



## WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT CATFORTH  
VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL LANE, CATFORTH  
at 7.00pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**PRESENT:** Chairman Cllr M Greaves  
Councillors: P Bamber M Entwistle P Entwistle B Probin

Clerk Mrs J Buttle and 14 members of the public as detailed on the Covid attendance log.

### APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr B Dalglish, Cllr M Stewart, Cllr S Yates

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**MIN 21/41** It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the June meeting be signed as a true record.

### TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests at the start of the meeting but Cllr Greaves expressed a pecuniary interest in the donation to the village fete when the matter came up on the agenda.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed those present and explained that as the Government had urged a cautious approach to the relaxing of Covid rules on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, the meeting was being held based on the Risk Assessments in place when the agenda was issued, so the number of attendees had been restricted.

**MIN 21/42** it was **resolved** that the meeting be adjourned for public participation.

A resident expressed an objection to application **06/2021/0866** for agricultural industrial buildings and 26 carparking spaces at Willbrigg Cottage, Roots Lane, Catforth. The objections were noted and are recorded under the agenda item.

Those present expressed concerns regarding a proposed slaughterhouse that was being discussed in Catforth. Various concerns were mentioned including the amount of traffic, pollution, concern for the environment, number of animals involved and a lack of supporting infrastructure such as drainage and water storage not being in place. Residents stated that they had written objection letters to the current landowners and were looking for support from the Parish Council. The Chairman stated that as soon as the Parish Council receives firm proposals of the intention – either from the landowner or via a planning application - it would act accordingly, but currently no factual details had emerged.

It was stated that discussions were well in advance with buyers already being considered – however it was also suggested that the proposal could be a ‘ruse’ so that residents would be more ‘amenable’ to the site being developed for housing. Residents expressed feelings of distrust in the planning system due to the approval of 1000+ homes at Bartle and the Clerk encouraged them to voice their feelings to the local MP and City Councillors, for which contact details were provided.

Those present were reminded that we are only ‘gatekeepers’ for the future of the village and we all have a duty to preserve its character for future generations. The Chairman confirmed the points had all been noted, and as soon as the Council receives some facts of any proposals, a meeting will be held to give residents further opportunity to comment. It was **resolved** that the public participation be concluded so that the meeting could be continued.

### ENVIRONMENT AGENCY RESPONSE - AMBROSE HALL FARM

At the June meeting, Members considered a report from the residents’ group campaigning against the odours at Ambrose Hall Farm and resolved that the Clerk escalate the complaint already lodged with the Environment Agency. (EA) Their reply, dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> June was circulated with the agenda. Attention was also drawn to an additional complaint regarding odour and flies at the Hillcrest premises in Catforth.

Members stated that the situation is ridiculous. EA’s letter confirms that *they have detected odours beyond the permitted boundary – which could be improved with significant investment - which is not possible at the present time.* Enforcement action could be considered – *but this needs to be weighed up against the actual odour impact* – otherwise it could be viewed as disproportionate.

**MIN 21/43** To ensure EA are aware of the impact of the odour issues, more incidents need to be reported to EA and it was **resolved** that residents should be reminded to report odour issues in the next Newsletter. In addition, as a stalemate has been reached with EA, a letter will be sent to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food (with a copy to B Wallace MP) to ask them to intervene.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING**

Members noted that the Chief Constable and the Police & Crime Commissioner had acknowledged the concerns about police cover in the local area, and had stated more resources are being allocated to Neighbourhood policing. Members also noted that following Police Sgt Lovick's attendance at the June meeting, the police have had a re-shuffle and the rural area will be covered by Sgt M Hughes who will take up the post on the 28<sup>th</sup> July. **MIN 21/44** Members **resolved** to invite Sgt M Hughes to the 21st Sept meeting.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**MIN 21/45** Members **resolved** to note the delegated comments on planning applications received since the June meeting.

**06/2021/0866** Change of use of 6 no. agricultural buildings to Class E(G) / B8, plus erection of 12 no. mixed industrial use (Class E(G),/ B2 & B8) following the demolition of 6 no. agricultural units, plus provision of 26 car parking spaces; concreting of existing hardstanding; installation of motion lighting; installation of new package treatment plant; erection of toilet block; and new internal access track from the existing access point at 1 Willbrig Cottage, Roots Lane, Preston.

Members discussed the concerns expressed during public participation regarding the scale of the operation. Members agreed that the number of cars and commercial vehicles would increase, resulting in a safety issue on Roots Lane which was used by pedestrians and cyclists with no pavements or street lights. Members added that the site would be accessed via a canal bridge which was not suitable for commercial vehicles. It was also suggested that if the proposal is approved, the operating hours should reflect those of other business units.

