

MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19th December 2023 in the Village Hall Warton.

PRESENT: Councillors K Briggs, K Barkley, C Lee, W Muckle, F Senior and Mrs L Simmonds.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council and District Councillor Mrs S Tyldesley.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs Cody and Hilling and County Councillor Mrs Williamson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Councillors Barkley and Senior declared an interest in Item 18 on the Agenda – Request for a financial donation to Warton and District Bowling Club – Paragraph 23.225 refers.

23.209. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 7th November 2023, having been previously circulated, be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings at the meeting and be signed as such by the chairman.

23.210. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS NOT COVERED BY OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: The clerk reported that: i. as agreed at the previous meeting of the parish council Linda Renshaw and Nicola Thistlethwaite – Millhead Memorial Association had been recommended as advisers to the Millhead, Keerbridge Housing Development on behalf of local interest bodies.
ii. The electrical wiring box on the Nib Bus Shelter had been inspected and the necessary work carried out to make the installation safe.
iii. The Weir Play Area Christmas Lights had been in operation since 1st December 2023 with the necessary replacement lights purchased and installed at a cost of £179.90.
iv. The possible parking restrictions at the Croftlands bus terminus would be discussed with Eddie Mills, Lancashire County Council Roads Engineer.

Other items had been reported to members as received.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present at the meeting and the clerk reported that no items for discussion had been received.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

23.211. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON: County Councillor Mrs Williamson was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not available.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her continued support.

23.212. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS S TYLDESLEY: District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley reported that i. the 2024/2025 budget was being prepared and it was hoped

that the financial position would prove to be better than first hoped. Comments were being sought from stakeholders and members of the public, online if possible.

ii. The fire at the waste storage facility on the Lune Industrial Estate had proved very difficult to extinguish and Lancaster City Council had committed a substantial financial contributor to enable the necessary work to control and deal with the incident. It was hoped that a contribution to the cost would be made by central government.

iii. District Councils in Lancashire were concerned that the Lancashire Devolution Settlement would lead to a reduction in the control of some local services currently administered at district level.

iv. The retrospective planning application submitted by the owners of the Old School Brewery would be considered by Lancaster City Council early in 2024. The investigation into noise pollution by Lancaster City Council Environmental Health Officers was ongoing.

District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley was thanked for her report and continued support.

23.213 STANDING ORDER 25: The clerk reported that no action under Standing Order 25 had been necessary since the last meeting of the parish council.

23.214. PLANNING MATTERS: a) The following applications had been received for review and comment by members.

23/0134 5/FUL – Erection of a single storey side extension for Mr Jack Nethercott, 5 Town End Fold, Warton – No objection raised.

23/01432/FUL – Erection of a single storey extension to the rear for Mr & Mrs Armer, 23 Sand Lane, Warton – No objection raised.

23/01396/FUL – Retrospective application for retention of stable block and manege for Mr M Blease, Hyning House Farm, Milnthorpe Road, Warton – No objection raised.

b) Members noted the current status of planning applications reviewed by members at previous meetings of the parish council as follows:

22/0115/TCA – Reviewed 6th September 2022 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/00165/FUL – Reviewed 4th April 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 23/00642/FUL – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/00837/FUL – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/00838/LB – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/00326/LB – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 23/00326/LB Amended – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 23/00959/VCN – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 23/00948/FUL – Reviewed 3rd October 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
 23/0153/TCA – Reviewed 3rd October 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/00900/FUL – Reviewed 3rd October 2023 Meeting – Application Refused
 23/01044/LB – Reviewed 3rd October 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/01043/FUL – Reviewed 3rd October 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted
 23/0172/TCA – Reviewed 7th December 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted

23.215. FINANCE: a) Members noted the financial summary for November 2023 as follows:

Opening Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	39815.81
Village Improvement Account	12481.19

	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4536.23	
	E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u>	<u>64988.50</u>
Opening Balance – Current Account			39815.81
Receipts			NIL
Payments			
06.11.23 J W Ball – Salary		385.17	
07.11.23 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work Oct		137.50	
07.11.23 Lancaster City Council – AONB Payment		1000.00	
07.11.23 Thomas Graham Ltd – Toilet Consumables		23.62	
07.11.23 Community Heartbeat Trust – Defib. Batteries		525.00	
07.11.23 Counc. Mrs Simmonds – Expenses		25.95	
07.11.23 Poppy Appeal - Wreaths		40.00	
07.11.23 Astarte Web Design – Website Hosting		150.00	
27.11.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity		44.67	
28.11.23 Lancaster City Council – Grasscutting		1864.58	
28.11.23 Lancaster City Council – Election charges		240.00	
28.11.23 Zurich Municipal – Insurance		66.60	
28.11.23 Thomas Oliver – Toilet Work Nov		135.00	<u>4638.09</u>
			35177.72
Closing Balance Current Account			35177.72

Closing Balances – All Accounts

	Current Account	35177.72	
	Village Improvement Account	12481.19	
	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4536.23	
	E&R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u>	<u>60350.41</u>

b) Members authorised and signed cheques for the following payments:-

Thomas Oliver – Toilet Work December - £152.50 – 2328
Peter Doey – Reimbursement of Christmas lights purchase - £179.90 – 2331
St Oswalds Church Christmas Tree Hire - £25.00 - 2329
Carter Jonas – Potts Wood Picnic Site Rent - £1.00 – 2330

c) 2024/2025 Parish Council Precept.

