

MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th March 2017 in the Village Hall, Warton

PRESENT: Councillors Briggs (Chairman), Clough, Hilling, Muckle, Peacock and Mrs Simmonds.

IN ATTENDANCE: J W Ball (Clerk to the Council), D Bland (Internal Auditor to the Council) and District Councillor Mrs Sykes.

17.048. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest were made for items covered by the agenda.

17.049. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2017 having been circulated, be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

17.050. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS: The clerk reported that i) Archbishop Hutton's Trust had been notified that Councillor Hilling would continue as the parish council's representative on the Trust ii) registration papers for attendance at the chairmanship workshop had been forwarded to LALC iii) a public meeting to discuss the RSPB proposals for the Warton Mires had been arranged for 8th March 2017 in the Village Hall iv) booking forms were available for attendance at the LALC planning workshop to be held on 20th April 2017 v) power point presentation details requested for the Parish Conference held on 25th February 2017 vi) Thomas Oliver had agreed to continue the cleaning of the public toilets once every two weeks instead of weekly as at present vii) a response was awaited from Lancaster City Council concerning the parish council proposal to continue to manage the public toilets without a formal contract viii) other items of interest had been circulated to members as received.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

17.051. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: i) Speeding vehicles. Mr Bradshaw raised complaints from village residents concerning the speed of vehicles being driven through the village in particular Borwick Lane and after stock car meetings. He drew members attention to the Community Speed watch scheme run by Cumbria Constabulary involving police trained members of the public mounting speed recording patrols within specific areas. Several villages in Cumbria were taking part in the scheme but he was not aware of similar initiatives in North Lancashire. Members expressed their agreement to the issues raised and the clerk was instructed to discuss the speed watch scheme with Lancashire Constabulary.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING.

17.052. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS SYKES: District Councillor Mrs Sykes reported that central government funding for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) allocated as part of the grant to district councils would not be allocated to town and parish councils as part of their precept payments, instead being retained by Lancaster City Council. Councillor Peacock reported that this action was being taken by an increased number of precept funding councils.

Councillor Mrs Sykes was thanked for her report.

17.053. STANDING ORDER 25: Members noted that no action had been taken under the provision of Standing Order 25.

17.054. PLANNING MATTERS: a) Members reviewed planning applications received as follows:

LCC/2017/0024 – Proposed excavation and earthworks to reconfigure the existing lakes including removal, construction and extension of bunds including completion of the embankment adjacent to the M6 to the same dimensions as approved under planning permission 1/12/0890. The application includes the submission of a new section 106 ecological management plan for the site at Clearwater Fisheries, Kellet Lane, Warton.GR: 351995 472271 – no objection raised provided adequate facilities available for sewerage and waste water disposal.

17/00100/CU – Change of use from site administration facilities to holiday let (C3) for Mr Alex Mollart, Clear Water Fisheries, Kellet Lane, Over Kellet – no objections raised.

17/00182/FUL – Erection of a 5-bay garage for Mr Alex Mollart, Clear Water Fisheries, Kellet Lane, Over Kellet – no objection raised provided construction materials used were sympathetic to the area.

b) Members noted the current status of planning applications already reviewed as follows:

16/00221/OUT – Reviewed 1st March meeting – Awaiting decision
 16/00890/RCN – Reviewed 6th September meeting – Awaiting decision
 16/01001/FUL – Reviewed 6th September meeting – Application permitted
 16/01161/FUL – Reviewed 4th October meeting – Application permitted
 16/01418/FUL – Reviewed 13th December meeting – Application permitted
 16/01374/OUT – Reviewed 13th December meeting – Application permitted
 17/00052/FUL – Reviewed 7th February meeting – Awaiting decision
 17/00038/VCW – Reviewed 7th February meeting – Awaiting decision

17.055. FINANCE: a) Members noted the financial summary for February 2017 as follows:

	Opening Balance	Current Account	12825.43	
		Village Improvement Account	8006.92	
		Investment Account	7995.82	
		E & R Wilson Account	1837.10	
		Emergency Fund Acc	<u>195.33</u>	30860.60
Receipts				
15.02.17	Interest Payment			<u>7.18</u>
				30867.78
Payments				
06.02.17	J W Ball – Salary		363.00	
07.02.17	Thomas Oliver – Toilet Work		60.00	
07.02.17	Tony Armstrong – Gate Repairs		216.00	
07.02.17	Lancashire County Trng.Part – Training Fees		25.00	<u>664.00</u>
				30203.78
	Closing Balance	Current Account	12161.43	
		Village Improvement Account	8014.10	

		Investment Account	7995.82	
		Emergency Fund Account	195.33	
		E & R Wilson Account	<u>1837.10</u>	<u>30203.78</u>

