

WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
AT CATFORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE, CATFORTH
on MONDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2015 at 7.00pm.

- 94 PRESENT:** Chairman Cllr P Entwistle
Councillors B Dalglish, M Entwistle B Probin
S Morgan M Stewart

Approx. 20 members of the public and the local PCSO.

- 95 APOLOGIES** Cllr C Singleton, Cllr M Greaves

- 96 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the meeting on the **17th November 2014.**

A meeting was not scheduled in December and the January meeting was cancelled as the Clerk was admitted to hospital. It was **resolved** that the November Minutes be approved and signed as a true record.

- 97 TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

Members were reminded that as property owners in the Parish, they are likely to have a disclosable pecuniary interest and must request a written dispensation to participate and vote on the setting of the precept. Forms were submitted and **a dispensation was granted by the Clerk** on the grounds that the number of Members prohibited from participating, would impede the transaction of the business.

- 98 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was **resolved** that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

It was established that most of those present had attended to discuss the Cuadrilla proposals. The Chairman explained the procedures to be followed during the meeting and explained that Lancashire County Council will determine the applications. When considering the applications previously, the Parish Council had replied that **if** the applications were approved, it would seem prudent to ensure the relevant monitoring and safety arrays were in place.

The application has been amended so that traffic will be routed through the Parish and the Parish Council will be reconsidering its response to the proposal once a formal consultation is received. Cuadrilla have invited the Parish Council to a technical briefing to discuss the proposals. The key points raised by the public were

Route

- The route was previously rejected by LCC and Cuadrilla.
- There are concerns about the suitability of the route, weight restrictions on local bridges, what the lorries will be carrying and the impact on the local environment
- Woodplumpton Lane and Newsham Hall Lane are already “approved routes” for HGV’s to access the housing development in NW Preston
- The route has been driven and photographed and a power point presentation can be given to a public meeting if required
- Care should be taken that all HGV’s and trucks are not stopped from using the route as there are many legitimate businesses already using the route

Fracking

- If the number of new jobs to be created is to be believed, there will be “a significant number of new wells” and Fracking will “completely change the area” and will lead to the “industrialization of Fylde”
- The Parish Council should take a stance on whether or not it supports Fracking because even if this application is refused due to the route, Cuadrilla will “keep coming back” with other suggestions until they “get what they want”.
- Concerns were expressed that “Cuadrilla will play down the risks” associated with Fracking and “would not stick to any agreements”.

Engagement

- If the Parish Council meets with Cuadrilla, they should meet with other community groups too as they have been involved with the issue for some time and have access to information and funding which may not be available to the Parish Council.
- Frack Free Lancashire meet every Tuesday and are happy to open the meeting to Woodplumpton members too
- Broughton Parish Council and Inskip Parish Council are “both against the route and will be lodging formal objections”.
- In response to a question “will Woodplumpton be setting up a group or joining with other groups to fight the proposal”? It was stated that Woodplumpton residents had arranged a meeting in Catforth. Disappointment was expressed that the invitation was not extended to the Parish Council or Catforth residents. It was explained that leaflets had been issued to residents on the route and 68 people turned up.
- There is room for the Parish Council and action groups to work together. The “power of the people” has its place but it is up to people to make it happen and the Parish Council “has more weight” as its Members are elected.
- It was suggested that the Parish Council contacts LCC if it wants to speak on the application due to constraints on the number of people permitted to speak
- It was suggested that the Parish Council announces its decision to the application.

The Chairman concluded the discussion stating that a joined up approach and the sharing of information is a good idea. However when it comes to objections, it is better to have responses from individuals as well as groups as each group has a different dynamic. Woodplumpton meets regularly with other Parishes through the Preston Area Committee. Cuadrilla have to set up a community liaison group and he has been invited to attend on Wednesday. All the information received will be added to the Parish website in an unfiltered format. Information from other groups may be added if it is emailed to the Clerk.

A member of LLARA expressed concerns about the housing development in NW Preston and explained that now the development has started, it is a “free for all” and there needs to be a campaign for more safety. There is no organised Traffic Management Plan for the next development stage or the E – W road, let alone the co-ordination of the whole area. Lorries are being stacked up for deliveries and runners and cyclists can’t get round them. Increasingly lorries are using sat nav systems to find the sites and are then “backing up residents drives” to turn round.

The police stated that it had been a good couple of months with no major crime, however, opportunist thieves are going in and out of unlocked garages and cars. Please check these are locked especially as many insurers will not pay out if the premises were insecure. A large vehicle was taken from a dairy farm in broad daylight. Fortunately it was found as it had a tracker fitter, but don’t make it easy for thieves!