The clerk reported that the precept request was required by Lancaster City Council by 9th February 2024. Members requested that the clerk prepare the submission for review at the next meeting of the parish council.

d) Lancaster City Council request for public toilet cost breakdown.

The clerk reported that Lancaster City Council had requested the information as part of their financial consideration of the possible re-opening of Heysham public toilets. Members considered the request and agreed that the information be supplied.

23.216. LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS:

The clerk reported that he had been advised by Eddie Mills of Lancashire County Council Highways that all residents who objected to the proposals would be issued with a holding response including a paragraph stating 'Once a local outcome has been determined this will be published in the parish newsletter and village communication channels and the county council will of course arrange to directly contact those residents who kindly took time to comment on the consultation, yourself included'. Members agreement to the paragraph wording was requested prior to publication. Members considered the wording and agreed that no objection was raised. It was hoped that a meeting of parish council members and county council representatives would be arranged early in the New Year to discuss the proposals.

23.217. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT: The clerk reported that he had received agreement from the resident of 175A Main Street to the siting of the speed recording equipment adjacent to the property. Despite numerous attempts it had not been possible to contact the resident of 177 Main Street but efforts would be continued.

23.218. SPEEDING TRAFFIC: The clerk reported that he had been informed by Marc Proctor Operations Road Policing that the speed data collection had been analysed and had confirmed that at certain times of the day traffic speed was an issue. The Neighbourhood Police Team had been tasked to undertake speed enforcement action. It was not possible to confirm when such action would be taken, it being dependant on competing demands and resources available.

23.219. ST OSWALD'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: Confirmed that a parish Christmas tree had been provided for the festival and had been erected and decorated by volunteers. Members thanked the volunteers for their support.

23.220. WARTON MIRES PROJECT: The clerk reported that the sub-group had met on 4th December 2023. No information on the grant application status submitted by Lancashire County Council to the Environment Agency status was available. Lancashire County Council officers would continued to press the Agency for a decision. Mike Cooper had tendered his resignation as Chairman of the sub-group because of work commitments. Philip Hardcastle had agreed to take over as Charman of the sub-group. Jarrod Sneyd reported that RSPB work on the project had been limited to minor excavations. Signage was to be erected warning of deep water on parts of the flooded area of this mires.

23.221. MILL LANE FOOTWAY: The clerk reported that he had been advised that a possible source of funding for the widening work should be investigated though the Access For All Provision as the existing footway was not wide enough for wheelchair access. The clerk would investigate possibilities including discussions with Lucy Baron – RSPB who has knowledge of the criteria required for any application through her work on behalf of access issues for mobility impaired visitors to the RSPB site at Leighton Moss.

23.222. TRANSFER OF WARTON FLOOD ACTION GROUP ASSETS TO WARTON

PARISH COUNCIL: The clerk reported that the additional insurance costs for the group assets had been confirmed at £66.60. A formal agreement for the asset transfer between the Warton Flood Action group and Warton Parish Council to be prepared.

23.223. REMOVAL OF WEIR PLAYGROUND SAND PIT: The clerk reported that no further progress had been made with the provision of a quotation for possible equipment from Playdale Ltd. Members considered the quotation for the provision of a small roundabout from

Sovereign Play Equipment but agreed to take no further action as they considered the roundabout to be unsuitable. Members agreed that the clerk contact Hags Play Equipment Ltd to request information about a ride on roundabout produced by the company.

23.224. THE ROODS CHILDREN PLAYGROUND: Councillor Mrs Simmonds reported that she had met with members of the Roods Children's Playground Group to discuss efforts to provide a climbing frame, slide and swings for erection on the area behind The Roods. Members agreed that representatives of the group be invited to attend the parish council meeting scheduled for 6th February 2024 to discuss their proposals.

23.225. WARTON BOWLING CLUB DONATION REQUEST: Members considered a request from the Club for a donation towards the cost of replacement of the floodlights around the bowling green. Those members who had not expressed an interest in the item agreed unanimously to allocate £400 to the club.

23.226. WARTON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE MEMBER DETAILS: Members agreed that the member details be updated with new photographs for Kevin Barkley, Chris Lee, Frank Senior and Lindsey Simmonds together with the removal of Colin Peacock's details.

23.227. OPEN SPACES SOCIETY LEGAL ACTION APPEAL DONATION REQUESTS: Members considered the request but agreed that a donation should not be made at this time, although membership of the society should be continued.

23.228. CL45 SALTMARSH WARTON: Members considered the objection made by the Ramblers Association and agreed that no further action be taken by the parish council.

23.229. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i. Councillor Senior reported that signage concerning dog fouling needed upgrading at the Potts Wood Picnic Site.
ii. Councillor Briggs reported that a Welcome Pack for new entrants to the village needed upgrading.

23.210. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members and District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 9.35pm. Members agreed that the next meeting of Warton Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th February 2023 in the Village Hall. Items for inclusion on the agenda should be notified to the clerk by Monday 29th January 2024.

Chairman..... Date.....

Minutes subject to agreement at the 6th February 2024 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.