

MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th February 2024 in the Village Hall Warton.

PRESENT: Councillors K Briggs, K Barkley, A Hilling, C Lee and Mrs L Simmonds.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council and five members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs Cody and F Senior, County Councillor Mrs P Williamson and District Councillor Mrs S Tyldesley.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.

24.001. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th December 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.

24.002. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS NOT COVERED BY OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: The clerk reported that: i. An example of the Welcome to Yealands pack had been received for consideration by Members prior to the provision of a similar pack covering Warton and Millhead.

ii. Willow Cottage Chapel Walk – obstruction of the walkway by a bush, contact had been made with the property owner who advised that the section of walkway concerned was owned by himself and although not available for public access, he had agreed to undertake some pruning of the bush as part of a tidying process.

iii. The abandoned car in the Small Quarry had been removed prior to action being taken against the owner.

iv. Details of costs incurred by the parish council in relation to the Main Street Public Toilets had been passed to Lancaster City Council as agreed by members at the 19th December 2023 meeting.

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

1.Church Hall Parking – The clerk reported that he had received a copy of a letter sent to County Councillor Mrs Williamson from Mr Bernard Gladwin 98 Main Street, Warton concerning his parking of a car outside the Church Hall. He expressed his concern that a warning of possible police action if he continued to park outside the Church Hall would result on him being unable to leave his house because of his disability. The police involvement was as a result of complaints received concerning obstruction of the footway by those cars parked at the front of the hall. The clerk reported he had discussed the problem with Carol Wolfenden who had advised that to her knowledge Mr Gladwin no longer used his car because of his deteriorating health. She also advised that the Church Hall land only extended 2 yards from the front of the building which could result in some obstruction of an area between the Hall property and highway designated as a footway. Members agreed to await comments from County Councillor Mrs Williamson.

2. Main Street Parking – Members were requested to consider action to emphasise the Main Street parking problem being caused by property owners with more than one vehicle not using their available driveways as a parking area, thus causing congestion. Members agreed to draft a suitable appeal for circulation to property owners in Main Street requesting their cooperation and to discuss possible action with County Councillor Mrs Williamson.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

24.003. 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.

24.004. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS S TYLDESLEY: District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not available.

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

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

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

24/00103/FUL – Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension for Mr and Mrs Taylor, 26 The Roods, Warton – No objection raised.

24/00113/TCA – Cercidiphyllum Japonicum (Katsuroi)(T1) – reduce by 30% of the overall crown for Fran Bowman, 3 Roberts Court, Warton – No objection raised.

23/01290/FUL – Retrospective application for change of use of micro-brewery and associated cold store building (sui generis) to drinking establishment with expanded food provision (sui generis) and extension to the south and west side providing external seating and storage areas for Mr Ren Wallbank, Old School Brewery, The Barn, Holly Bank, Warton. Mr Wallbank attended the meeting and discussed the application and supporting information provided as part of the application with members. Members agreed that the Old School Brewery was appreciated by many residents of the village as a leisure facility and as such should be supported. However they were concerned that the Sunday 4.00pm to 7.00pm music sessions caused upset and suffering for residents near to the site and due regard needed to be applied to any future arrangements. Members instructed the clerk to notify Lancaster City Council Planning Control of parish council concerns about the frequency and volume of music sessions. They would prefer sessions to be held every other Sunday instead of as at present on every Sunday although the viability of the facility needed to be taken into account. They felt the 7.00pm cut off should be rigidly enforced with the sound system fitted with equipment to limit volume to that considered acceptable by Environmental Health officers.

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

23/00165/FUL – Reviewed 4th April 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted

23/00326/LB - Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision

23/00326/LB Amended – Received 5th September 2023 – Awaiting Decision

1400

23/00959/VCN – Reviewed 5th September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision
23/00948/FUL – Reviewed 3rd October 2023 Meeting – Application Withdrawn

24.007. FINANCE: a) Members noted the financial summary for December 2023 and January 2024 as follows:

Opening 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>	60350.41

Opening Balance – Current Account 35177.72

Receipts NIL

Payments

06.12.23 J W Ball – Salary	385.17	
07.12.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity	42.96	
19.12.23 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work December	152.50	
19.12.23 St Oswald’s Church – Tree Hire	25.00	
19.12.23 Carter Jonas – Potts Wood Hire	1.00	
19.12.23 P Doey – Christmas Lights Reimbursement	179.90	
19.12.23 Warton Bowling Club - Donation	400.00	
06.01.24 JW Ball- Salary	385.17	
06.01.24 Npower – Toilet Electricity	<u>44.18</u>	1615.88

33561.84

Closing Balance Current Account 33561.84

Opening Balance – Village Improvement Account 12481.19

01.01.24 NS&I Interest 158.92

Closing Balance 12640.11

Opening Balance – Play Equipment Account 4536.23

01.01.24 Virgin Money – Interest 4.54

Closing Balance 4540.77

Opening Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	33561.84	
Village Improvement Account	12640.11	
Investment Account	8058.47	
Playground Account	4540.77	
E&R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u>	58897.99

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

Thomas Oliver – Toilet Work December - £137.50 – 2333

1401

c) 2024/2025 Parish Council Precept.