99 CUADRILLA LETTER – ALTERNATIVE ROUTE FOR INBOUND HGV TRAFFIC

Further to the discussion under public participation, Members reflected that Cuadrilla are *currently finalising an information package which will be available for review and public consultation within the next few weeks*. With this in mind, members **resolved**

- a) To immediately oppose the principle of the route passing through Woodplumpton Parish due to the threat to the local environment as noted under public participation
- b) To comment further on the application once the formal consultation and supporting information has been received
- c) To meet with Cuadrilla, sooner rather than later, preferably on a Saturday morning, to discuss the technical issues around Fracking and the detail of the application
- d) To hold an extra-ordinary public meeting to discuss Fracking and the proposed route. It was proposed that the meeting be held at Catforth Village Hall due to the size of the room and available parking facilities. The meeting will be advertised in the Parish Notice Boards, website and LEP and emails will be sent to all those who have contacted the Clerk about Fracking or the proposed route. Leaflets may be distributed locally by local Councillors or action group volunteers.

- e) The March Agenda will include an item to decide whether a Councillor should be formally appointed to attend local Fracking meetings and feed information back to the Council.

100 ONSHORE OIL AND GAS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Members noted that the SPD provides guidance on the implementation of existing policy. It does not have the scope to provide comparisons with other renewable energy sources. Members **resolved** to note the supplementary planning document.

101 TRANSPARENCY CODE FOR SMALLER AUTHORITIES

DCLG have produced the above code setting out new publishing requirements for Parish Councils. The Clerk advised that much of the information can be added to the website, although the website may need to be more sophisticated at a later date. Members **resolved** that the Clerk add the new information to ensure compliance and add the refurbishment of the website to a future meeting once a host has been found.

102 a) 2015/2016 BUDGET AND PRECEPT SUBMISSION

When considering the draft budget in November, Members were satisfied that the traffic situation in Woodplumpton will worsen due to the increased housing and it was felt that the Council had a good case for financing the solar powered SPID's from CIL monies. Consequently a revised Budget was presented to Council which showed the estimated expenditure (not including SPIDs) at £27,506, significantly higher than the current precept of £18,375. Members were reminded that whilst the Council may receive a substantial amount in CIL monies, this money is 'ring fenced' for infrastructure projects and cannot be used for general expenditure.

Members reflected on the work undertaken by the Parish Council and noted that it currently costs £1.72 a month for an average band D council tax property.

Members **resolved** to increase the Precept by £8,000 to £26,375 which equates to an increase of 75p a month.

b) MEETING TO CONSIDER CIL SUGGESTIONS

At the November meeting, Members resolved to include an article in the winter newsletter explaining the introduction of CIL monies and requesting ideas on how it could be used. MIN 91. Members also resolved to hold a separate meeting to discuss the replies. Notwithstanding the above, Cllr Greaves put forward a suggestion that CIL monies should be used to match fund speed platforms in both villages due to traffic concerns in the next 12 months. It was stated that the CIL meeting should take place sooner rather than later and LCC officers should attend to discuss the funding and options for various traffic calming measures. It was **resolved** that a meeting would be set up once the Cuadrilla application had been processed.

103 20MPH ZONES

The Parish Council has been approached via the Road Safety Partnership to display posters promoting Healthy Streets – a LCC road safety initiative to encourage communities to get active and to reinforce the 20mph message.

Members recalled that the Parish Council has requested 20mph limits in both Catforth and Woodplumpton but apart from flashing signs outside Woodplumpton School, these have not been introduced. Members **resolved** to request the 20mph posters and clarify the extent and progress of any 20mph zones in both villages.

104 1) PLANNING APPLICATIONS - DELEGATED

As meetings were not held during December or January, the Clerk considered the following applications under delegated authority.

06/2014/0889 Certificate of Lawfulness for erection of single storey extension to side of dwelling at Holmlea Farm, Blackleach Lane. It is up to the applicant to demonstrate that the extension was lawful. **No representation.**

06/2014/0910 Prior notification for an agricultural storage building opposite Stone Chimneys, Blackleach Lane, Catforth. Planning consider the notification and decide if an application needs to be submitted. If this is the case a full application will be included on a future agenda. **No representation.**

06/2014/0954 single and 2 storey extensions to rear of Haydock Lodge, 80 Hoyles Lane, Cottam. Renewal of a similar application 06/2011/0299 already approved in June 2011 but not commenced. **No representation.**

06/2014/0958 Prior notification of change of use from agricultural buildings to 3 dwellings at Beech Grove Farm, Malley Lane, Catforth. The change of use of certain agricultural buildings to 3 dwellings or less is permitted development under an amendment to planning legislation in April 2014. The City Council will determine if the criteria has been met – if not, a full application will be included on a future agenda. **No representation.**

06/2014/0971 Detached garage at 1 Airey House, Bay Horse Lane, Catforth. There is an existing vehicular access which allows parking at the property. The garage will be next to an outbuilding and will replace an existing shed at the side of the property. **No representation.**

06/2014/0981 erection of a 12m mast and 2 small cabinets west of Bridge House, Tabley Lane, Higher Bartle. An extension of time was requested to allow Members to consider the proposal but due to the type of application, this could not be granted. The Clerk concluded that the mast will be visually intrusive as an isolated piece of infrastructure on Tabley Lane (which is a rural location) and given the scale of the proposed new development in NW Preston, there will be plenty of opportunities to locate the mast so that it can blend in with a more urbanised environment which has more need for 'next generation' technology. The Clerk made a **representation to object to the proposal**. The full reasons have been circulated to Members.

