



WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN
THE MAIN HALL OF ST ANNE'S PRIMARY
SCHOOL, WOODPLUMPTON ROAD, PRESTON
ON MONDAY 17th APRIL 2023 at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr M Greaves
Councillors: Cllr P Bamber Cllr B Probin Cllr M Stewart

PC Rumandeep Takhar, County Cllr S Whittam, City Cllr S Whittam,
B Hill, Parish Lengthsman, 5 members of the public.
Mrs J Buttle (Parish Clerk)

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Parish Cllrs P Entwistle, Cllr M Entwistle and Cllr B Dalglish.
City Councillor S Thompson also sent his apologies.
Cllr B Probin left the meeting after the traffic calming items.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th March 2023.

MIN 22/182 It was **resolved** that the March Minutes be signed as a true record.

MIN 22/169 states that following a discussion, which included the health and safety of any alternatives, Members resolved to progress the idea of placing a donated 18th century, wooden wheelbarrow on the verge at Whittle Hill. The Lengthsman has since queried whether the existing planters should be replaced and an example of a new planter was brought to the meeting. As the matter was not on the agenda, it was confirmed that the cost of any replacement should be added to the May agenda.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS / WRITTEN DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 22/183 It was **resolved** that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

At the March meeting, a resident raised concerns regarding speeding on Catforth Road and the Clerk forwarded the concerns to LCC Highways. Disappointingly, LCC Highways replied that whilst they will install temporary signage, they *would only review the speed limit if there was a clear road safety concern - of which there are none in the Catforth area.*

The resident questioned the response as residents were under the impression that the speed limit would be reduced under the Parish Council's traffic calming scheme. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council has been liaising with LCC's Infrastructure Delivery Team and whilst the draft measures do include a reduced speed limit, LCC Highways are yet to sign off the final version. Whilst Members do not expect the draft plans to change significantly, in view of the changes which took place in Woodplumpton, the Parish Council is exercising caution before stating the speed limit will definitely be reduced. Notwithstanding this, to alleviate the resident's concerns, the Clerk will forward the draft plans on the understanding that they have not been signed off by LCC Highways.

PC Takhar addressed the meeting and confirmed he was working with PCSO Pearson who attended the March meeting. He stated that he had looked at the crime reports for Woodplumpton and the surrounding area and when compared with the whole of the Preston district, Woodplumpton was 5th from bottom with the City Centre having the most cases.

Anti-social behaviour has become a concern at Preston Grasshoppers and the Club and the Police are working together to restrict the number of access points, install CCTV and use anti-vandal paint. As advised previously, the police are hoping to use Preston Grasshoppers as a site for the mobile police unit and it is hoped that details will be announced soon.

It was confirmed that the speed enforcement van had been used at Catforth Village Hall and PC Takhar stated he will check with PCSO Pearson regarding other areas. Parking on the pavement was also reported as an issue and PC Takhar said he would monitor any reported concerns.

County Cllr Whittam advised that several community groups had benefitted from her LCC Member grant award and no more funds were available.

She also informed those present that LCC Highways carry out regular inspections of Sandy Lane and whilst they consider it to be fit for purpose, a petition has been served on LCC to resurface it. LCC are unable to do this until Taylor Wimpey finish the S278 works relating to the creation of parking spaces near the Post Office. Whilst some work has been completed, the works have been delayed because Sandy Lane is being used as a diversion route during the construction of the Preston West Distributor Road and the East – West Link road.

It was **resolved** that the meeting be reconvened and the Chairman explained that the agenda items were for consideration by the Council only.

TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEMES

a) The Orchard playing field frontage

Under MIN 22/163 of the March meeting, Members resolved to defer a decision on the provision of parking spaces along the playing field frontage, until a solution comes forward from residents.

A letter has been issued informing residents of the decision however a formal complaint was received regarding the consultation process.

MIN 22/184 Members considered the complaint and **resolved** to issue the drafted response. It was stressed that as the City Council own the land, they need confirmation that local residents are in favour of any proposals and until that point has been reached, the Clerk should not respond to any more concerns. It was also confirmed that Cllr Stewart and Cllr Bamber had agreed to meet residents to discuss the scheme further.

During the March meeting, the number of spaces at the Church was questioned and it was noted that parking may be improved if the car park was properly marked. As the car park is not a Council asset, any alterations would require approval from the Church.

MIN 22/185 It was stated that resurfacing may not be an option as the land was consecrated, however Members **resolved** to contact the Church to receive any comments in writing.

b) Double Yellow lines / junction verge.

Following the March meeting, Members met with the LCC officers involved in the planning and design of the traffic calming scheme. Notes of the meeting have been circulated to Members.

During the meeting, it was explained that LCC Highways have reluctantly agreed that the yellow lines could be reduced at the Parish Council's expense, however, it was also made clear that the verge will continue to be damaged as larger vehicles navigate the junction. There will also be a risk to pedestrians standing at the junction or using the crossing points further up The Orchard.

As this situation is not ideal, it was agreed that further discussions should take place with LCC Highways and Community Gateway to see if there is another solution to improve pedestrian safety and protect the verge.

