

MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th February 2018 in the Village Hall, Warton

PRESENT: Councillors K Briggs (Chairman), Mrs Barker, D Clough, Ms J Cody, B Muckle and C Peacock.

IN ATTENDANCE: J W Ball (Clerk to the Parish Council) and D Bland (Internal Auditor to the Parish Council) , County Councillor Mrs P Williamson.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors A Hilling and Mrs L Simmonds and District Councillor Mrs S Sykes.

18.001. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest were made for items covered by the agenda.

18.002. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2017 having been circulated, be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

18.003. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS: The clerk reported that i) objections to planning applications 17/01292/FUL and 17/01127/FUL had been forwarded to Lancaster City Council Planning Control ii) the LALC Annual Report 2016/2017 was now available iii) the Lancashire and Merseyside County Training Partnership training workshop programme for 2018 was now available iv) Healthwatch Lancashire Parish Engagement were looking to engage with parish councils to extend contacts with people concerning health and social care services v) correspondence received from the Canal and Rivers Trust looking for local champions as part of the planning process vi) a meeting with Keith Iddon Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport arranged to discuss responsibilities for highways to be held in the Gaskell Hall Silverdale on 28th February at 7.00pm vii) information has been received from PKF outlining arrangements for the future audit regime viii) District Councillor John Reynolds was prepared to attend the March meeting of the parish council ix) other items of interest had been circulated to members as received.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Muckle reported that he had been approached by a Millhead resident to request she be allowed to place a plaque on the seat in the village used by her late husband many times to rest and appreciate the surroundings. Members agreed that a plaque could be fixed to the seat after refurbishment. The clerk was instructed to approach the parish lengthsman with a view to his carrying out the necessary work.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING.

18.004. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS WILLIAMSON: County Councillor Mrs Williamson reported that county councillors would be meeting later in the week to set the 2018/2019 budget for the county council. A deficit of £145M over the next four years required matching savings to be made with £135m of cuts already identified. In order to deliver a balanced budget a 2.99% rise together with an additional 3% rise ring fenced for social care, a total of 5.99% increase in council tax payments was proposed. It was hoped to increase spending on roads throughout the county with 5M allocated for pot hole repairs. Locally it was proposed to carry out safety improvements to the A6 road north of Carnforth and resurface the A6 road through Carnforth from the Tesco traffic lights to the Market Street junction. A meeting had been organised to oppose the planned closure of the Carnforth Station Booking Office because of the withdrawal of county council funding. Proposals to apply for alternative transitional funding were being considered. Increased opening hours for Carnforth, Bolton-le-Sands and Silverdale libraries was under consideration. County council officers had identified the papers covering the transfer of land owned by Warton Parish Council to the north of the River Kier to Lancashire County Council for use as a landfill site. A parcel of land on the salt marsh and a payment of £3000 was agreed in lieu of the land taken. This transaction agreed in 1990 had never been completed and was still outstanding. Lancashire County Council was prepared to action the transfer of land and cash payment if the parish council was able to put forward a proposal for a project beneficial to the residents. Members agreed that the provision of an improved footway along Mill Lane was a most important requirement on safety grounds and any funds generated would be used to finance the project. Members also agreed that the cash sum now required would need to be the equivalent in current value to £3000 in 1990. County Councillor Mrs Williamson agreed to take the proposals back to Lancashire County Council.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her report.

18.005. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS SYKES: District Councillor Mrs Sykes was unable to attend the meeting and she advised the clerk that she had no matters to report.

