

**MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 by Zoom.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors K Briggs (Chairman), D Clough, Mrs J Cody, A Hilling, Mrs D Langman, W Muckle, C Peacock and Mrs L Simmonds, and County Councillor Mrs P Williamson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr J W Ball – Clerk to the Parish Council and 3 Members of the Public.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Mrs J Cody.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Declarations of interest in item 21.040 were made by Councillor Peacock, Mrs Langman and Mrs Simmonds.

**21.031. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 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.

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

- i. The Millhead notice board had been removed from the former site and re-erected in the bus shelter opposite the Nib Hotel. The public notice board would also be moved to the bus shelter as soon as possible.
- ii. The Church Hall notice board had been removed for refurbishment and would be re-erected after completion of the necessary work was completed
- iii. The public toilets were operational but because of additional expenditure necessary to remain safe for use during the Covid-19 crisis, a small overspend on budget allocation was likely by the end of the financial year.
- iv. The Weir Children's Playground upgrade and safety improvements consideration had continued with quotations sought from contractors for the installation of suitable fencing around the younger children's equipment area and removal of the cattle grid. A contractor had agreed to remove the cattle grid, backfill and re-surface with tar macadam at a cost of £1300 plus VAT, but if we were prepared to allow him to take the cattle grid for his own use he would carry out the work free of charge. Members agreed that we accept the offer. Suitable fencing supply was being sourced and quotations from contractors requested, with the likely cost for metal fencing ranging between £2500 to £4000 dependant on complexity. Wooden fencing would be a cheaper option but ongoing maintenance requirements, not necessary for metal fencing was a disadvantage. Members agreed that action to identify a suitable fencing option should continue. No progress to date had been made with the sourcing of wetpour for the safety surfaces surrounding the climbing equipment. Efforts to identify a suitable supply and contractor would continue. Because of safety issues it would be necessary to surface those areas with woodchip as a temporary measure. Members agreed that enough woodchip be purchased from Jenkinsons of Penrith to satisfy the current safety requirements. The compensation claim against the parish council insurers was ongoing.
- v. Sparrow Park waste bin would be refurbished by the Parish Lengthsman and would not need replacing. Members agreed that the clerk open negotiations with Lancaster City Council with a view to the parish council taking over ownership of the site.
- vi. The Emergency Plan was available for use if required.
- vii. The website would be operational in the near future, dependant on completion of the domain registration renewal.

- viii. Information on the implementation of the Lancaster City Council Grassland Management Strategy had been forwarded to members for their consideration.
- ix. The LALC Member Training Survey had been completed by the clerk on behalf of members. Increased use of online training was suggested.
- x. Other matters in progress had been notified to members on an ongoing basis.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

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

Warton Community Wellbeing Centre. Mr Rosindale requested members give consideration to a request for support for the Centre currently experiencing financial problems brought about by Covid-19 restrictions on the use of the centre facilities by members of the public. Prior to the pandemic the centre was well used and popular with villagers and was financially viable. Because of a complex arrangement with the church the centre was not able to access the funding streams available to other charities and voluntary organisations and was in danger of closure if financial help from other sources did not become available.

The Chairman thanked Mr Rosindale for his input and assured him that members would give full consideration to the problem when the centre's application for a donation from the parish council was considered later in the meeting.

There were no other items of public participation.

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

**21.033. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON:** County Councillor Mrs Williamson had nothing to report at the present time.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her continued support.

**21.034. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR A DUGGAN:** District Councillor Duggan was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not available.

District Councillor Duggan was thanked for his continued support.

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

**21.036. PLANNING MATTERS:** a) Details of the following planning applications had been forwarded to members for their consideration and response as required with comments to be forwarded to Lancaster City Council Planning Department prior to deadline dates.

20/00358/OUT: Amended outline planning application for the erection of 12 2-storey dwellings and creation of 2 new accesses for Barker Farms Ltd, land off Sand Lane, Warton. Members discussed the submission made by Stephanie Gray - Public Realm, Lancaster City Council concerning the possible use of £30,556.80 max off site Contribution being used to improve footpaths and signage on Warton Crag. Members queried this possible allocation of funds and agreed that the parish council should request involvement in any decision making process involving the allocation of those funds. The clerk was instructed to contact Planning

Control requesting further information and agreement to input from the parish council before a decision on the allocation of any Off Site Contribution was made.

21/00181/CCC – Extension of existing leisure fishery including change of use of existing agricultural land, excavation/formation of two new lakes, formation of new bund embankment to the west boundary adjacent M6, associated formation of site access road/ paths and landscaping, improvement to existing site access point at North East corner of site, installation/ extension of otter exclusion fence to enclose new site for Mr Alex Mollart, Clear Water Fishery, Kellet Lane, Over Kellet – No objection raised.

