

**MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 in the Village Hall, Warton**

**PRESENT:** Councillors D Clough (Chairman), Mrs D Langman, W Muckle, C Peacock, County Councillor Mrs P Williamson, District Councillor A Duggan, Mr P Haunch and Mr J Bartle of Lancashire Community Engagement, Mrs C Walsh, Lancaster City Council Community Connections Manager and 7 members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors K Briggs, Mrs Cody, A Hilling and Mrs Simmonds.

In the absence of Councillor Briggs, Councillor Clough acted as chairman for the meeting.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest from councillors concerning items on the agenda.

The chairman welcomed Mr Haunch, Mr Bartle and Mrs Walsh to the meeting.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRESENTATION BY MR P HAUNCH & MR J BARTLE:**

Mr Hauch informed the meeting that the purpose of the initiative was to fill a gap in the current provision for volunteers to work together across the entire range of community activities aimed at an improvement in facilities and life experiences in each area of the county. Some funding from the police authority and Lancashire County Council was available to help with set up and training costs associated with the recruitment and preparation of volunteers as community champions necessary to progress the proposals. A commitment would be required from the parish council to support the community champions in their role as uniformed community ambassadors for between 2-6 hours each week. The roles could involve help with the organisations of events, leafleting, neighbouring planning, and liaison with other agencies with more tasks to be added as the scheme developed. It was envisaged that 3 champions would be required to provide the necessary cover for Warton and Millhead with travel and other non training expenses to be covered by the parish council. Insurance cover for volunteers would need to be provided as part of the parish council insurance agreement. Volunteers would be provided with a uniform and would need to be able to make decisions and use initiative. Currently 10 parish councils had agreed to take part in the initiative.

Members discussed the implications for the parish council and agreed to involve the members absent from the meeting before making a commitment. A final decision would be made at the November meeting of the parish council.

Members thanked Mr Haunch and Mr Bartle for their presentation.

**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS INITIATIVE PRESENTATION BY MRS C WALSH:** Mrs Walsh advised the meeting that she was the recently appointed manager covering the Warton Parish Council area on behalf of Lancaster City Council. Her role with her team would be to liaise with volunteer groups working in the area, looking at local issues, identifying gaps in provision and working with individuals requiring assistance. She would link with Lancashire County Council as well as Lancaster City Council officers and other organisations.

Members thanked Mrs Walsh for her presentation.

**19.218. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 having been previously circulated be accepted as a

true and accurate record of proceedings at that meeting and be signed as such by the chairman subject to under Public Participation the title of Mr Crockford be amended to Dr.

**19.219. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS:** The clerk reported that i)the complaint from Mrs Robinson of Westbourne Road concerning the storage of rubble and soil on the adjacent development site had been discussed with Lancaster City Council Planning Control, who had gained assurance from the developer that no further rubble would be added to the store,with clearance to commence within 4-6 weeks ii) the Scout Crag caravan park site work had been confirmed as permissible by Lancaster City Council Planning Control iii) a meeting had been arranged for 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 to discuss objections to fencing work on Warton Salt Marsh proposed as part of the England Coastal Path iv) members concerns on lorry movement as part of the construction of a bund for Clear Water Fisheries had been forwarded to Lancaster City Council Planning Control v)members concerns about the lack of landscaping as part of proposed changes to the front aspect of a property had been forwarded to Lancaster City Council Planning Control vi) Npower had been informed of members agreement for the payment of toilet electricity charges by direct debit vii) debris deposited on Crag Road near to Potts Wood by recent heavy rainfall had been reported to Lancashire County Council Highways Dept vii) emails covering other matters had been forwarded to members for their consideration on receipt.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

**THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

1.Flooding Gardner Road,Warton. representatives of the Gardner Road Residents Association reported that permission had been granted by the Environment Agency, subject to conditions, for discharge into the River Keer of floodwater from the Garden Road area. Currently they were limited in the use of their pump for floodwater clearance through not being able to pump directly to the River Keer through a fixed pipe. The purchase of suitable piping would be expensive and although some funding was available more would be required. Financial help from the parish council would be appreciated if possible. Members agreed to consider the provision of financial help but required written confirmation from the Environment Agency and the landowner over whose land the pipe would be laid that they agreed to the project, together with details of the type of pipe to be purchased and the cost involved. The chairman deferred consideration of the request to the next meeting of the parish council when the information required would be made available.

County Councillor Mrs Wilkinson agreed to enquire if any grants for such flood relief work were available from Lancashire County Council sources.

