

WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT
CATFORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE, CATFORTH
on MONDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2016 at 7.00pm.

129 PRESENT: Chairman Cllr S Morgan
Councillors B Probin M Greaves
M Entwistle S Yates

1 member of the public.

130 APOLOGIES B Dalglish, M Stewart, P Entwistle

131 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the meeting on the on 18th January 2016.
Due to a problem circulating the Minutes, it was **resolved** that they will be signed at the next meeting.

132 TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interests.

133 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was **resolved** that the meeting be adjourned for Public Participation.

In response to a query it was confirmed that the temporary planning consent for the Travellers expires on 8th July 2016 - 2 years after the decision notice was issued. An email has been sent to the City Council querying alternative provision and requesting confirmation that the City Council will take enforcement action when the consent expires. Concerns were raised regarding fraud as it was stated that some residents are receiving post addressed to the Travellers but at the residents' home address. It was stated that any concerns should be referred to the police.

134 WITHDRAWAL OF BUS SUBSIDIES

Members were reminded that LCC will be cutting subsidies to bus routes which could lead to the discontinuation of some services. Both Service 80 (Catforth) and Service 4 (Woodplumpton) could be affected. Members considered various options

- a) It was noted that the County Council has stated it will assist parishes in running their own bus services. It was **resolved** that this option is not taken forward as the legislation is complex and as a small parish we don't have the expertise or resources to run a bus service. In addition the routes must have a high utilisation rate which is not achievable in the rural area, substantiated by the fact the services are currently subsidised.
- b) Parishes have the option to increase the precept without triggering a referendum but the government is looking at applying a cap to future increases. It was noted that Longton Parish Council has increased its precept by £60,000 to pay for a bus service but it is understood that the service is well used and is contained within the Parish. Parishes could use CIL monies to fund or part fund a service provided by another, but CIL income is dependent on the phasing and commencement of new development. The income is not guaranteed and will stop once the final phases of development have commenced. If the Parish Council introduced a service, it may not be able to sustain it in the longer term. In addition, it was stated that the Council has consulted on several projects to be funded by CIL including improvements to Woodplumpton play area and traffic calming throughout the Parish. It was **resolved** that as the CIL funding is not extensive and can only be used once, other 'external' options should be considered before committing CIL monies.
- c) New developments need to provide public transport to be sustainable. It was noted that Preston Area Committee has raised this issue with Preston City Council in relation to how it is spending CIL monies and it was **resolved** that the Clerk researches how many applications in NW Preston refer to the provision of public transport and ask PCC what role planners can play in ensuring the continued provision of services.

- d) Members expressed concerns that buses in the rural area only run hourly whereas services nearer the City Centre run as frequently as every 8 mins. Concerns were also expressed that groups of residents would be unable to get to work or to access schools and colleges. It was **resolved** that the Clerk contacts Stage Coach and Preston Bus to see if it is viable to continue / run a new service to the parish at peak times specifically to cater for the groups mentioned above.
- e) It was noted that several elderly and vulnerable residents will be left without any transport to the shops or hospital. It was **resolved** that the Clerk contact Preston Community Transport with regards to including an article in the Parish Newsletter appealing for volunteer drivers so that Community Transport can increase their provision to the Parish. In addition, depending on demand, Community Transport may be able to provide a service to take residents to a 'connecting bus stop' rather than various destinations.

135 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Note - Members are advised prior to the meeting that planning applications can be viewed at www.preston.gov.uk

06/2016/0031 Erection of porch to front of dwelling following demolition of existing porch at Sundial Farm Moorside Lane Woodplumpton Preston.
Members **resolved** to leave to planning.

06/2016/0043 Removal of condition no2 attached to planning permission 06/1999/0912, namely that the occupation of the dwelling shall be limited to a person solely or mainly employed, or last employed in Raggamuffins Kennels and Cattery, or a widow or widower of such a person, or any residential dependants at Oaktree House Roots Lane Catforth Preston.
Members **resolved** to leave to planning.