Members **resolved** to note and endorse the delegated decisions above.

2) PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CURRENT

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

06/2014/0442 Erection of 198no. dwellings, partial construction of the east-west link road to provide access to the site from Tom Benson Way, internal access roads, landscaping and improvements to Guild Wheel cycle route along Sandyforth Lane, Woodplumpton. (The number of dwellings has increased from 189 up to 198 and the extent of the application site has been amended to include works within the highway) The Parish Council has always advocated that the supporting infrastructure should be in place **before** development commences and with this in mind they welcomed the fact that the site now includes confirmation that the E-W link road junction with Tom Benson Way will be constructed by LCC under a S278 agreement. However, it is unclear from the draft planning layout how the new junction with Tom Benson Way will be designed. It is also unclear how David Wilson Homes will gain access to phase one given that the plan states there is to be no HGV access from Lightfoot Lane.

It is assumed that the existing access with Tom Benson Way will be retained (to provide access to Lightfoot Lane properties) and it is questioned whether this is a safe proposal with the junction being so close to the E-W junction which will be heavily used.

Members noted that Sandyforth Lane will no longer be accessible to traffic and will only provide access for pedestrians and cyclists. Members expressed concern that the detail for preventing traffic using Sandyforth Lane has not been provided nor has the means of access to existing properties on Sandyforth Lane or the rear of Preston Grasshoppers Rugby football club.

The Parish Council reiterates its request for a detailed master plan for the NW Preston area showing how existing and new roads will link together including the proposed traffic flow, cycling provision, pedestrian crossing points and supporting infrastructure. Until this master plan is developed, the Parish Council **remains opposed** to the development of NW Preston on the basis that it is being developed piecemeal by individual planning applications and not in a planned and considered manner.

06/2014/0987 Outline application for residential development of 1.70 hectares of land for up to 48no. dwellings on land to rear of 122-152 Hoyles Lane Cottam

The Parish Council notes that the principle entrance to the site is through the creation of a staggered crossroads with Millers Lane. The Parish Council maintains that new site accesses should not be created within existing residential areas, instead, all new development in NW Preston should use the E-W link road which will be purposely designed to take the volume of traffic. This point is extremely pertinent to this application as it proposes a future link to the Wain Homes site of 288 properties. Upon entering the site, the road is restricted to one lane with incoming traffic expected to give way to traffic exiting the site. Concern is expressed that this will lead to traffic queuing on Hoyles Lane as cars wait to turn into the site.

The Parish Council reiterates its request for a detailed master plan for the NW Preston area showing how existing and new roads will link together including the proposed traffic flow, cycling provision, pedestrian crossing points and supporting infrastructure. Until this master plan is developed, the Parish Council **remains opposed** to the development of NW Preston on the basis that it is being developed piecemeal by individual planning applications and not in a planned and considered manner.

06/2015/0049 Erection of 14no. detached dwellings and new vehicular access from Sandy Lane following demolition of existing farm house and ancillary buildings
Members noted the site is included in the NW Preston strategic location and concerns were expressed that the application is for an isolated development of 4/5 bedrooomed executive houses adjoining an area which is providing 30% affordable homes. As the development is a small infill site, Members felt it would be better to delay construction until the later phases of the NW Preston development to ensure the site fits visually with neighbouring developments and to ensure it can access the new service infrastructure which is required for the construction of 5,000 homes. This view is considered extremely relevant in relation to the amount of construction vehicles which will be required to access a multitude of sites in NW Preston which will all be commencing at the same time.

The Parish Council reiterates its request for a detailed master plan for the NW Preston area showing how existing and new roads will link together including the proposed traffic flow, cycling provision, pedestrian crossing points and supporting infrastructure. Until this master plan is developed, the Parish Council **remains opposed** to the development of NW Preston on the basis that it is being developed piecemeal by individual planning applications and not in a planned and considered manner.

06/2015/0024 Erection of garage to front of dwelling at 14 Bideford Way, Cottam.
Members **resolved** to leave to planning.

