

**MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Village Hall Warton.**

**PRESENTATION BY MATT HARD AND BYROM WILSON OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE GRAVESON SITE, KEERBRIDGE, MILLHEAD**

The presentation and related discussion covered the following areas:

**Accessibility/ connectivity**

The parish council members considered that the footway for pedestrians between Millhead and Warton was narrow and substandard and should the Keerbridge site be redeveloped, improvement to the footway between the two settlements would be preferable to any links through the site and Carnforth. The parish council members advised that in their view there were sufficient existing recreation opportunities (i.e. walking) within the existing countryside, hence improvement of the Millhead/Warton footway was preferred to the provision of new recreational walking routes.

**Recreation**

The parish council members recommended that the Millhead Memorial Association representatives be consulted regarding the football club, bowling green and other recreational needs and desires in Millhead.

**Housing**

Affordability of housing was considered important with the parish council members perception being that homes be available for purchase to enable people to achieve ownership rather than rental. Energy efficiency was considered to be an important aspect of any new housing design with traditional style homes similar to those designs incorporated in Wilson and Co's other local developments would be more appropriate than any novel designs.

**Environment**

Efforts to keep existing birdlife, bats and invertebrates were to be encouraged and any open spaces, landscaping and biodiversity areas on site would be carefully managed.

Matt and Byrom were thanked for their presentation and it was agreed that continued liaison with the parish council and other stakeholders would take place.

**PRESENT:** Councillors K Briggs, A Hilling, W Muckle, F Senior and Mrs L Simmonds.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council, District Councillor Mrs S Tyldesley and 2 members of the public.

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

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** No declarations of interest were made by members in relation to items covered by the agenda.

**23.188. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 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.

**23.189. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS NOT COVERED BY OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:**

The clerk reported that: i. the dangerous tree adjacent to Dr Kopcke's property had been felled by Tree Surgeon Grant Barrow.  
ii. Because of illness Councillors Senior and Hilling had been unable to attend the Lancashire Parish and Town Council Conference.  
iii. Lancaster City Council invoice covering election costs had been cancelled because VAT charges were wrongly included. A correct invoice excluding VAT to be issued.  
iv. Lancashire County Council Bus Shelter Team had inspected the Nib bus shelter and found that the electricity connection box was corroded with supply wiring exposed.  
v. A complaint had been received that the website details of parish council members were not correct. Members agreed to provide the necessary information.  
vi. The current stock of tree lights necessary to mount the Weir display over the Christmas period required additional lighting strips to replace damaged bulbs and to decorate the Christmas tree. Councillor Mrs Simmonds requested that coloured bulbs be used on the Christmas tree. Members agreed that £300 be allocated as a maximum for the purchase of the lights.  
vii. Notification had been received that the application for a Kings Award for Voluntary Service had not been successful.

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.MILL LANE NARROW FOOTPATH AND SPEEDING TRAFFIC**

Members of the public noted and welcomed the information provided during the Keerbridge Development resenatation but emphasisaccessing those binsed the current need for the imposition of speed restrictions and improved road markings through the village.

**2. DOG FOULING**

Members of the public complained about a lack of waste bins particularly on the road leading from Sand Lane to the River Keer. Consideration to be given to the provision of suitable bins and when allocating sites the likely access difficulties for council vehicles used to empty them when deciding on sites

**THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING**

**23.190. 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.

**23.191. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS S TYLDESLEY:** District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley reported that the Roods Group were working with the Primary School children planting flowers on an area of Croftlands. An application for planning authorisation had been made by the Old School Brewery. The services of a consultant had been arranged by the owner of the premises to advise and submit the application..

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

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

**23.193. PLANNING MATTERS: a)** The following application had been received for review and comments by members.

22/0172/TCA – Removal of Cherry Tree for Tim Pollard, 183 Main Street, 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 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00165/FUL – Reviewed 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00642/FUL – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00837/FUL – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00838/LB – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00326/LB – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00326/LB Amended – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00959/VCN – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00974/VCN – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/00948/FUL – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/0153/TCA – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 Meeting – Application Permitted  
 23/00900/FUL – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/01044/LB – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision  
 23/01043/FUL – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 Meeting – Awaiting Decision

**23.194. FINANCE:** a) Members noted the financial summary for October 2023 as follows:

Opening Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	41907.92
Village Improvement Account	12481.19
Investment Account	8058.47
Playground Account	4536.23
E & R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u> 67080.61

Opening Balance – Current Account 41907.92

Receipts

NIL

Payments

03.10.23 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work Sept	137.50
03.10.23 JW Ball – Clerks Expenses 1/4 to 30/9	632.36
03.10.23 Mrs F Graham Spicer – PC Docs. Prep	75.00
03.10.23 PKF Littlejohn – External Audit 2022/2023	252.00
03.10.23 Warton Village Hall – Room Rental	112.00
06.10.23 JW Ball – Salary	385.17
06.10.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity	35.58
24.10.23 GJ Barrow – Tree Surgeon	<u>450.00</u> 2092.11
Closing Balance Current Account	39815.81

