

**MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in the Village Hall Warton.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors K Briggs, D Clough, Mrs J Cody, A Hilling and W Muckle.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council, County Councillor Mrs P Williamson and District Councillor Mrs S Tyldesley.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors C Peacock, F Senior and Mrs L Simmonds.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest in relation to items covered by the agenda.

**23.059. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 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.

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

- i. The Public Conveniences Domestic Rates liability for the 2023/2024 financial year would be £0.00.
- ii. A letter of thanks had been received from the Trussell Trust Morecambe Food Bank in respect of the donation of £21.99 raised at the St Oswalds Christmas Tree Festival.
- iii. Information concerning registration under the Data Protection Act had been received from LALC.
- iv. Information concerning a future long services awards scheme had been received from LALC.

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**

Matters were raised by members of the public as follows:

1. The clerk's attention had been brought to excavation activities on parish council land adjacent to the Old School Brewery. Members agreed that the excavation was likely to be preparation for the construction of a bicycle rack, previously agreed. The Chairman agreed to contact the owner of the brewery to clarify the position.

2. A complaint had been received concerning noise, felt to be excessive at times from the Old School Brewery premises. District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley agreed to consult with Lancaster City Council Planning Control to ascertain restrictions, if any placed on the operation of the brewery premises.

**THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING**

**23.061. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON:** County Councillor Mrs Williamson reported that information would be given as part of agenda items.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her continued support.

**23.062. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS S TYLDESLEY:** District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley reported that the public meeting held to discuss the provision of a play area on the Roods had been well attended and constructive. A Friends of the Roods Group had been formed and fund raising initiatives discussed. A coffee morning was arranged to be held at the Methodist Church on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023. The meeting considered proposals for possible developments on the open space including a community orchard as well as a play area. The development was welcomed by residents of the sheltered bungalows on the site.

District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley was thanked for her report and her continued support.

**23.063 STANDING ORDER 25:** The clerk reported that no action under Standing Order 25 had been necessary since the last meeting of the parish council.

**23.064. PLANNING MATTERS:** a) Planning applications received for review since the last meeting of the parish council were considered as follows:

23/00087/FUL – Construction of verandah to the front elevation for Mr & Mrs Stephen & Debra Hurst, 2A Coach Road, Warton – reservations concerning possible light pollution issues expressed, the clerk to notify Planning Control accordingly.

23/00156/FUL – Erection of an agricultural livestock building for Mr Matthew Allen, Hying Barn, Borwick Lane, Warton – No objection raised.

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

22/0115/TCA – Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Meeting – Awaiting Decision

22/01436/LB – Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Meeting – Application Permitted

22/00064/REF – Appeal against the refusal of Planning Application 19/00113/FUL  
Reviewed March 2019 meeting – Awaiting Decision

23/00008/FUL – Reviewed 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision

**23.065. FINANCE:** a) Members noted the financial summary for March 2023 as follows:

Opening Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	29677.78
Village Improvement Account	12481.19
Investment Account	8058.47
Playground Account	4531.70
E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u> 54845.94

Opening Balance – Current Account 29677.78

Receipts

01.03.23 R5 Compensating Entry – Cancelled Cheque 2229

Raised 5.10.21 Carnforth Town Council – Wreath 20.00

21.03.23 R6 J W Ball – Commemorative Medals Payment 20.90 40.90  
29718.68

31.03.23 Playground Account – Virgin Money Interest 4.53

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### Payments

06.03.23 J W Ball – Salary	385.17
07.03.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity	25.33
07.03.23 Lancashire Event Hire – Tables & Chairs	734.80
07.03.23 Marmax Products Ltd – Picnic Tables & Bench	1317.60
21.03.23 Gifts 2 Impress – Commemorative Medals	626.00
31.03.23 J W Ball – Expenses Oct 22 – Mar 23	473.04
31.03.23 T Oliver – Toilet Work March	162.50
31.03.23 HMRC – Clerk PAYE	<u>1155.50</u> <u>4929.94</u>

Closing Balance Current Account 24788.74

### Closing Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	24788.74
Village Improvement Account	12481.19
Investment Account	8058.47
Playground Account	4536.23
E&R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u> <u>49961.43</u>

b) Members authorised and signed cheques for the following payments:-

Gifts2Impress – Commemorative Medals - £626.00 – 2295  
J W Ball – Expenses Oct 22 to March 23 - £473.04 - 2296  
T Oliver – Toilet Work March - £162.50 – 2297  
HMRC – Clerk PAYE Payment - £1155.50 – 2298  
aql – Domain Renewal - £132.00 – 2299  
Warton Village Hall – Room Hire - £128.00 - 2300

c) Review of Internet Business Banking System  
No further progress to report.

d) Arrangements for Internal Audit of the 2022/2023 Account & Preparation of the 2022/2023 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).