06/2015/0061 Erection of detached double garage and provision of new hardstanding at Woodfield House, Sandy Lane, Woodplumpton.
Members **resolved** to leave to planning.

06/2015/0066 Erection of childrens day nursery with access from Lightfoot Lane and associated landscaping and car parking on land to rear of 248 Lightfoot Lane.
Members noted that the site is in the NW Preston strategic location and that a draft master plan indicates that sites have already been allocated for schools and community uses. The application site is earmarked for housing and as such Members believe the application is contrary to the draft masterplan policy and the additional vehicles generated by staff and parents – often attending am or pm sessions - will cause disruption and inconvenience to residents. Inaddtion Members felt that the application was of the wrong design in that it was an industrial style and was out of keeping with the cottages and properties currently on Lightfoot Lane. Members **resolved** to oppose the application for the above reasons.

When considering applications, Members are shown adjoining site plans to help visualize difficulties in terms of access etc. but when determining the application, the planning committee is given a report summarising the consultation replies. As the Parish Council can request to speak at planning committee, the Clerk suggested that on certain applications, it may be beneficial to present objections to Planning Committee verbally. Members **resolved** that if possible, a representative of the Parish Council will attend planning committee to substantiate the Council's objections.

105 COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP NW PRESTON

Members were aware that work has started on the Taylor Wimpey and Redrow sites and as mentioned under public participation, LLARA are recording several complaints regarding construction traffic and safety concerns.

When the Master Plan for NW Preston was proposed, the Parish Council requested regular stakeholder meetings to receive updates and raise concerns such as those described above. A meeting took place on the 26th January and concern was expressed that whilst residents were able to voice their concerns, no answers were given and none of the concerns were recorded or actions proposed. It was also stated that when concerns were raised about the Nog Tow access, a planning officer stated that they were aware it was dangerous and not as agreed in the construction method statement, but they were unable to take the matter forward.

It was **resolved** that these concerns be reported back to the City Council and either the Chairman or vice-chairman will attend the May/June meeting along with the Clerk who will record the points raised so that items can be followed up with the City Council.

106 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Chairman verified that the accounts and bank statements reconciled.

107 CLASS SPONSORSHIP – CATFORTH DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Members **resolved** to sponsor 2 classes at the Catforth Daffodil Society Annual Show at £10.00

108 SLCC MEMBERSHIP

Members **resolved** to renew the Clerk's membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks at a cost of £74.50 to both Whittingham and Woodplumpton Parish Councils.

109 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members **resolved** to approve the following accounts already paid in accordance with standing order 28 (b) & (c)

Clerk's Dec Salary & NJC Pay award	£841.30	CQ 1045
HMRC Dec	£53.80	CQ 1046
Lengthsman Contract	£352.50	CQ 1047
Clerks Jan Salary	£773.30	CQ 1048
HMRC Jan	£33.80	CQ 1049
Lengthsman Contract	£352.50	CQ 1050
Newsletter postage and Envelopes	£443.99	CQ 1051
Admin purchases and expenses	£100.72	CQ 1052
HMRC	£51.30	CQ 1053

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

Clerk's February Salary	£773.10	CQ 1054
HMRC	£53.65	CQ 1055
Lengthsman Contract	£176.25	CQ 1056
Lengthsman Contract	£3352.50	CQ 1057
Catforth Daffodil Society	£10.00	CQ 1058
SLCC payment	£74.50	CQ 1059

110 TRAINING

Members noted the training courses for 2015 and **resolved** to consider them further at the Annual Parish Council meeting.

111 LCC PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CONFERENCE – 21st MARCH.

Members **resolved** that Cllr Morgan attends the above conference and resolved that mileage could be claimed in accordance with the subsidence allowance.

112 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members **resolved** that as the Fracking meeting would be held in Catforth Village Hall, the next meeting of the Parish Council - scheduled for **Monday 16th March 2015** - should be held at 7.00pm at Woodplumpton Parish Rooms subject to room availability.

Members NOTED that usage of the Post Office facilities in the Wheatsheaf was increasing and a similar venture is being looked at for Broughton.

Concerns were expressed that Councillors had hosted a meeting for residents in Catforth Village Hall without informing fellow Councillors or the Clerk.

It was stated that attempts had been made to call an extra-ordinary meeting but as the process was too slow and residents wanted a meeting, one had been arranged. The Councillors stated it was made clear they were hosting the meeting as residents.

The Clerk was asked to check LCC are investigating a light causing dazzle and distraction to drivers at Moorside Bridge and why a footpath on Blackleach Lane is closed until 2016.

The Clerk was requested to add the following items to the next Agenda

- A. Whether to appoint a representative to attend fracking meetings
- B. Set a date to discuss CIL monies and the cost of schemes
- C. What to do about Nog Tow being used as an access in breach of the regulations as mentioned under MIN 105.