2.Flooding Main Street Warton. Mr Grimshaw 6 Main Street Warton requested members consider support for possible additional drainage facilities being provided by linking drains at the Main Street/ Sand Lane junction to a new drain planned for construction by the developer as part of the proposed drainage system on the Warton Grange Farm site. Members agreed that the clerk write to Lancashire County Council Flood Management and Highways Dept supporting the proposal put forward by residents.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson reported that she had requested that Lancashire County Council Flood Management and Highways officers carry out an inspection of the drains at the junction of Main Street and Sand Lane.

3. Flooding Sand Lane Warton. The clerk reported that he had been contacted by residents of 31 to 39 Sand Lane concerning the recent severe flooding of the road. At that point residents had purchased flood boards at their own expense to prevent flooding of their properties. Support from the parish council was requested.

4. Main Street Divergence onto the Little Weir. Residents of properties bordering the Little Weir expressed their concern at a possible slewing of the Main Street carriage way onto the Little Weir. The residents felt that such work would make the road more dangerous because the existing bend would be made more acute. Members noted the comments and agreed to take them into account if further discussions were held with the developer.

5. Rear of Grange View Millhead Fence. Grange View residents complained that the fence erected by Wilsons Properties between their site and Grange View was too close to the rear walls of the Grange View properties and stopped access for essential maintenance work. District Councillor Duggan agreed to contact Lancaster City Council Planning Control to check if planning constraints had been ignored.

6. Pedestrian Safety in Warton. The clerk read an email from Antony Bradshaw raising issues related to excessive speed and reckless driving through the village and actions taken by the parish council to alert Lancaster City Council, Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Constabulary to the dangers to village residents as a result. Members agreed that the issues raised in the email had been raised with the authorities over the past years but to little effect. Parish Council initiatives through the purchase of Speed Recording Equipment, efforts to form a Community Speed Watch Group and approaches to the relevant authorities together with efforts by County Councillor Mrs Williamson were ongoing.

#### **THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING**

**19.220. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON:** County Councillor Mrs Williamson had no items to report not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**19.221. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR A DUGGAN:** District Councillor Duggan had no items to report not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

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

**19.223. PLANNING MATTERS:** a) Members reviewed a planning application received as follows:

19/00020/FUL – Part retrospective application for the change of use of former quarry for the siting of 215 holiday lodges with associated internal access roads, sales display area, play area, car parks and landscaping for Mr Stott, Pure Leisure Group, South Lakeland Leisure Village, Borwick Lane, Warton – No objections raised but members wished to draw attention to the section of the AONB Development Plan that requested sustainable transport links be maintained and developed between such leisure villages as this and the AONB.

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

17/00736/OUT – Reviewed 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017 meeting – Awaiting decision

18/01603/FUL – Reviewed 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision

18/01589/REM – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision

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19/00003/FEF – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/0012/REF – reviewed 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00563/VCN – Reviewed 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00795/LB – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00814/VCN – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Application permitted  
 19/0098/TPO – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00779/FUL – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/01054/FUL – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 LCC/2019/0044 – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision

**19.224. FINANCE:** a) Members noted the financial summary for September 2019

	Opening Balance				
		Current Account	16440.94		
		Village Improvement Account	12151.69		
		Investment Account	8058.47		
		Playground Account	4519.11		
		E & R Wilson Fund	<u>67.30</u>	<u>41237.51</u>	
Receipts					
					NIL
Payments					
03.09.19	Npower – Toilet Electricity		85.64		
03.09.19	Thomas Graham Ltd – Toilet Consumables		68.65		
03.09.19	Tom Oliver – Toilet Work July		76.50		
03.09.19	Tom Oliver – Toilet Work August		76.50		
03.09.19	Peter Doey – Parish Lengthsman		555.00		
03.09.19	Colin Peacock – Expenses		60.00		
06.09.19	J W Ball – Salary		<u>370.26</u>	<u>1292.55</u>	
				<u>39944.96</u>	
	Closing Balance	Current Account	15148.39		
		Village Improv Acc	12151.69		
		Investment Account	8058.47		
		Playground Account	4519.11		
		E & R Wilson Fund	<u>67.30</u>	<u>39944.96</u>	

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

Peter Doey – Parish Lengthsman - £100.50 - 2038  
 J W Ball – Expenses April 2019 to September 2019 - £511.31 - 2039  
 PKF Littlejohn LLB – 2018/2019 Audit Fee - £240.00 - 2040  
 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work – September - £75.00 - 2041

Royal British Legion – Wreath - £18.50 - 2042  
 Warton Response Group – Defibrillator Batteries - £52.20 - 2043

c) 2018/2019 Financial Statements

The clerk reported that the external auditor had completed the review of the Financial Statements and no points for action had been raised. The auditor noted that the parish council did not comply with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as it failed to make proper provision during the year 2019/2020 for the exercise of public rights, since the approval date by members of the 2018/2019 Financial Statements was after the start of the period for the exercise of public rights. As a result the parish council must answer 'No' to section 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 and ensure that it makes proper provision for the exercise of public rights during 2020/2021. Members noted the auditors comment and agreed that the Notice of Audit and right to inspect the Annual Return could now be published.