**MIN 21/46** Member's **resolved** that the Clerk submit an objection to the proposal.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

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

### **REVIEW OF 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER ACCOUNTS**

**MIN 21/47** Members noted the progress against the budgeted items following the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter and **resolved** to invite the Parish Lengthsman to the 21<sup>st</sup> Sept meeting to discuss the community garden Christmas tree and progress on clearing undergrowth from the hedge bottoms to widen the pavements.

### **WOODPLUMPTON FETE**

Members noted that the Woodplumpton Action Group is preparing to hold the Woodplumpton Fete on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. An email has been received stressing the importance of the fete as 'the only event that brings the community together'. **MIN 21/48** Given that the event was cancelled last year, Members **resolved** to increase the donation to £2,000 to make it a special event this year. Having declared a pecuniary interest in the matter, Cllr Greaves did not vote on the matter. An article promoting the event will be added to the Summer Newsletter.

### **WOODPLUMPTON INFORMATION SIGN**

Members were reminded that the Catforth sign had been erected but work on the Woodplumpton one was outstanding and Members were requested to consider if it should be progressed. Cllr Bamber stated that the Woodplumpton draft was nearing completion and a copy would be sent to Members shortly. As Cllr P Entwistle had overseen the artwork for the Catforth sign it was noted that he was prepared to continue as the liaison person with Shelley Signs. **MIN 21/49** It was **resolved** to progress the order with a view to authorising the payment at the Sept meeting.

It was also mentioned that work had resumed on the project to renovate the stocks and mounting block outside Woodplumpton Church and discussions are taking place with a stone mason. Cllr P Entwistle stated that quotes had already been obtained but had not been progressed as plans of the whole scheme were required for the planning application (See Jan 2021 Agenda). This was noted and it was agreed that Cllr P Entwistle and the Clerk would liaise with Cllr Bamber regarding the work completed to date, so the matter can be progressed.

## ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

**MIN 21/50** Members resolved to **note** a receipt of £400 from the Parish Champion for the Post Office Defib and the following account already paid under Standing Order 2020 /15 (b) xii

Lengthsman	£750.00	BACS	REF 38
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**MIN 21/51** Members **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment

!/4ly expenses Apr – June	£40.80	BACS
Clerk's July Salary	£1160.11	BACS
HMRC PAYE	£101.94	BACS
Employer National Ins	£76.52	BACS

## PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY DELIVERY SCHEME

In 2020/21 the Parish Council opted in to the LCC PROW delivery scheme and received £500 from LCC for the maintenance of PROWs. A log of the 2020/21 PROW maintenance will be sent to LCC and if approved, Members can apply to join the scheme again. **MIN 21/52** Members **resolved** that the clerk apply to opt in to the 2021/22 scheme.

## TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE

Cllr P Entwistle stated that a productive meeting had taken place with LCC on the 13<sup>th</sup> July which resulted in some mis-understandings being cleared up. During the discussions it was noted that there is still a basic agreement on the Catforth plan – including the School Lane section – and a final plan will be issued based on the discussions.

Members were informed that LCC had just sent through revision 6 of the Woodplumpton scheme and it was suggested that the Woodplumpton Cllrs 'walk through' the plans with LCC as this had helped with the Catforth scheme. **MIN 21/53** Cllr Greaves confirmed he had printed off the plans and it was **resolved** that he would discuss the content with the Woodplumpton Cllrs and raise any questions with LCC.

Members noted that the Clerk had requested an update on the Legal Agreement and LCC replied that they would be in a position to comment following a meeting scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> July.

## REVIEW OF VENUE AND COVID RISK ASSESSMENTS.

Members resumed face to face meetings in May and MIN 20/157 of the April meeting confirmed that Members would review the Covid procedures and use of Catforth Village Hall.

Members stated that it was still 'early days' with regards to infection and as the Council had a responsibility to its members, the public and an employee, it was too early to move away from the Covid measures in place. **MIN 21/54** Members **resolved** to increase meeting capacity to 30 people in total - 20 public, 8 Cllrs, 1 Clerk and 1 City Cllr / invited guest. For clarity, this will also apply to an extra-ordinary meeting. Cllr P Entwistle will update the Risk Assessments.

It was noted that if meetings continue at the Village Hall during the winter, a donation may be required towards the costs of heating and lighting. A meeting of the Village Hall Committee will take place later in the week and the Clerk will be informed of any alterations to their terms of hire.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**MIN 21/55** the next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 at 7.00pm at Catforth Village Hall.**