Members expressed disappointment that LCC were expecting the Parish Council to fund any remedial works when LCC Highways had taken the decision to lengthen the lines, however, as a solution was needed, Members endorsed the suggestion to work with Community Gateway and LCC Highways to find a solution, bearing in mind the various utilities buried under the verge.

c) Hump gradient

LCC have acknowledged that the hump gradients are different but they have stated that the 'ramp' between the road surface and the hump could be altered – again this will be at a cost to the Parish Council but it was noted that the cost may be reduced if the works are completed when LCC close Whittle Hill. Currently the closure is on hold until BT can remove their apparatus.

MIN 22/186 In light of this information, it was **resolved** to cancel the full survey of the gradients.

d) Catforth Scheme.

It was noted that LCC had stated that they were still working on the Catforth costs and an option to use precast humps. The preference for Glasdon Gateways will be included in the costs.

MIN 22/187 Members **resolved** to inform LCC that 1 in 16 for pre-cast humps was not acceptable.

2022/23 CIL ANNUAL FINANCE REPORTS

MIN 22/188 Members **resolved** to approve the CIL Infrastructure and Finance Reports.

2022/23 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

MIN 22/189 Members **resolved** to note and approve the following invoices - paid before the financial year end - in accordance with Standing Order 2020 15 (xii)

Grounds Maintenance	Preston City Council	£814.00	Ref 106
Parish Lengthsman weeks 48 - 51	B Hill Parish Lengthsman	£900.00	Ref 107
Masonry paint & weedkiller	B Hill Parish Lengthsman	£82.49	Ref 108

The Chairman verified that the March finance and bank statements had been reconciled.

MIN 22/190 Members **resolved** to approve the End of Year Account Statement. The accounts will now be passed to the Internal Auditor for inspection.

2023/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

MIN 22/191 Members **resolved** to approve that the Nest Pension and Easy Website contract continue to be paid by Direct Debit.

MIN 22/192 Members **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment.

2022/23 Xmas lights	N Power Business solutions	£33.97
Data Protection renewal	Info Commissioner	£35.00
CPRE Membership	CPRE	£36.00
Spring Newsletter – printing	Preston City Council	£176.25
Spring Newsletter - delivery	J P P Media	£156.60
Spring Newsletter - postage	Julie Buttle	£365.84
Newsletter Envelopes	Julie Buttle	£19.80
2 x 4 pack of multi ink & A4 Paper	Viking – ½ to be refunded by Whitt	£218.56
Hump gradient initial investigation	PSA Design	£570.00
Clerk's April Salary	Julie Buttle	£1259.87
HMRC PAYE	HMRC	£105.74
Employer Nat Ins	HMRC	£88.71

RENEWAL OF LALC MEMBERSHIP 2023/24

The Parish Council subscribes to the Lancashire Association of Local Councils. LALC provides training, advice and information on local and national policies.

MIN 22/193 Members **resolved** to renew the Membership at a cost of £647.59 which includes a contribution the administration of the Area Committee.

DONATION TO CATFORTH VILLAGE HALL

An Electrical Inspection was required at Catforth Village Hall which revealed that old and redundant equipment needed to be replaced along with clipping cables, markings & earthing etc. The cost was in excess of £3,000 and the Village Hall Committee are requesting a donation to recover the expense. Payment can be made under S19 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 and the 2022/23 end of year accounts show unbudgeted CIL interest of £8,978.

MIN 22/194 Members **resolved** to defer the item to the May meeting.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS BEFORE COUNCIL

Members noted and approved the delegated planning comments and considered amended plans for application **06/2021/1414** for development off Bartle Lane.

MIN 22/195 Members **resolved** to raise no objections to the reduction from 42 dwellings to 26 dwellings under the pylons but **resolved** to object to the outline application for 430 homes. It was noted that the proposal includes traffic calming measures and a footpath along Bartle Lane, however, Members remain of the opinion that development on such a vast scale, cannot continue without additional drainage, schools and medical centres. Should the City Council dismiss the objection, Members request that a planning condition is added to the outline consent to restrict the Bartle Lane access to 11 dwellings as proposed in the illustrative masterplan.

NEW CORRESPONDENCE / ISSUES

Neighbourhood Plan – Members **noted** that the City Council consultation on the NHP concluded on the 22nd March and the replies have been referred to the Planning Inspector for examination at the end of April. The City Council remains of the opinion that Policy COM1 conflicts with Policy 1 of the Core Strategy and Policy EN1 of the Local Plan. If the examiner agrees with the City Council, that particular policy will need rewording.

Facebook complaint - Members **noted** that a complaint had been received regarding the Chairman's conduct in response to a Facebook post.

MIN 22/196 It was **resolved** that the Clerk issue the following reply on behalf of the Chairman.

The Parish Council does not use Facebook as a formal means of communication, however when Parish Council business is discussed on a social media platform, individuals may respond to the points expressed. If the complainant has any concerns regarding the social media exchange, they should contact the City Council Monitoring Officer who investigates these matters independently of the Parish Council.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish meeting **on Monday 15th May 2023** which will be followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting.

After the meeting Members were approached by 3 people wishing to seek the Parish Council's opinion regarding the future development of land around Toplands Farm. The attendees were advised to contact Preston City Council to establish what Planning Policies cover the land. Members stressed that any access from The Orchard would not be acceptable to the Parish Council.