

WARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Position Statement – 31st May 2020

1. Clerk's Report – 1 Linda Anderson, Public Rights of Way Officer, Lancashire County Council had been informed that Warton Parish Council wished to participate in the Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme 2) We had been informed by Lancaster Police that PCSO Paul Shepherd was the named first contact for policing issues in the parish. PCSO Shepherd can be contacted by email 7109@lancashire.pnn.police.uk. The latest crime figures available for the area , for March 2020 are Anti-Social Behaviour – 6, Violence and Sexual Offences – 2, Theft – 1. 3) Other information received has been emailed to members for their information and consideration.

2. Standing Order 25 Action – No Standing Order 25 action has been necessary during the period covered by this Position Statement.

3. County Councillor Mrs Phillippa Williamson – Information received from County Councillor Mrs Williamson has been emailed to members as received.

4. District Councillor Adrian Duggan – Information received from District Councillor Duggan has been emailed to members as received.

5. Planning Matters – a) Planning applications under consideration

Potts Cottage, Coach Road, Warton. As yet I have not received further information from Debbie Threlfall, Lancaster City Council Planning Enforcement Officer concerning her investigation of a possible breach of planning regulations.

19/01580/FUL and 20/00035/DEM – Demolition of a barn and creation of a community garden for Archbishop Huttons Primary School, Back Lane, Warton. The applications were permitted on 23rd April 2020 without consideration by members of the parish council ,because of an oversight by Lancaster City Council Planning Department. Demolition is scheduled for w/c 15th June 2020.

20/00350/VCN – Erection of 4 dwellings with associated access and landscaping (Persuant to the variation of condition 2 on planning permission 18/01603/FUL to amend the internal layout and provide for refuse stores) for Steve Bleasdale, Site of Former Warton Grange Farm, Farleton Close, Warton. No comments were received from members within the timescale laid down by Lancaster City Council therefore no further action was taken.

20/00402/OUT – Erection of 3 dwellings and creation of a vehicular access for Mr P Edmondson, Bank Barn, Crag Road, Warton. Members considered the application and lodged an objection on the following grounds.

The development will be highly visible beyond the road and those properties that align the road and would be the first properties to be built not along the roadside.

The development would be the first properties in the field, giving a foothold for proposals for further building to follow, leading to a spread throughout the field and a link up with other developments already proposed in Church Hill Avenue and behind Main Street, so forming an area of continuous building, an aim demonstrated by the additional roadway and new access proposals included in the application.

Any developments in this locality, within the conservation zone, will impinge on the scenic value of Warton Crag. The gateway for the AONB from the south.

The list of applicable local policies quoted in the design statement shows nothing more recent than 2014 and totally ignores the AONB DPD which came into force late last year and as such is a major professional oversight that in our view casts doubt on the accuracy of the other assertions.

The Lancashire County Council response to the application states wrongly that the proposed access to and from the development will be onto a national speed limit section of the highway when actually it is inside the 30mph zone imposed when the 20mph limit was introduced at the start of the steep section of the road from Main Street.

There is no need for further development in this area of the village, would be additional to sites designated in the Lancaster City Council Local Plan and does not meet the type of housing needs necessary for the village as laid down in the AONB DPD.

The development would increase the level of traffic using Main Street and Crag Road and also Borwick Lane, an already busy and dangerous access route to the A6 Trunk Road and the M6 Motorway.

20/00015/REF – Appeal against the decision to refuse outline planning permission for the erection of 5 residential dwellings and creation of an access at Dale House, Burton Road, Tewitfield. Lancaster City Council requires comments on this application by 8th June 2020.

20/00379/FUL – Change of use of a paddock to a cattery (sui generis) and veterinary acupuncture treatment clinic (sui generis), erection of associated buildings and associated hard landscaping for Dr Helen Barker, Cotestones Farm, Sand Lane, Warton. Lancaster City Council requires comments on this application by 12th June 2020.

20/00503/FUL – Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings for Mr White, Land to the rear of The Nib, 9 West View, Mill Lane, Millhead. Lancaster City Council requires comments on this application by 17th June 2020.

20/00358/OUT – Outline planning application for the erection of up to 12no dwellings for Barker Farms Ltd, Land off Sand Lane, Warton. Lancaster City Council requires comments on this application by 23rd June 2020.

d) The current status of planning applications considered by members at previous meetings was as follows;

17/00736/OUT – Reviewed 4th July 2017 meeting – Awaiting decision.

18/01603/FUL – Reviewed 8th January 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision.

18/01589/REM – Reviewed 5th February 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision.

19/00003/REF – Reviewed 5th February 2019 meeting – Appeal dismissed.

19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 5th March 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision.

19/00012/REF – Reviewed 26th March 2019 meeting – Appeal dismissed.

19/00563/VCN – Reviewed 4th June 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision.

19/0098/TPO – Reviewed 3rd September 2019 meeting – Application refused.

19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 1st October 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision.

19/00034/REF – Reviewed 5th November 2019 meeting – Appeal dismissed.

19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 3rd March 2020 meeting – Awaiting decision.

20/00328/FUL – Reviewed by Members 31st March 2020 – Application allowed.

20/00414/FUL – Reviewed by Members 28th April 2020 – Awaiting decision.

