

WOODPLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT WOODPLUMPTON PARISH ROOMS REAR OF ST ANNE'S CHURCH, WOODPLUMPTON

on MONDAY 20TH JANUARY 2020 at 7.00pm.

19/115 PRESENT: Chairman Cllr M Greaves
Councillors Cllr B Dalglish, Cllr P Entwistle
Cllr M Entwistle, Cllr M Stewart (*arrived during PP*)
Cllr S Yates

PCSO Shackleton, Cllr J Potter, B Hill Parish Lengthsman and 2 members of the public

19/116 APOLOGIES: Cllr B Probin, Cllr G Walker

19/117 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the extra ordinary meeting held on the 9th Jan 2020. Following 2 spelling alterations, the Chairman signed the Minutes as a true record.

19/118 TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

All Members present declared a pecuniary interest in relation to the setting of the Precept and submitted a written request for a dispensation under S31 of the Localism Act 2011. The Clerk considered the requests in accordance with SO 38 and S101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and **resolved** to grant the requests under S33 of the Localism Act 2011.

19/119 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

PCSO Shackleton was invited to present the police crime figures. She apologised that the figures were late and explained that the police had been unable to attend recent meetings as other areas have been short of staff which means the rural officers have been called out to cover. She advised that Cottam Post Office had been burgled with the offenders gaining access by smashing through a wall in the adjacent, empty property. There was no DNA but the Police are checking CCTV coverage of the area. In response to a Councillor's question, it was clarified that a domestic incident tends to be a one-off verbal disagreement whereas harassment is when it occurs on several occasions. A Councillor stated that residents had mentioned incidents of drug trafficking on Hoyles Lane. Residents are advised to report any concerns through 101 as a Neighbourhood Target Team is collating the information and passing the intelligence to officers. Cllr Potter advised he was not aware of any problems at the Lea end of Hoyles Lane. In response to a Councillor's question it was confirmed that the number of thefts from building sites is decreasing as the sites become more established but these may spike again as new phases commence. PCSO Shackleton was thanked for her attendance.

Mr Smith was invited to present a report regarding the increase in traffic levels on rural lanes. Mr Smith acknowledged that the NW Preston Masterplan recognises the need for traffic to avoid the rural lanes but he feels that the time is right to put a programme in place to evidence whether the amount of traffic is increasing as the masterplan was conceived in 2013 and adopted in 2017 but it didn't anticipate planning applications exiting on to the rural roads. The Clerk referred to the agenda item advising those present that the Redrow application **06/2019/1114** - which proposed 89 homes exiting directly onto Tabley Lane - had been withdrawn following an objection by LCC Highways.

A member of the public stated that Woodplumpton suffers more than the rural lanes as traffic tries to avoid the A6 which is a different issue from the concerns about local housing in the NW Preston masterplan. It was also stated that traffic is accessing new development in Inskip but nothing can be done to 'stop them using our roads'.

Mr Smith was invited to continue and he stated that in order to evidence, that the City Council has an effective programme in place for traffic to avoid the rural lanes, he would like the Parish Council to write to LCC / PCC requesting feedback on the traffic figures – both now and for the projected use.

Furthermore, if the reply from PCC / LCC is unsatisfactory, in that they do not have the figures available, he would like the Parish Council to install its own monitoring devices so that it can hold PCC / LCC to account. It was stated that the cost would be approx £150 + VAT per traffic count for a 2 week period.

A Councillor asked why the Parish Council should go to this expense when LCC should have the figures. Mr Smith replied that LCC have 170 data collection monitoring sites to revalidate the data collected in 2013, but they won't be preparing a publication regarding capacity issues and if the Parish Council waits until there is a problem before it acts, it will be too late. A Councillor questioned whether LCC will take note of the survey to which Mr Smith replied it doesn't matter, the data will belong to the Parish Council and can be used as we see fit.

The Chairman stated that the routes people choose, depends on their individual preference and once the new roads go in, the situation will ease – however, the Parish Council's intention is not to stop people who need access, the intention is to stop the rat runners and encourage them to use alternative routes. He referred to the current Woodplumpton traffic calming scheme and explained that the scheme will slow the traffic and make it less suitable for HGV's. If the measures are removed, the traffic will increase to 60mph.

A member of the public asserted that Woodplumpton is more of an issue than Tabley Lane and a discussion took place on the merits of the proposed traffic calming schemes and the costs involved. During the discussion, it was stated that contractors working on the Preston West Distributor Road had provided the figures for the traffic calming schemes and it was questioned why the Parish Council won't release the costs.