136 REFURBISHMENT OF COTTAM POST OFFICE

Members noted the letter regarding the proposed refurbishment of Cottam Post Office and **resolved** to respond by supporting the refurbishment making reference to the important role the Post Office has in the rural community.

137 MEETING TO CONSIDER CIL SUGGESTIONS

Members noted the table recording the replies to the CIL consultation and several more replies were passed to the Clerk. These will be added to the replies and Members **resolved** to hold a further meeting to consider how to progress the items on Wednesday 24th February. The Clerk will send an email confirming the meeting. With regard to the LCC discussions about traffic measures, it was noted that Cllr Greaves provided the location of the proposed measures, but this needs to be accompanied with a script highlighting what the problems are and when they occur as this will influence what measures can be provided. It was **resolved** that Cllr Greaves and Morgan will work on the script to be discussed at the CIL meeting.

138 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman confirmed the accounts and bank statements reconciled.

139 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment

Clerks Feb Salary	£775.58	CQ 1134
HMRC Feb	£51.17	CQ 1135
Lengthsman Contract Feb	£352.50	CQ 1136

140 EXTERNAL AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

From 2017 Parish Councils can choose whether to have an external auditor appointed by a 'sector-led body' (SLB) or whether to opt out and procure the audit itself - which could be considerably higher than using the auditor appointed by the SLB.
Members **resolved** to use the auditor appointed by the Sector Led Body.

141 INTERNAL AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

Members considered the Internal Audit Requirements for 2016.

No changes were proposed to the Risk Management Plan / Policy Statement.

- a) It was **resolved** to appoint Mr Slade as the Internal Auditor in accordance with the Terms of Reference and the Statement of Internal Control.

Members considered the updated Risk Management Register and noted the entries in relation to CIL monies. Currently, CIL monies are invested with the CCLA Fund which was developed in collaboration with the Local Government Association, NALC and SLCC. At the time the investment decision was taken, banks did not 'protect' investments and the money was invested with CCLA because of its AAA rating.

Since taking that decision, a new EU directive was issued in July 2015, whereby small local authorities are now covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme for the first £75,000 held with a bank.

- b) Members **resolved** that whilst the risk to the money invested in the CCLA is still low, it would be prudent to be cautious and invest the 2nd payment of CIL monies in a FSCS protected bank account.

142 DONATIONS AND GRANTS

At the last meeting under public participation, the police made a suggestion whereby the contact details of various agencies are distributed to residents on a plastic card or fridge magnet. It was **noted** that the scheme is being rolled out across all the rural Parishes and as such the scheme would be financed by the police.

Members discussed purchasing some canisters where residents could store important personal information to be accessed by emergency services. It was **resolved** that the Council would order a box at a cost of £25+pp. The scheme will be advertised in the Parish newsletter and parish residents can contact the Council for a free canister. The Clerk will approach the Parish Champion for a grant to fund the canisters.

143 COMMUNITY EVENTS

Members **resolved** not to participate in the Lancashire Best Kept Village competition due to the level of time and involvement required.

Members noted the amount of litter recently collected by the Parish Lengthsman and **resolved** to pass the 'Clean for the Queen' correspondence to the scouts.

144 ARTICLES FOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Members noted the increase in charitable events / sponsorship requests.

It was **resolved** that 3 charities would be confirmed at the Annual Parish Meeting and as 3 Newsletters are issued annually, each one will include an advert / article on the supported charity. Articles for the April Newsletter will include the Lions Medical canisters, an article on Community Transport and a request to support the Village Fete.

145 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for **Monday 21st March 2016** at 7.00pm at Woodplumpton Parish Rooms.

Members were informed that an initial meeting has been arranged with Preston City Council to discuss improvements to the play area. The meeting is on Thursday 18th February at 3.00pm.

Attention was drawn to a scam where fixed penalty notices are issued by email. The DVSLA has advised that the email should be deleted as fixed penalties are not issued by email.

The Clerk was requested to report a significant pothole by the exchange box on the corner of Woodplumpton Road and Tabley Lane.