20/00350/VCN – Reviewed by Members 6th May 2020 – Awaiting decision.

20/00402/OUT – Reviewed by Members 15th May 2020 – Awaiting decision.

20/00015/REF – Reviewed by Members 18th May 2020 – Awaiting decision.

20/00379/FUL – Reviewed by Members 22nd May 2020 – Awaiting decision.

20/00538/FUL - Reviewed by Members 2nd June 2020 – Awaiting decision.

5. Finance Matters

- a) To note the Financial Summary for May 2020.

Opening Balance	Current Account	21333.76	
	Village Improvement Account	12313.37	
	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4522.63	
	E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>987.90</u>	<u>47216.13</u>
Receipts			
05..05.20 Lancaster City Council – Toilet Management Fee			<u>2673.86</u>
			49889.99
Payments			
04.05.20 Tom Oliver - Toilet Work – April 80% Payment		70.80	
04.05.20 NALC – LCR Subscription		17.00	
04.05.20 Zurich Municipal – Insurance		1476.51	
06.05.20 J W Ball – Salary		377.67	
21.05.20 Npower – Toilet Electricity		<u>84.15</u>	<u>2026.13</u>
			47863.86
Closing Balance			
	Current Account	21981.49	
	Village Improvement Account	12313.37	
	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4522.63	
	E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>987.90</u>	<u>47863.86</u>

- b) The following payments have been forwarded for authorisation and cheque signatures by Councillors A Hilling and Mrs L Simmonds. If any members require further information or wish to object to any of the payments being made please contact me urgently.

Chq. No.2079 - £61.20– Tom Oliver - 80% Payment for May Toilet Work.

Chq. No.2080 - £455.51 – John Ball – Expenses payment for December 2019 to June 2020.

Chq. No 2081 - £707.15 - Peter Doey – Parish Lengthsman Payment for March to May 2020

- c) Preparation and submission of annual Financial Statements for internal and external audit.

The Financial Statements have been prepared and are awaiting audit by Mr Marsh our Internal Auditor.

6. Public Toilets – The public toilets are currently closed. Tom continues to receive 80% payment in lieu of work. As yet there are no published guidance on the re-opening of the toilets but things to consider before opening include;

- An updated risk assessment for staff
- Preparation of a safe method of working guidance for staff

- Consideration of the risk of infection for those coming into contact with staff
- Establishment of a daily cleaning schedule to include enhanced cleaning requirements clearly identifying any Covid targeted cleaning such as contact points
- Establish a minimum frequency for cleaning/sanitising contact points
- Exclusion of members of the public during cleaning operations (including signage, barriers etc)
- Signage about safe use for members of the public
- Provision of enhanced PPE and cleaning materials for staff – including safe disposal procedure
- Countryside sites may well need to re-open toilet facilities earlier than urban ones as the majority of users are likely to be driving to the site
- Doors should be open where possible to provide natural ventilation and reduce contact with door handles/push plates
- Confirm water systems are infection free (Legionella Disease) after a period out of use

7. Sparrow Park – The grass is being cut and maintenance carried out by Peter Doey as normal.

8. Elizabeth and Richard Wilson Charitable Fund - No applications have been received for award payments for the 2020/2021 financial year.

9. Weir Children’s Playground – The playground is currently closed with appropriate signage displayed. The grass has been cut by Peter Doey instead of Lancaster City Council staff currently employed on other duties and the climbing net woodchip safety covering has been raked over. The quotation from Lancaster City Council for replacement of surfacing under the climbing net is still awaited. As yet we have not been informed of plans to re-open.

10. Parish Lengthsman. – Peter has been busy carrying out remedial work and grass cutting at Sparrow Park, the Weir Play Area and Little Weir. The work currently being carried out by Peter is by his choice showing his usual commitment to keeping the village facilities in first class condition at this difficult time. His ability to carry out work involving extensive pruning to trees and undergrowth is limited at present because of the current ban imposed by Lancashire County Council involving the use of vehicle trailers when depositing waste at the Carnforth Waste Recycling Centre.

11. Speed Detection Devices – Both devices are operational.

12. Emergency Response Plan for Warton and Millhead – The plan is ready to be used if required.

13. Land Registry Registration – The applications for registration of the Weir and Senset Well have been forwarded to the Land Registry by our solicitor. A response from the Land Registry is awaited..

14. Parish Council Website – The website is available for use.

15. Warton and Millhead Community Roadwatch Scheme - Two volunteers prepared to take on the responsibilities required have come forward and arrangements are in hand to re-launch the scheme.

16. Mill Lane footpath Improvements – No progress to report at present.

17. Community Champion Volunteer Project . No progress to report at present.

18. Warton Saltmarshes – Nothing further to report at present. .

19. Warton and Millhead Flooding Issues – Information still awaited covering the Lancashire County Council investigation of the Sand Lane/Main Street junction problem.

20. Village Directory – Preparation of a Village Directory of services, facilities and contract details is in a preliminary stage of preparation.

21. Reports from Members – No reports were received this month.

22. Any information or items for inclusion in the July statement that you wish to be added please email me by Monday 22nd June 2020. I will prepare the June Statement for issue on 30th June 2020.

J W Ball

Clerk to Warton Parish Council