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

Npower – Toilet Electricity - £62.88 – 1877
Warton Response Group – Grant Refund - £195.33 – 1878
Thomas Oliver – Toilet Works - £60.00 – 1879
Warton Village Hall – Room Rental - £122.50 - 1880
AONB Landscape Trust –Donation - £100 - 1881

17.056. PUBLIC TOILETS: Councillor Clough reported that the toilets were operational.

17.057. SPARROW PARK: The clerk reported that there were no issues with the park provision.

17.058. ELIZABETH AND RICHARD WILSON CHARITABLE FUND: The clerk reported that one application for an initial payment and two applications for second payments were for consideration at the meeting with £1837.10 available for allocation. Members discussed the distribution of available funding and agreed that £1000 be allocated to the initial applicant and £200 each to the second payment applicants, the balance of £437.10 to be carried forward to the 2017/2018 financial year.

17.059. THE WEIR CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUNDS: The clerk advised members that the cost of purchase of 30qu. mtrs.of hardwood chips would be £600 with a £140 delivery charge plus VAT. Councillor Peacock reported that the AONB volunteers would help with the spreading of the chips if available. Members agreed to the purchase of 30qu.mtrs. of hardwood chips at a cost of £740 plus VAT. The clerk was instructed to make the necessary arrangement for the delivery of the hardwood chips when a date was confirmed by Councillor Peacock.

17.060. PARISH LENGTHSMAN: The clerk reported that work was in hand to clean scrub and other undergrowth from Senset Lane.

17.061. SPEED DETECTION DEVICE: Councillor Clough reported that he had continued to keep the device operational. Battery charging was carried out every 10 days. Councillor Hilling reported that he continued to seek an alternative power source to the current batteries.

7.062. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN: Councillor Clough reported that the plan was now ready for implementation with only names of volunteers still to be finalised.

17.063. REGISTRATION OF WARTON PARISH COUNCIL LAND WITH THE LAND REGISTRY: The clerk reported that the Statements of Truth for the three parcels of land had been signed by Councillors Briggs and Barker and returned to Ratcliffe and Bibby for their action. The plan for the Weir parcel of land required amendment prior to signing and return to Ratcliffe and Bibby.

17.064. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE: The clerk reported that work was in hand.

17.065. JOINT CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONS TRIBUTE AND WWI BEACONS OF LIGHT: The clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Carnforth Town Council concerning a joint celebration of the event. Members discussed and agreed to consider a joint event

with Carnforth Town Council in addition to the lighting of a beacon in Warton either on the Crag or Weir. The clerk was instructed to notify Carnforth Town Council accordingly.

17.066. MILLHEAD HOUSEHOLD WASTE PROBLEM: Members discussed the household waste problem at Millhead and agreed the matter be referred to Lancaster City Council Environmental Health Department for their action.

17.067. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE QUOTATION – 2017: The clerk reported that a quotation from Lancaster City Council had been received for the mowing of parish council land in Warton and Millhead. Mowing would be carried out every 9 working days at a cost of £1521.00 plus VAT, an increase of £ 50.00 on the 2016/2017 quotation figure. Members discussed the quotation and agreed that the mowing contract be awarded to Lancaster City Council.

17.068. 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL AND PARISH MEETING ARRANGEMENTS: Members discussed arrangements for the Annual General and Parish Meetings and agreed that the Annual General Meeting be held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 and the Parish Meeting be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th June 2017, both meetings in the Village Hall. Councillor Peacock agreed to arrange a speaker for the Parish Meeting to talk on the Crag Hill Fort.

17.069. 2016/2017 ALLOCATION OF DONATIONS: The clerk reported that £3000 was available for donations for the 2016/2017 financial year with £600 allocated to Archbishop Hutton's Primary School, £250 allocated to the Bowland Pennine Rescue Team, £200 allocated to Warton Village Society, £250 allocated to the North West Air Ambulance Service and £100 allocated to the AONB Landscape Trust. As no further requests for donations had been received members agreed that the balance of £1600 be carried forward to the 2017/2018 financial year.

17.070. MILL LANE FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS: No further action taken since the previous meeting.

17.071. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i) Councillor Clough reported that a caravan parked on the bend at the top of Sand Lane was obstructing the view of road users ii) Councillor Peacock reported that 4 meters of the Quarry retaining wall on Crag Road had collapsed iii) Councillor Muckle reported that the roof of the bus shelter opposite the Nib Hotel was covered in moss and other vegetation and could be a danger to the public if it was dislodged iv) Councillor Mrs Simmonds reported that dog fouling was once more becoming a problem in parts of the village v) Councillor Peacock reported that wood from a felled tree in the field at the bottom of the Crag was available for residents use if they were prepared to take it away.

17.072. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Members agreed that the next meeting of the Warton Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 4th April 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Warton.

Items for inclusion in the Agenda to be notified to the clerk by Monday 27th March 2017.

Chairman ----- Date -----

Minutes subject to agreement at the next meeting of the Warton Parish Council.