18.006. STANDING ORDER 25: Members noted that no action had been taken under the provision of Standing Order 25.

18.007. PLANNING MATTERS: a) Members reviewed planning applications received as follows:

17/01539/FUL – Erection of single storey rear and front extension for Messrs John and Jack Benson, 43 Sand Lane, Warton – No objection raised

17/0178/TPO – Pruning of various protected trees for Mr Raymond Halliday, 184 Main Street, Warton – No objection raised

17/00992/FUL – Demolition of conservatory and erection of a replacement single storey extension for Mr Andrew Boyd, 10 Hutton Gardens, Warton – No objection raised

17/01550/FUL – Erection of a single storey rear and side extension with balcony above and erection of a detached garage to replace existing, for Mr T Downham, 44 Church Hill Avenue, Warton – No objection raised

1075

18/00023/FUL – Creation of a temporary bund with a maximum height of 2m for Mr Bleasdale, land adjacent to Warton Grange Farm, Farleton Close, Warton – No objection raised

17/00736/OUT – Members expressed concern that information received concerning the developer inferred that should the development receive planning agreement the sale of the properties may be restricted to members of a religious organisation. Should that be the case any affordable housing included in the development would not be available for purchase by existing village inhabitants. Members agreed to continue their opposition to the development on planning grounds already submitted to Lancaster City Council Planning Control.

b) Members noted the current status of planning applications already reviewed as follows:

17/00736/OUT – Reviewed 4th July meeting – Awaiting decision
 17/01127/FUL – Reviewed 7th November 2017 meeting – Awaiting decision
 17/01292/FUL – Reviewed 7th November 2017 meeting – Application withdrawn
 17/01394/FUL – Reviewed 12th December 2017 meeting – Application permitted

18.008 FINANCE: a) Members noted the financial summary for December 2017 and January 2018 as follows:

	Opening Balance			
		Current Account	12951.37	
		Village Improvement Account	10014.10	
		Investment Account	7995.82	
		Playground Account	<u>3010.00</u>	
		E & R Wilson Account	<u>1603.10</u>	<u>35574.39</u>
Receipts				
	13.12.17	Electricity Northwest – Wayleavers	6.46	
	01.01.18	NS & I Investment Account Interes	<u>62.65</u>	<u>69.11</u>
				35643.50
Payments				
	06.12.17	J W Ball Salary	363.00	
	12.12.17	Npower – Toilet Electricity	68.23	
	12.12.17	P Doey – Parish Lengthsman	10.00	
	12.12.17	Astarte Web Design – Website	370.00	
	12.12.17	Thomas Graham – Toilet Consumables	45.34	
	12.12.17	Steven Lewis – Weir Christmas Tree	180.00	
	12.12.17	J W Ball – AAT Membership	76.00	
	12.12.17	P Doey – Parish Lengthsman	215.00	
	12.12.17	D Clough – Christmas Tree Festival	29.90	
	06.01.18	J W Ball – Salary	363.00	
	09.01.18	P Doey – Parish Lengthsman	5.00	
	09.01.18	Tom Oliver – Toilet Cleaning	48.00	
	09.01.18	Mrs L Simmonds Christmas Lights	70.92	

09.01.18	Carter Jonas – Potts Wood Rental		1.00	
11.01.18	Tom Oliver – Toilet Cleaning		40.50	
11.01.18	SLCC – Membership Fee		<u>100.00</u>	<u>1985.89</u>
				<u>33657.61</u>
	Closing Balance	Current Account	10971.94	
		Village Improvement Account	10014.10	
		Investment Account	8058.47	
		Playground Account	3010.00	
		E & R Wilson Account	<u>1603.10</u>	<u>33657.61</u>

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

J W Ball – Expense - £210.95 -1937
Warton Response Group – Reimbursement for Village Hall Sign - £216.72 -1938
Village Hall – Room Rental - £122.50 -1939

c) Parish Council 2018/2019 Precept

The clerk confirmed that the 2018/2019 Precept Demand for £18,941 had been submitted to Lancaster City Council.

18.009. PUBLIC TOILETS: Councillor Clough reported that the toilets were operational.

18.010. SPARROW PARK: Members agreed to the purchase of a name sign for Sparrow Park to be fixed on the reverse side of the notice board. Councillor Peacock agreed to contact Carnforth High School with a view to the manufacture of the sign as a woodworking project

18.011. ELIZABETH AND RICHARD WILSON CHARITABLE FUND: The clerk reported that £1,603 was available in the fund. Two first time and one third time application had been received.