## Closing 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>

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

Thomas Oliver – Toilet Work October - £137.00 – 2316  
Lancaster City Council – AONB Contribution - £1000.00 – 2317  
Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd – Toilet Consumables - £23.62 – 2318  
Community Heartbeat Trust – Defibrillator Batteries - £525.00 – 2319  
Lindsey Simmonds – Dog Waste Bags Reimbursement - £25.95 – 2320  
Royal British Legion Puppy Appeal – Wreaths (2) - £40.00 – 2321  
Astarte Web Design – Site Hosting - £150 - 2322

### c) Review of Internet Business Banking Systems

Members discussed the recommended procedures necessary to introduce and operate an parish council internet banking system and agreed that for the time being no change be made to the current payment by cheques system. Members agreed that no further action was required.

### d) Review of the completed external audit of the 2022/2023 Financial Statement (AGAR)

The clerk reported that the period for public inspection of the Financial Statements and External Audit comment had been completed with no inspection requests received.

### e) Parish Council Debit Card

Members agreed that there was not a need for such transactions and no further action was required.

### **23.195. LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS:**

The clerk reported that all comments and objections to the proposals as part of the consultation process had been submitted and a Lancashire County Council response was awaited.

**23.196. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT:** The clerk reported that a possible site adjacent to the current Main Street unit had been identified but had been rejected as unsuitable because of the presence of electricity cables. The further proposed site between 175A and 177 Main Street would be reviewed with consultation with the residents of both properties.

**23.197. SPEEDING TRAFFIC:** The clerk reported that the automatic speed recording unit supplied by the Lancashire Road Safety Unit had been fitted and operation for the prescribed period adjacent to the JW Centre and the data collected was now being analysed. As soon as available the information would be reported to members.

**23.198. ST OSWALD'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL:** The clerk reported that the 2023 Festival would take place in St Oswalds Church from 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Trees to be set up from 14.00 to 19.00 on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and removal from 12 noon to 17.00 on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Members agreed to enter a tree on behalf of the parish council with donations for Unique Kidz. Members agreed to hire a tree from St John's Church Yealand Redmayne at a charge of £25.00. Mr and Mrs Clough had agreed to erect

and decorate the tree with help from other members. Members thanked Mr and Mrs Clough for their offer of help.

**23.199. WARTON MIRES PROJECT:** The clerk reported that a decision on funding for clearance of the catch pit and drain was still awaited from the Environment Agency.

**23.200. TRANSFER OF WARTON FLOOD ACTION GROUP ASSETS TO WARTON PARISH COUNCIL:** The clerk reported that the additional insurance costs for the pump, shed and ancillary equipment would be £66.60 from the present time until the completion of the current Zurich Municipal Insurance agreement in June 2024. Public liability insurance would be covered by the parish council policy with the additional £66.60 being for cover of the transferred assets. Members agreed that the transfer of assets take place.

**23.201. REMOVAL OF WEIR PLAYGROUND SAND PIT:** The clerk reported that he had met with Nicole Korb, Playdale Area Sales Manager and had discussed the removal of the sand pit and replacement with another item of play equipment. Members agreed that the company provide ideas for suitable replacement play equipment and costings. Details to be discussed by members on receipt.

**23.202. WEIR PLAYGROUND WOODCHIP RENEWAL:** The clerk reported that the current playground woodchip surfaces needed removal down to the membrane and complete renewal. Pete Doey estimated at least two possibly three 80cu metre loads would be required. The clerk advised members that the work would be expensive but funds needed to be allocated because of the importance of the playground to village young people. Members requested the clerk prepare costings for the required work.

**23.203. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND:** Members discussed the fund and agreed to give further consideration to possible parish projects suitable for such funding applications.

**23.204. WARTON PARISH COUNCIL CASUAL VACANCY:** The clerk reported that he had been informed by Lancaster City Council that no requests for the appointment to be subject to an election had been received and that the parish council was now authorised to make an appointment for a member to represent the Warton Ward. Notices of vacancy had been posted on the parish notice boards and website and one application had been received from Mr Kevin Barkley. Members agreed to the appointment of Mr Barkley as a member of Warton Parish Council taking up the appointment at the meeting of the parish council scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**23.205. REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATHS:** The clerk reported that two wreaths had been purchased at £20.00 each for the St Oswalds ceremony to be laid by Councillor Senior and the Carnforth ceremony to be laid by Councillor Muckle.

**23.206. CL45 SALTMARSH WARTON:** The clerk reported that no further information had been received concerning the proposed works by Natural England.

**23.207. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS:** i. Councillor Senior reported that then Reverend Alice Ormanroyd to be induced as Priest for St Oswalds Church on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ii. Councillor Briggs reported a need for parking restrictions to be imposed at the Croftlands bus turning circle.

**23.208. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members and District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley for their attendance and 1392

participation and closed the meeting at 9.50pm. Members agreed that the next meeting of Warton Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Village Hall. Items for inclusion on the agenda should be notified to the clerk by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

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

Minutes subject to agreement at the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.