**19.225. PUBLIC TOILETS:** Councillor Clough reported that as agreed at the September 2019 meeting of the parish council GDM Your Home Property Maintenance had been advised to go ahead with the work to refurbish the toilets.

**19.226. SPARROW PARK:** The clerk reported no further contact had been made by Lancaster City Council officers concerning the sale of the park to the parish council.

**19.227. ELIZABETH AND RICHARD WILSON CHARITABLE FUND:** The clerk reported that one completed application for funding had been received.

**19.228. THE WEIR CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND:** The clerk reported that the additional information relating to the accident, requested by Zurich Municipal had been forwarded. The parish lengthsman had carried out the necessary work to stabilise the limestone column. Flood water flowing into the playground from the road had washed the wood chip surrounding the climbing net into the sandpit and action was required to make both items of play equipment safe and usable. A meeting to assess the situation and report back to the November 2019 meeting of the parish council had been arranged for 2.00 pm on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Weir. Members were invited to attend.

**19.229. PARISH LENGTHSMAN:** The clerk reported that the Parish Lengthsman had been involved with the work detailed as part of item 19.228.

**19.230. SPEED DETECTION DEVICES:** The clerk reported that the devices were operational.

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

**19.232. REGISTRATION OF WARTON PARISH COUNCIL LAND WITH THE LAND REGISTRY:** The clerk reported that he had met with Mr Foreman of Ratcliffe and Bibby who had agreed to process the amended application covering the Weir and Senset Well.

**19.233. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE:** The clerk reported that he had been in contact with the website administrator to discuss the proposed changes.

**19.234. WARTON AND MILLHEAD COMMUNITY ROADWATCH SCHEME:** Nothing further to report.

**19.235. MILL LANE FOOTPATH:** Nothing further to report.

**19.236. COMMUNITY CHAMPION VOLUNTEER PROJECT:** Members agreed to give consideration to the information provided by Mr Haunch and Mr Bartle and discuss further at the November 2019 meeting of the parish council.

**19.237. DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS RELATED TO PLANNING APPLICATION**

**15/00847/OUT:** The clerk reported that as instructed at the September 2019 meeting of the parish council he had requested consideration of the provision of a Speed Awareness Unit as a suitable highway safety initiative, supported by County Councillor Mrs Williamson. Unfortunately Kelly Holt of Lancashire County Council was unable to action the request. Members instructed the clerk to write expressing their disappointment at the decision and request an explanation why a bus shelter would qualify as a highway safety provision when a speed awareness unit would not. County Councillor Mrs Williamson agreed to continue her support.

**19.238. LITTLE WEIR:** The clerk reported that Councillor Peacock and he had attended a meeting with Byron Wilson and Steve Bleasdale of Wilson Properties concerning the purchase of a strip of land on the Little Weir to facilitate highway alterations as a Lancashire County Council Highways requirement in connection with a proposed site development. The developer offered a purchase price of £5,000. Members agreed to defer discussion until the November 2019 meeting of the parish council to allow members not present at this meeting to be involved.

**19.239. ENGLAND COASTAL PATHWAY – WARTON SALTMARSHES:** The clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged for 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 in the Village Hall, Warton at 1.00 pm to discuss the project with Natural England representatives. Members and other interested parties would be welcome to attend.

**19.240. GRIT BIN ALLOCATION:** Councillor Clough agreed to complete the survey. Members agreed that a request be made for two additional bins at Potts Wood and Geds Gate.

**19.241. NOTICE BOARDS:** The clerk reported that one closed and two open notice boards were beyond repair and required replacement. Members considered estimates for the replacement of the notice boards but agreed that the cost of replacement was such that further investigation take place concerning alternatives available prior to a final decision being made.

**19.242. WREATH PURCHASE:** The clerk reported that a suitable wreath for Remembrance Sunday was available from the Royal British Legion at a cost of £18.50. Members agreed to the purchase of the wreath. Members agreed that the Silent Soldier Statue be placed in Sparrow Park.

**19.243. SMALL QUARRY:** Rental of a portion of land. Members agreed to defer the item to the November 2019 meeting of the parish council.

**19.244. SMALL QUARRY:** Repair of potholes in the approach road. Members agreed to defer the item to the November 2019 meeting of the parish council.

**19.245. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS:** No items of information were raised by members.

**19.246. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no further business the chairman thanked members, County Councillor Mrs Williamson and District Councillor Duggan for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10.05pm arranging the next meeting for Tuesday 5th November 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Warton.

Items for inclusion in the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Meeting Agenda to be notified to the clerk by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes subject to agreement at the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.