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

19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 20/00358/OUT – Reviewed by members 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 – Awaiting decision  
 20/00676/VCN – Reviewed by members 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – Awaiting decision  
 20/00873/FUL – Reviewed by members 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Awaiting decision  
 20/0937/VLA – Reviewed by members 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Awaiting decision  
 LRC/AW/W13196 – Reviewed 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 20/01349/FUL – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 21/00077/EIO – Reviewed 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 meeting – Awaiting decision

**21.037.FINANCE:** Members noted the financial summary for February 2021

Opening Balances – All Accounts	Current Account	12615.14	
	Village Improvement Account	12460.04	
	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4522.63	
	E & R Wilson Fund	<u>2247.50</u>	<u>39903.78</u>
Opening Balance – Current Account			12615.14
Receipts			
01.02.21	Wilson Properties Ltd – Sale of Lane		<u>20035.10</u> 32650.24
Payments			
01.02.21	Tom Oliver – Toilet Work – Jan 2021	152.50	
01.02.21	JW Ball – Professional Membership Fee Reimbursement	101.00	
01.02.21	Thomas Graham Ltd – Toilet PPE	41.50	
02.02.21	CPRE – 2021 Membership Fee	36.00	
02.02.21	Peter Doey – Parish Lengthsman Charges	1271.75	
05.02.21	Npower – Toilet Electricity	27.58	
06.02.21	JW Ball – Salary	377.67	

Closing Balance – Current Account			<u>30642.24</u>
Closing Balance – All Accounts	Current Account	30642.24	
	Village Improv Acc	12460.04	
	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4522.63	
	E & R Wilson Fund	<u>2247.50</u>	<u>57930.88</u>

b) Members authorised payments and agreed that cheques be signed by Councillors Hilling and Mrs Simmonds:

Tom Oliver – Toilet Work – February 2021 - £130.00 – 2117  
 Thomas Graham and Sons Ltd – Toilet PPE Supplies - £41.50 – 2118

**21.038. PAYMENT OF 2% SALARY INCREASE TO THE CLERK:** Members agreed that the 2% salary award for the 2020/2021 financial year be authorised for payment.

**21.039. APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES TO THE HUTTON CHARITY FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL:** Members discussed the appointment and agreed that Councillor Peacock and the clerk draft a letter to Reverend Figg explaining the parish council's understanding of the position.

**21.040. DONATION TO THE ARCHBISHOP HUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA BIG IT DRIVE:** Members discussed the request for a donation to the PTA BIG IT Drive for the purchase of IT equipment but the 4 members not covered by declarations of interest agreed that it was the responsibility of the statutory bodies to provide the necessary funding for the delivery of the required national curriculum standard and not the parish council. The 4 members eligible to vote agreed that the donation application be refused. County Councillor Mrs Williamson reported that she had not been made aware of the difficulties being experienced by the school and would discuss the problem with the appropriate Lancashire County Council officers.

**21.041. DONATION TO THE LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST:** Members considered the request for a donation to the Trust and agreed that the parish council take up local business membership at a charge of £99.00 for the current year.

**21.042. DONATION TO WARTON VILLAGE HALL LIFT REPAIR FUND:** Members discussed the donation application but agreed that in view of recent covid relief payments received by Warton Village Hall, the need for a donation was no longer necessary.

**21.043. DONATION TO WARTON COMMUNITY WELLBEING CENTRE:** Members considered the donation applications together with the additional information supplied by Mr Rosindale during the period of public participation and agreed that an immediate payment of £300.00 be authorised with further payments to be considered dependant on the ongoing financial position of the hall.

**21.044. DONATION TO THE NORTH WEST AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY:** Members agreed that a donation of £300.00 be authorised.

**21.045. DONATION TO THE BOWLAND PENNINE MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM:** Members agreed that a donation of £300.00 be authorised.

**21.046. PURCHASE OF EVOLIS RADAR SPEED SIGNS:** Members discussed the need for traffic calming measures on the Sand Lane and Yealand Road approaches to the village and agreed that 2 Evolis Radar Speed Signs be purchased.

**21.047. PURCHASE OF EVOFLASH SMART BEACON:** Members discussed the need for traffic calming measures in Main Street and agreed that a beacon be purchased, actual location for erection to be considered.

**21.048. NALC CLIMATE CHANGE SURVEY:** Councillor Peacock agreed to provide members with the link to further information on the subject.

**21.049. ELIZABETH AND RICHARD WILSON CHARITABLE TRUST FUND:** The clerk reported that two applications for funding had been received, one new application and one from an applicant who had previously received funding from the fund. Currently £2247.50 was available in the fund for distribution to applicants.

Members discussed the applications and agreed that a payment of £1400 be paid to the applicant who had not previously received funding from the trust and £600 to the applicant who had received a previous grant. Both payments to be dependant on the applicants providing evidence from the respective universities that they were currently continuing their studies.

**21.050. MINISTRY FOR HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MHCLG) MODEL DESIGN CODE CONSULTATION:** Councillor Peacock reported that the AONB plan pre-empts this code and is considered to be exemplary.

**21.051. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS:** i. Councillor Briggs reported that items of rubbish had been tipped on the old barn site in Back Lane and some action was needed from the school to solve the problem. Lancaster City Council had been notified.  
ii. Councillor Briggs reported that the sign warning drivers to ignore sat nav advice to use Back Lane as a through route had not been erected.  
iii. Councillor peacock advised members that he had received information covering Eden Project North developments and would circulate.

**21.052. ADDITIONAL MEETING:** members agreed to hold an informal meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 by Zoom at 7.30pm to discuss funding of future projects.

**21.053. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no further public business the chairman thanked members and County Councillor Williamson for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 9.10pm. The next full meeting of the parish council was arranged for 7.30pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 by Zoom.

Items for inclusion in the Agenda for the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 Meeting to be notified to the clerk by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

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

Minutes subject to agreement at the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.