



WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT
CATFORTH VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL LANE, CATFORTH
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 1st Sept 2021

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr M Greaves (at commencement)
Cllr P Entwistle (after the traffic calming item)
Councillors: Cllr P Bamber Cllr M Entwistle Cllr B Probin
Cllr M Stewart, Cllr S Yates

Ms N Ciraolo – Parish Council's Solicitor
Mrs J Buttle – Parish Council Clerk

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr B Dalglish,

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the meeting held on 20th July 2021.

MIN 21/56 It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the July meeting be signed as a true record.

TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The agenda explained that this was an **extra-ordinary meeting** called by the Chairman under Schedule 12, paragraph 9 of the Local Government Act 1972 primarily to discuss a Legal Contract in relation to Traffic Calming proposals. As it is desirable for the Council to treat proposals and counter proposals relating to contracts as confidential, Members of the public were excluded under the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960. However, the agenda explained that the public could contact the Clerk if they wished to attend regarding matters not related to the traffic calming proposals. No requests were received.

TRAFFIC CALMING LEGAL AGREEMENT

The Parish Council's Solicitor ran through the proposed Legal Agreement and explained some of the risks involved. Members discussed how to mitigate the risks and questioned specific terms and clauses in the Legal Agreement. (Documented separately) It was acknowledged that some risks will remain. Members questioned whether the Council or its Members could be sued if the risks materialised. The Clerk explained that Members would be at risk if the contract wasn't authorised by statute or didn't comply with the relevant legislation, however the Council has a specific power to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes under the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s30 and Members have shown due diligence in reaching the decision to proceed. It was also questioned if a claim could be made against LCC professional indemnity insurance given that the Parish Council was dependent on LCC's professionalism in relation to the design, ownership of land, costs and tender process. This will be looked into by the Solicitor who also stated that in the unlikely event that litigation was required, they would continue to provide advice and act on the Parish Council's behalf. Members were reassured that there was sufficient funding to complete the Woodplumpton scheme in its entirety before the Catforth scheme was commenced, but repeated the desire to run the schemes consecutively.

MIN 21/57 Members **resolved** to instruct the Solicitor to raise the queries with LCC's legal team,

MIN 21/58 It was **resolved** that the Clerk should request the revised costs based on the latest plans issued on the 20th July (Woodplumpton) and 24th August (Catforth)

Members confirmed they wished to continue with the remaining items on the agenda.
Cllr M Greaves left the meeting and Cllr P Entwistle took over as Chairman.

CATFORTH LAYBYS

MIN 20/144 confirmed that the Catforth laybys were in an unsafe condition and improvements were required in advance of the Catforth traffic calming scheme being delivered. Members noted that a cost had been received for the resurfacing, which can be funded from existing CIL funds.

MIN 21/59 Members **resolved** to request that LCC carry out the improvements as soon as possible.

WOODPLUMPTON INFORMATION SIGN

Further to MIN 21/49 of the July meeting, a draft of the Woodplumpton sign board was emailed to Members. **MIN 21/60** Members **resolved** to approve the draft and confirmed the order could be processed with Shelley Signs. The Clerk explained that a licence – along with the installation specifications - may be required from LCC. The exact location of the sign will be confirmed so this can be progressed.

WOODPLUMPTON STOCKS

Members discussed progress on the renovation of the stocks and noted that a planning officer had advised that they just need a brief statement of the works to establish if listed building consent is required. The statement has been prepared and confirms the intention regarding replacing the stonework and the wood. It was confirmed that the intention is to fix the stocks first and then consider the relocation of the mounting block. It was suggested that the mounting block be located near to the wall as this would provide additional support if attempts were made to climb it. **MIN 21/61** A discussion took place on whether the area should be lit, 'chained off' or located behind bollards but as the details were not known it was **resolved** that further information would be brought to the 21st Sept meeting.

COMMUNITY GARDEN CHRISTMAS TREE

Further to MIN 20/88 where it was resolved to plant a new Christmas tree to the left of the entrance in the community garden, Cllr Dalglish met with the Lengthsman and an alternative proposal was put forward to remove the walled planter and plant a 20 – 25ft tree in its location. Members considered the amendment and the cost of 20 – 25ft tree and expressed concerns that it would overpower the garden. **MIN 21/62** it was **resolved** to take down the walled planter, 'finish' the edge as per the quote and plant an 11-12ft tree (3-4m) in the space created. The Clerk will ask Mr Hill, to revise the quote for the works and in addition, Cllr P Bamber stated she would make enquiries about sourcing a smaller tree.

COMMEMORATIVE TREE

Members noted that a red oak was planted in 1953 on the occasion of the Queen's Coronation. The tree was in the path of the Preston West Distributor Road, but LCC promised to plant a replacement as part of the landscaping works. **MIN 21/63** It was **resolved** that Cllr P Entwistle would meet with LCC to discuss the location, when it should be planted, size, species, etc. Any recommendations will be brought back to the Council for final approval.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

MIN 21/64 Members **resolved** to approve the delegated planning comments for August.

Members noted that an application has been submitted to demolish the Saddle Public House and replace it with a petrol filling station and drive-through coffee shop off the Preston West Distributor Road. As the proposal is in Lea & Cottam Parish, Members felt they were best place to comment. **MIN 21/65** Concerns were expressed regarding the likely increase in litter and it was **resolved** to make a note of the concerns with the aim of taking them further, should the application be approved.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 21/66 Members **resolved** to note the following accounts already paid under Standing Order 2020 /15 (b) xii

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|--------------------------|----------|------|--------|
| Lengthsman weeks 14 - 17 | £750.00 | BACS | Ref 45 |
| Clerk's Aug Salary | £1160.11 | BACS | Ref 46 |
| HMRC PAYE | £101.94 | BACS | Ref 47 |
| Employer National Ins | £76.52 | BACS | Ref 48 |

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members confirmed that the next ordinary meeting of the Council will take place on **Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7.00pm at Catforth Village Hall.**