Members discussed the financial requirements for the 2024/2025 financial year and considered the estimated allocations to parish council budget headings prepared by the clerk. Members agreed that a precept demand of £22,086 be submitted to Lancaster City Council. The estimated cost of the precept to

The clerk reported that the precept request was required by Lancaster City Council by 9th February 2024. Members agreed that a precept demand of £22086 be submitted to Lancaster City Council. The estimated cost of the precept to a Band D property would be £24.84.

d) 2023/2024 Local Government Services Pay Agreement

Members considered the information provided by NALC covering the pay award agreed by the National Joint Council for local government services and agreed that the award in the form of a lump sum covering the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 of £416 (excluding PAYE) be paid to the clerk. Members also agreed that future salary payments be linked to SCPII (23/24 rate £13.50 per hour) - £467.64 per month (excluding PAYE).

24.008. LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS:

Nothing further to report – formal consultation awaited.

24.009. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT: The clerk reported that as the date specified for reply (10th February 2024) in my letter to Mr and Mrs Maguire their agreement to the proposed siting of the unit on the footway between no's 175A and 177 Main Street Warton could be assumed. Agreements to erect the posts for the units can now be agreed with Lancashire County Council officers.

24.010. SPEEDING TRAFFIC: The clerk reported that confirmation of police action was awaited.

24.011. REMOVAL OF WEIR PLAYGROUND SAND PIT: Members considered the quotations for the supply of a Carousel Pedal Bicycle Roundabout by HAGS at £7550 plus VAT supplied and erected and £4605.37 plus VAT supply only. Members agreed to request a site visit by a HAGS representative. The clerk was instructed to make the necessary arrangements.

24.012. WARTON MIRES PROJECT: The clerk reported that the Warton Mires sub-group meeting had been held on 5th February 2024. Lancashire County Council had been informed that the Environment Agency had agreed funding to finance the clearance of the catch pit and drain. The work involved was considered to be an emergency procedure and Lancashire County Council did not accept responsibility for any future repairs and maintenance of the catch pit and drain. as it was viewed that the installation was a water course and therefore the responsibility of the landowner, even though surface water drainage from the village was routed through the drain. Ongoing discussions were to be scheduled to clarify the position. RSPB planned to use funding from their successful Countryside Stewardship application to carry out minor excavation work to produce scrapes and small ponds on site and to provide fencing, part electrified, to secure the area. Work to improve the public footpath availability during prolonged wet weather periods would require major groundwork and additional funding to that currently available. Other funding sources to be investigated.

24.013. ROODS PLAY AREA: Members of the Roods Play Area Group attended the meeting and gave details of the planned development. £3000 had been raised to date by the group and initial purchase of seats and tables and football goals had been agreed. It was

hoped that a financial contribution from the parish could be made available. Members agreed that financial assistance be provided and that Councillor Mrs Simmonds would liaise with the Group to develop the project.

24.014. WARTON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE MEMBER DETAILS: Members agreed that the necessary update to the website be carried out as a matter of urgency.

24.015. LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL FORUM: Members considered attendance at the forum to be held on 28th February 2024 but as no Members were available to attend the clerk was instructed to notify the Planning and Housing Strategy Team accordingly.

24.016. DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER – THREAGILL LANE: Members considered the modification and agreed to take no action.

24.017. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i. Councillor Lee reported that the Village Hall Management Committee intended to organise village gatherings (Warton Outstanding Wingding) on 19th May 2024. Parish Council involvement to be considered at the 5th March 2024 meeting.

ii. Councillor Mrs Simmonds reported that the Emergency Plan had been reviewed and further action was required. To be considered at the 5th March 2024 meeting of the parish council.

iii. Councillor Briggs reported that several large pot holes on the Weir Childrens Playground access road required attention.

24.018. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 9.20pm. Members agreed that the next meeting of Warton Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th March 2024 in the Village Hall. Items for inclusion in the meeting agenda should be notified to the clerk by Monday 26th February 2024.

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

Minutes subject to agreement at the 5th March 2024 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.