18.012. THE WEIR CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUNDS: The clerk reported that the fouling problems with the sand pit continued. Members discussed options available, including the removal of the sand pit but because of its popularity with younger children agreed to take no further action at present. Members discussed the purchase and planting of a tree suitable for use as a Christmas Tree and agreed the clerk request the parish lengthsman investigate the suitability of a site within the playground as close to the existing electricity supply as possible.

18.013. PARISH LENGTHSMAN: The clerk reported that he would ask Peter Doey to repair and paint the seat in Millhead prior to the fixing of a memorial plaque.

18.014. SPEED DETECTION DEVICE: Councillor Clough reported that the device was operational.

18.015. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN: Councillor Clough reported that the plan was ready for use if required.

18.016. REGISTRATION OF WARTON PARISH COUNCIL LAND WITH THE LAND REGISTRY: The clerk reported that Mr Drinkall acting on our behalf had responded to the Land Registry request for further information. Councillor Peacock reported that he had been

able to identify a minute of a parish council meeting from 1972 detailing confirmation from the Clerks Department of Lancashire County Council advising the parish council that they were unable to apply to have the parcels of land (now subject to our Land Registry application) registered as common land as they were already owned by Warton Parish Council. The clerk was instructed to pass the information to Mr Drinkall for his consideration and possible action.

18.017. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE: The clerk reported that input of parish council data had continued.

18.018. WARTON AND MILLHEAD COMMUNITY ROADWATCH SCHEME: The clerk reported that no further volunteers had contacted him.

18.019. MILL LANE FOOTPATH: Nothing further to report.

18.020. KEERBRIDGE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT: The clerk reported the matter was with Mr Drinkall as our representative.

18.021. REPAIR OF SMALL QUARRY WALL: Members agreed that estimates for the repair of the wall be sought from Stone Walling Contractors. Councillor Peacock agreed to contact the AONB to request details of contractors employed by themselves on past walling contracts.

18.022. REQUEST FOR THE USE OF THE SMALL QUARRY CAR PARK: The clerk reported that he had been approached by the Old School Brewery for permission to use the quarry as a car park for a function to be held during the Spring Bank Holiday. Members considered the request but refused permission for its use on the grounds of the interference to other quarry users and the need for additional insurance protection for the parish council.

18.023. INSTALLATION OF CCTV SYSTEM IN THE VILLAGE HALL: Members discussed the installation of a CCTV system for the village hall and agreed to take no further action as they felt it was the responsibility of the Village Hall Management Committee and not the parish council.

18.024. WARTON BOWLING CLUB DONATION: The clerk reported that he had not as yet received the additional financial information requested.

18.025. WARTON CRICKET CLUB DONATION: The clerk reported that he had received a request for a donation towards the cost of purchase of a new grass mower. Members considered the request and agreed it be deferred to the end of the financial year for consideration along with other donation requests.

18.026. PILLAR CLOCK PURCHASE: Members considered the purchase of a pillar clock but decided against the provision on cost and need grounds.

18.027. SALT MARSH TRUST: Members agreed that the item had been fully covered as part of County Councillor Williamson's report.

18.028. GRASS CUTTING CHARGES: Members considered the invoice for £1521.00 plus vat from Lancaster City Council covering grass cutting during 2017 and agreed that the clerk query the charges because of the reduced number and lateness of cuts carried out and the inclusion of Sparrow Park when all work was carried out by the parish lengthsman.

17.029. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i) Councillor Muckle reported vehicle movements from the development site in Mill Lane were dangerous ii) Councillor Mrs Barker reported that vehicles leaving the recent stock car meeting were being monitored by the police iii) Councillor Mrs Barker reported that the bench outside the church hall needed to be moved to improve the outside view of the hall iv) Councillor Briggs reported a pot hole had developed near to the post box in Croftlands v) Councillor Briggs reported that part of the grass verge at the junction of Mill Lane and Hazelmount, Millhead had been fenced by the owner of the adjacent property.

18.030. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Members agreed that the next meeting of the Warton Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Warton.

Items for inclusion in the Agenda to be notified to the clerk by Monday 26th February 2018.

Chairman ----- Date -----

Minutes subject to agreement at the next meeting of the Warton Parish Council.