The clerk reported that he had been able to arrange an extension of the deadline for submission of the 2022/2023 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

**23.066: LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS:** The clerk reported that he had received confirmation from Lancashire County Council that the process for formal consultation on the proposals was in progress and would be completed by the end of May 2023. The consultation would be publicised on the Lancashire County Council website and by an advertisement in the local papers. A proposal that the parish council notify residents prior to the publication of the consultation, text of the notification to be provided by Lancashire County Council communication team, was considered and agreed as acceptable by members. Members expressed the view that the Main Street proposals should be seen as a Lancashire County Council initiative and not parish council. Members discussed their concerns with County Councillor Mrs Williamson.

**23.067. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT:** The clerk reported that the site in Main Street previously thought to be suitable had been discounted because of the presence

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of overhead cables. A further site visit needed to be arranged. Details of purchase price increases against the evolvis unit had been received now making the likely cost of purchase of 3 units £7050 and £4000 for the purchase and erection of 4 poles required for siting the units.

**23.068. REPLACEMENT PICNIC TABLES AND BENCH:** The clerk reported that the tables and bench had been delivered to Leighton Hall and were awaiting installation by the parish lengthsman.

**23.069. WARTON STOCK CAR COMPLAINTS:** The clerk reported that in response to complaints concerning speeding stock car traffic and parking issues he had forwarded a letter to the Club Secretary raising the complaints and requesting a response to the issues raised.

**23.070. WARTON MIRES PROJECT:** The clerk reported that the Warton Mires Sub Group had met on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023. Members received a report from Mr Horner RSPB detailing the reasons for RSPB withdrawal as lead stakeholder for the project although they would remain as a stakeholder. Lancashire County Council officers were aware of the extent of the blockage in the main drainage pipe and were trying to allocate the necessary £6000 funding required to provide equipment necessary to remove the blockage. The Flood Action Group was investigating the provisions of an additional flood relief pipe to the River Keer.

**23.071. FLOOD ACTION GROUP PUMP INSURANCE PAYMENT:** Members considered a request for a donation to cover the £841 cost of pump insurance but agreed not to provide funding at present.

**23.072. BORWICK CLOSE AND WELL LANE GRASS CUTTING:** The clerk reported that he had been informed by Mr Sharples Lancaster City Council that both areas had been designated as managed long meadows and as such only the edges would be cut and the rest left as natural grass. Members agreed that the policy should be challenged. District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley agreed to discuss the situation with Lancaster City Council officers.

**23.073. WARTON PARISH COUNCIL GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT:** Members discussed grass cutting requirements for the 2023 growing season and agreed that the Little Weir, Weir Playground and grassed area and the Small Quarry would require cutting. Sparrow Park cutting to be carried out by the parish lengthsman. The clerk was instructed to request a quote from Lancaster City Council for the work.

**23.074. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** Members agreed that the Annual General Meeting would be held prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 meeting of the parish council at 7.00 pm.

**23.075. COMMEMORATION OF THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III:** The clerk reported that 145 medals and pouches had been ordered from Gifts2Impress.

**23.076. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS:** The clerk reported that 8 candidate election forms had been completed and lodged with the Election Team at Lancaster City Council. The Election Team would announce any requirements for an election to be held as soon as the deadline for the receipt of candidate applications was passed.

**23.077. DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE:** The clerk reported that confirmation that all defibrillators in Warton and Millhead were registered and operational had been received from Shaun Sproule – Blue Light Manager, NW Ambulance Service Emergency Response Team.

**23.078. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS:** i. Councillor Clough reported that the Stop Sign at the junction of Borwick Lane and A6 Trunk Road was partially obscured by the hedge.

ii. Councillor Briggs reported that the sunken drain in Main Street outside the vicarage still required attention.

**23.079. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no further business the chairman thanked Members, County Councillor Mrs Williamson and District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 8.50 pm. The next meeting of Warton Parish Council was arranged for Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Warton. Items for inclusion in the agenda for that meeting should be notified to the clerk by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

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

Minutes subject to agreement at the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.