The Clerk explained that the full costs are not yet known as the schemes have not been finalised – as detailed in the just approved Minutes of the extra ordinary Meeting, which will be added to the website. In addition, the works are subject to a legal contract which includes a liability clause where the Parish Council is liable for any overspend. As the Parish Council is disputing the inclusion of the liability clause, the contract and the costs are being treated as confidential. The Clerk advised that if the figures had been released, prior to the signing of the contract, LCC would be in breach of the contract. It was subsequently ascertained that the actual figures were not in the public domain.

A member of the public voiced an opinion that the measures were a waste of money as there were 1000's of miles of country lanes without traffic calming and Members defended the work that had gone into producing the schemes with the support of LCC. The Chairman concluded that residents would have an opportunity to express their comments further when the Traffic Regulation Orders were advertised – and any changes will be implemented based on LCC's advice.

Mr Smith was again invited to continue with his presentation. He continued by stating that the old lanes had been included as part of the heritage structure in Cottam and LCC and PCC should be challenged on how they intend to change the current situation for Woodplumpton's Lanes until the E/W link road is built. Changes need to be scheduled and implemented now because once the E/W link road is built it will be too late – and a survey will assist the Parish Council in evidencing the extent of the problem.

Cllr Potter stated that there was never a perfect solution and whilst the Parish Council's own survey may help, it should bear in mind that the content may not carry any weight when considered in relation to planning applications.

Mr Smith was thanked for drawing the issue to the attention of the Parish Council and the action taken will be recorded under the Agenda item.

It was stated that the Village Stocks were in a poor state of repair and it was questioned if the Parish Council owned them. The Clerk replied this matter had been raised by Cllr Walker and the matter was already being looked into.

A member of the public complained that a hedge had been 'ripped out' from a private address in Woodplumpton and had been replaced by a fence which looked an eyesore. In addition the garden was considered to be a mess. Cllr Potter confirmed that householders may replace domestic hedges with fences and as there were no rats present, nothing could be done. The member of the public stated it was appalling and did not set a good example for the rest of the village.

It was **resolved** that the meeting be re-convened.

19/120 TOPLANDS ADVERTISEMENT

Members were informed that a complaint had been received regarding a 'statue' of a man, posing with a shotgun to advertise the clay pigeon shoot at Toplands Farm. As the statue can be viewed by primary children walking to school, Members **resolved** that a letter should be sent to Toplands to highlight the concerns.

19/121 TRAFFIC CALMING - WOODPLUMPTON AND CATFORTH

At the extra-ordinary meeting in January, it was **resolved** that Cllr P Entwistle would contact LCC to discuss changes and reduced costs to the Catforth scheme and Cllr M Greaves would contact LCC to discuss changes to the proposal to 'stop up' Whittle Hill and check any revised costs for the Woodplumpton scheme. It was **noted** that LCC had acknowledged the requests for a meeting but a sample contract has still not been received.

19/122 NW PRESTON – TRAFFIC MEASURES

Further to the points made under public participation, Members **resolved** that a letter should be sent to the City Council and LCC to ask them for the current and projected figures for traffic using Tabley Lane, Hoyles Lane and Sandy Lane.

19/123 HOYLES LANE – TEMPORARY CLOSURE

Members were reminded that traffic calming measures and a 20mph speed reduction are proposed on Hoyles Lane. Objections were raised and these have been referred to LCC's Cabinet for a final decision. However, a further TRO has been received advising that Hoyles Lane will temporarily be closed on 27th March 2020 until 1st April 2020 to enable surface patching works to take place. Members **resolved** to reply to the TRO by stating that both works should be carried out at the same time to avoid any duplication of effort and inconvenience to residents.

19/124 NW PRESTON STAKEHOLDER MEETING & HOUSING SUPPLY UPDATE

Members **noted** the following updates in NW Preston and **noted** that the Stakeholder meeting has been postponed due to the changes in the 5year housing supply.

Taylor Wimpey have erected fencing around the hedge at the junction with Sandy Lane and it is understood that the realignment outside the **Post Office** is imminent.

There has been no update on the creation of a footpath outside **Ashbridge Nursery** or the request for a speed reduction on Sandy Lane, although these may be covered as part of the **Bartle Lane** closure conditions.

Preston City Council advised the Clerk to refer complaints regarding the safety of a **construction site** on Bartle Lane to the **HSE**. The referral is being investigated.

United Utilities have provided confirmation of their commitment to deliver a project to alleviate the current **flooding** associated with the growth of NW Preston. Their aim is to start on site as soon as possible in the new financial year. In the meantime, they continue to pump excess water away from affected properties.

