

**MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in the Village Hall Warton.**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor C Peacock, County Councillor Mrs P Williamson and District Councillor Mrs S Tyldesley.

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

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

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

- i. Ian Brodie of the Ramblers Association had advised that the Coastal Access Proposals for Warton Marsh were to be re-submitted for consideration under S38 of the Commons Act.
- ii. A donation of £21.99 had been made to the Trussell Trust Morecambe Food Bank as the charity nominated by the parish council members to receive the proceeds of the collection at the St Oswalds Christmas Tree Festival.
- iii. Legionella Awareness training by GMS Training was on offer at no charge to participants. Members considered the offer but agreed that as the parish council was not responsible for facilities at risk from such infection, such training was not considered to be necessary.
- iv. Anne Oliver had advised that Tom was now able to receive payment for his public toilet duties. Members agreed that an ex gratia payment of £50 (£25 x 2) be made to Tom as a gesture of thanks for his continued work at the toilets without payment.

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. Grass cutting Borwick Close and Well Lane.

A complaint had been received from Mr N Newton that grass cutting of areas of Borwick Close and Well Lane previously carried out by Lancashire County Council was no longer being carried out. Members discussed the problem and agreed that the clerk contact County Councillor Mrs Williamson and District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley to request their help in reaching a solution to the problem

2. Speeding Stock Car Traffic in Borwick Lane.

A complaint had been received from Mr F Williamson concerning the excessive speed of vehicles using Borwick Lane to access the Stock Car Circuit. Members discussed the problem and agreed that the clerk contact the Stock Car Club to urge compliance with the

already agreed protocol for stock car traffic to reach the circuit via Carnforth Town Centre and not Borwick Lane and Main Street Warton.

### THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

**23.040. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON:** County Councillor Mrs Williamson was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not available.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her continued support.

**23.041. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS S TYLDESLEY:** District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley was unable to attend the meeting but a report was forwarded for members information and consideration as follows:

Lancaster City Council Members had approved the 2023/2024 budget involving a reduction of £2.5m (12%) in the previous agreed total. Much of the forecast savings were to be achieved by staffing reductions through reorganisation and deletion of vacant posts and other measures. The Platform was to remain open for the year but alternative management methods were to be explored, Museum opening hours were to be reduced and Tourist Information delivery was to be examined. Council Tax relief for the most vulnerable and front line services had been protected. A meeting had been arranged for 7.30pm on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in the Village Hall with local residents to explore ideas for future use of the open space at the Roods with the possible installation of refurbished play equipment, the planting of trees to form an orchard and wild flower planting on the open area already suggested.

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

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

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

22/00064/REF – Appeal against the refusal of Planning Application 19/00113/FUL reviewed at the March 2019 meeting of the parish council – Part retrospective application for the change of use of former quarry for the siting of 138 holiday lodges with associated access roads, sales display area, play area, car parks and landscaping for Pure Leisure Group, South Lakeland Leisure Village, Borwick Lane, Warton – Members noted the information.

23/00008/FUL – Construction of wall and gates to car park entrance for Mr Alex Mollart Clear Water Fisheries, Kellet Lane, Over Kellet – No objection raised.

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

20/00358/OUT – Reviewed 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 Meeting – Application Permitted  
 20/00358/OUT – Reviewed 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 Meeting – Application Permitted  
 22/0115/TCA – Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 22/01247/OUT – Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Meeting – Application Permitted  
 22/01436/LB – Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 22/01468/FUL – Reviewed 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Meeting – Application Permitted  
 23/0003/TCA – Reviewed 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted  
 23/005/TPO – Reviewed 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Meeting – Application Decided – Split Decision  
 23/00022/FUL – Reviewed 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted

**1350**

c) Planning Application Update

99-101 Main Street Warton – Members agreed that the clerk approach members of the Methodist Church in Borwick Lane to enquire if the waste bin removed from the forecourt of 99-101 Main Steet could be sited on Chapel Walk near to the telegraph pole. If agreement was given to the proposal the clerk to inform Lancaster City Council for the necessary work to be undertaken.

**23.044. FINANCE:** a) Members noted the financial summary for February 2023 as follows:

Opening Balances – All Accounts

	Current Account	30385.77
	Village Improvement Account	12481.19
	Investment Account	8058.47
	Playground Account	4531.70
	E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u> 55553.73

Opening Balance – Current Account 30385.77

Receipts NIL

Payments

06.02.23 J W Ball – Salary	385.17
07.02.23 Warton Village Hall – Room Hire	128.00
07.02.23 Warton Village Hall – Replacement Lost Cheque	106.00
07.02.23 Carter Jonas LLB – Potts Wood Picnic Site Rental	1.00
07.02.23 CPRE – Membership Fee	60.00
07.02.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity	27.82
	<u>707.99</u>
	29677.78

Closing Balance Current Account 29677.78

Closing 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

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

Marmax Products Ltd – Picnic Tables and Bench - £1317.60 – 2293  
 Lancashire Event Hire – Event Tables and Chairs - £784.80 - 2294

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

**23.048: LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS:**

Nothing further to report.

