping and flood prevention aspect of the project.

The meeting discussed the importance of adequate information being made available to residents, the identification of maintenance responsibilities and protocols for the actions required and production of schedules of work. Agreed that contact with Warton Parish Council Insurance Provider was required to establish their views on the possible responsibilities to be adopted under insurance cover by the company. Developments were ongoing and would be reported on a regular basis. Some concern was expressed about possible costs of pumping operations that could become the responsibility of Warton Parish Council. Such costs would need to be carefully monitored and any future decisions would need to be taken bearing in mind their overall affects on the parish council.

22.093. SMALL QUARRY BICYCLE RACK: The chairman reported that arrangements were in hand and he would continue to liaise with Ren Wallbank on the construction of the rack.

22.094. SMALL QUARRY DISPLAY BOARDS: Members agreed that a need existed for a display of information covering the development of the village and quarry industry and the small quarry was an ideal site with its access to the Crag for numerous visitors. Councillor Mrs Simmonds agreed to prepare the preliminary information required and liaise with the chairman.

22.095. APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE OF THE HUTTON CHARITY FREE GRAMMER SCHOOL: Members considered information received from the charity concerning changes to the trustee structure suggested by the charity commission that would no longer require Warton Parish Council to elect a trustee. Members agreed to surrender their responsibility for the submission of a trustee to the charity.

22.096. QUEENS AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE: Members noted that availability of the award and agreed to give some thought to possible groups within the village that qualified for consideration.

22.097. ZURICH MUNICIPAL INSURANCE COVER 2022/2023: Members agreed that parish council insurance cover for the 2022/2023 year be provided by Zurich Municipal at a cost of £1529.24.

22.098. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i) Councillor Muckle reported that potholes previously reported to Lancashire County Council Highways had not yet been repaired.

ii) Councillor Briggs reported that the road surface surrounding a manhole cover on the A6 Trunk Road opposite the Borwick Lane junction was damaged.

22.099. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: There being no further business the chairman thanked members, District Councillor De La Mare and Mr Hardcastle for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 8.50pm. The next meeting of the parish council was arranged for 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th June 2022 in the Village Hall, Warton. Items for inclusion in the meeting agenda to be notified to the clerk by Monday 30th May 2022.

Chairman.....Date.....

Minutes subject to agreement at the 7th June meeting if the Warton Parish Council