The Clerk was informed of a consultation event to develop the former Cottam Brickworks and noted that the proposal includes reference to a proposed **Health Centre**. Given that the Health Centre option was dropped from the NW Preston masterplan due to the preference to extend the facilities at Ingol, the Clerk queried the matter and was informed that whilst the site may be marketed as 'appropriate for a Health Centre', other options could still come forward as the application will only be in outline. The Clerk concluded that reference to a new Health Centre was merely a ploy to make the application more appealing to local residents.

At the last NW Preston Stakeholder meeting on the 3rd June 2019, PCC confirmed that they did not have a **5yr housing supply** which meant that developers could submit applications in areas where development would not previously be approved. It was queried if housing could be approved on the NW Preston infrastructure sites and PCC replied they are planning to secure these as part of the Local Plan process.

The housing supply situation has moved forward in accordance with **Appendix B** and based on a Planning Inspector's report, Members noted that that the City Council has now declared it has a 5yr housing supply. Currently it is unclear what impact this declaration will have on the sites put forward as part of the Local Plan consultation.

Members **resolved** to hold a sub-group meeting, which will be attended by Cllr Potter, on the 27th January to discuss the Local Plan questions

19/125 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

As a meeting did not take place in December, Members **noted** the **7 applications** considered by the Clerk under delegated authority – **Appendix C**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS – TO DETERMINE

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

06/2019/1275 Outline planning application for up to 200 dwellings (Class C3), public open space, landscaping and associated engineering operations (access applied for only) on land north of Tabley Lane, Preston

Members were informed that the application site is part of the NW Preston location where housing is already agreed in principle. The site layout plan indicates that the accesses will be taken from the Redrow site and the E/W link road which is in accordance with the NW Preston masterplan. Land is also reserved for a school. As the application is in outline there are no details regarding the type of housing.

Members **resolved** to leave to planning.

06/2020/0043 Prior notification for 3 dwellings at Whinneyfield Farm, Whinneyfield Lane. Members **noted** that a further application had been submitted at Whinneyfield Farm for 3 dwellings. As the application was received after the Agenda had been published, the Clerk will make representation under delegated authority in accordance with previous comments in relation to the site.

Members also **noted** that an appeal has been lodged against the refusal of 2 dwellings at The Old Pump House Cottage, Rosemary Lane.

19/126 2019 ACCOUNTS ALREADY PAID

Members NOTED the following accounts already paid in accordance with standing order 28 (b) & (c)

Dec Easy websites	£27.60	DD	DD
Replacement xmas lights (Paul)	£81.35	81	BACS
Lengthsman duties to 6 th Dec & Bird food	£766.00	82	BACS
Viking Envelopes & ink cartridges	£134.36*	83	BACS
Postage of Dec Newsletter 607 x 0.61p	£370.27	84	BACS
Clerks Dec Salary	£1125.82	85	BACS
HMRC PAYE	£101.36	86	BACS
HMRC N Ins employer	£74.24	87	BACS
Dec NEST pension	£52.15	88	DD
Water Plus account – Community Garden	£89.22	89	BACS

***Members NOTED the receipt of £54.24 from Whittingham Parish Council in respect of a contribution towards the ink cartridges.**

19/127 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

19/128 REVIEW OF 3rd QUARTER ACCOUNTS 2019 / 2020

Members considered the expenditure progress against budgeted items following the completion of the 3rd Quarter April – December and **resolved** that no virements were needed. Members noted that the Clerk needs to attend a training course on Website Accessibility. Members **resolved** to approve the £20 expenditure with the remaining cost being funded by Whittingham Parish.

19/129 SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS MEMBERSHIP

Members **resolved** to renew the Clerk’s membership to the SLCC on the basis that the membership cost is shared equally by Woodplumpton and Whittingham Parishes.

19/130 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members **noted** the approved direct debit payments to Easy websites and Nest pension and **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment

Barry Hill Lengthsman duties Jan (2 weeks)	£375	BACS
Quarterly expenses Oct - Dec	£44.36	BACS
Clerks Jan Salary	£1125.82	BACS
HMRC PAYE	£101.36	BACS
HMRC N Ins employer	£74.24	BACS

19/131 2020/21 BUDGET AND PRECEPT SUBMISSION

Under **MIN 19/99** Members considered the DRAFT budget including variances in expenditure, new projects and items requiring renewal or repair. Members noted that the draft budget may need to be funded by an increase in the Precept or a reduction in reserves. Members **resolved** to set the 2020/21 Precept at £33,300.

19/132 BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

It was **resolved** that the Chairman should be put forward for the ballot to attend the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in June.

19/133 PARISH & TOWN COUNCIL CONFERENCE

There were no requests to attend the Parish and Town Council Conference on the 8th February.

19/134 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for **Monday 17th February 2020** at 7.00pm at Catforth Primary School, School Lane, Catforth.