**23.049. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT:** The clerk reported that a suitable site had been identified by Lancashire County Council on the grass verge at the Roods/Main

Street junction, subject to consultation with the residents of Yew Tree Cottage. A meeting with Mr Holcroft had been held and although the verge on the south side of the junction was not considered to be suitable because of the shielding of the sun during winter months by high Yew Trees, it was agreed that siting of the unit on the grass verge on the north side of the junction would not be subject to the same limitations. Members considered the proposal and agreed that the clerk contact Lancashire County Council to request their consideration of the amended site..

**23.047. REPLACEMENT PICNIC TABLES AND SEATS:** The clerk reported that the order for the tables and seat had been confirmed with the supplier and delivery to Pete Doey's house would be carried out in the near future. Councillor Mrs Simmonds suggested that because of the weight of the items it would be preferable if the delivery site was to be changed to Leighton Hall where suitable handling equipment was available to assist in erecting the tables and bench on site. The clerk agreed to contact the supplier to request the change of delivery address.

**23.048. PARTICIPATION IN THE MORECAMBE AND TOWN COUNCIL FORUM:** Members agreed not to participate in the Forum and to remove the item from future agendas.

**23.049. WARTON MIRES PROJECT:** The clerk reported that the Warton Mires Sub Group had met on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Members received a report from Mr Horner RSPB on progress to date with the project. Members of the group agreed that the blocked catch pit and pipe needed urgent attention if village flooding issues were to be eased. As the ongoing negotiations between Lancashire County Council and RSPB concerning responsibility for the catch pit and clearance of the blockage showed no signs of settlement group members agreed to approach the parish council for financial help with pipe clearance costs. Members discussed the points raised in the meeting report and agreed that a contractor be engaged to initially carry out a survey of the extent of the blockage and advise on the work necessary to remove the sediment in the catch pit and pipe.

The clerk was thanked for the sub-group report.

**23.050. SMALL QUARRY DISPLAY BOARDS:** Councillor Mrs Simmonds reported that as compilation of the information needed for the display boards was taking longer than originally thought the item should be removed from the meeting agenda for the time being.

**23.051. LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL GRANTS:** Members agreed that the item be removed from the agenda.

**23.052. WARM AND WELCOMING BUILDINGS:** Members agreed that the item be removed from the agenda.

**23.053. COMMEMORATION OF THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III:** Members agreed that commemorative medals be presented to children in the village and be purchased from Gifts2Impress. The clerk was instructed to contact the company to agree the cost per medal with protective cover. Councillor Mrs Simmonds to notify the clerk of the number of medals required.

**23.054. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS:** The clerk reported that he had attended the elections briefing session held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and issued members briefing packs for their completion. If it was necessary to hold an election in the parish to determine future parish council membership the election would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Nominations from

candidates can be submitted from 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and if an election was notrequired, members would be notified after that date. A standard charge of £120 would be imposed on the parish council to cover Lancaster City Council costs. Members agreed to attend a meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to complete their application for consideration of continued membership of the parish council.

**23.055. DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE:** The clerk reported that he had received assurance from Mr Martin Fagan, Trustee and Secretary of Community Heartbeat Trust that the 4 defibrillators installed in Warton and Millhead were registered with the North West Ambulance Service and were operational. The defibrillators were registered on the National Defibrillator database but not on Defibrillator UK or the Circuit as registration on more than one site could lead to confusion and removal from the North West Ambulance Defibrillator Register, leading to those defibrillators becoming non operational. Councillor Mrs Simmonds registered her concern about the registration of the parish defibrillator together with similar concerns expressed by a member of the public. The clerk stressed that he had been in touch with the North West Ambulance Resuscitation Team and was awaiting confirmation that the Warton and Millhead defibrillators were operational.

**23.056. RESITING OF WASTE BIN:** Members agreed that the waste bin removed from the forecourt of 99-101 Main Street be re-sited in Chapel Walk near to the telephone pole adjacent to the Methodist Church, subject to Methodist Church approval.

**23.057. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS:** i. Councillor Senior reported that temporary repairs had been carried out to the manhole cover in Coach Road.  
ii. Councillor Muckle reported that potholes were still widespread in Millhead.  
iii. Councillor Clough thanked members for their attendance at the defibrillator demonstration prior to the meeting.

**23.058. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no further business the chairman thanked Members for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 9.15pm. The next meeting of Warton Parish Council was arranged for Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Warton.

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

Minutes subject to agreement at the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.