

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

PRESENT: Councillors K Briggs (Chairman), Mrs Barker, D Clough and C Peacock.

IN ATTENDANCE: J W Ball (Clerk to the Parish Council) and D Bland (Internal Auditor to the Parish Council) County Councillor Mrs P Williamson, District Councillor Mrs S Sykes and Four members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs J Cody, A Hilling, W Muckle and Mrs L Simmonds.

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

17.205. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2017 having been circulated, be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record subject to at 17.202 v) Mill Lane be amended to read Main Street.

17.206. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS: The clerk reported that i) the service of dedication and unveiling of the commemorative stone for Private Albert Halton had been held in Sparrow Park, attended by representatives of the parish council, city council, british legion, forces and children from Archbishop Huttons Primary School ii) investigations into the ownership of the land through which Brindle Way no.7 passes because of a report of a dangerous tree had been inconclusive and were ongoing iii) details covering the proposed national tribute marking the end of the 1st World War to be held on 11th November 2018 had been received from Bruno Peek National Pageant Master. iv) details of the Lancaster University Free Public Lecture to be held on 8th November 2017 had been received v) winter briefing notes had been received from Lancashire County Council vi) publicity had been given to the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership volunteer recruitment campaign vii) a letter of thanks had been received from St Johns Hospice for the parish council donation of £50.00 in memory of Roy Wilson viii) problem with the standard and timing of grass cutting in the parish by Lancaster City Council had been received ix) a request had been received from Lancaster City Council for completion of a survey of open spaces and their use within the parish x) other information received had been circulated to members.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

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

17.207. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: i) Three members of the public raised their concerns about planning application 17/00736/OUT covering the development of land behind 17 Main Street Warton. The application had received a recommendation for acceptance from planning officers but had been referred for consideration by the planning committee after protest from City Council Mrs Sykes. The plan was to be considered by the planning committee on 13th November 2017 with several objectors exercising their right to address the committee. Councillor Peacock would address the meeting on behalf of the parish council and raise objections to the development on grounds that it did not satisfy Development Plan requirements. Councillor Mrs Barker urged caution against an argument

based on infringement of the Development Plan, not yet finalised and suggested a better policy might be to mount an argument against aspects of this particular development. Members discussed the application and agreed that the objections to the development already submitted together with the proposed addressing of the planning committee by Councillor Peacock should go ahead. District Councillor Mrs Sykes advised the meeting that she would declare an interest at the planning meeting and withdraw.

ii) A member of the public raised concerns at the poor quality and frequency of grass cutting work carried out by Lancaster City Council on areas of grass on the Roods. The chair advised that the Roods grass areas were not part of the parish council contract with Lancaster City Council.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING.

17.208. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS SYKES: District Councillor Mrs Sykes reported that it would be difficult to persuade the planning committee to overrule a decision by planning officers as those officers were expert in the working of the planning legislation and their advice was important. She felt that possible benefits from some development within the parish boundaries with regard to the safeguarding of amenities should be taken into consideration.

District Councillor Sykes was thanked for her report.

17.208. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS WILLIAMSON: County Councillor Mrs Williamson reported that it had been possible to re-open Silverdale library and it was also hoped to increase the opening hours of Carnforth library. Negotiations to keep the Carnforth and Hornby swimming pools open continued and a positive solution was hoped for. Approaches to officers concerning the area of land covered by the Salt Marsh Trust had met with a positive response and she hoped for some progress. Details of funding available for local projects from an allowance allocated to each county councillor would be made available to the clerk.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her report.

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

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

17/01127/FUL – Erection of a 2 storey detached building for agricultural vehicles sales and hire with associated parking and access for Mr Bryan Hoggarth, Land Adjacent Keer Bridge A6 Scotland Road Warton. Objections to the application were raised on the grounds of the visual intrusion of the building, the potential damage to the adjacent reed bed as parked agricultural vehicles would need to be moved from their current position to make way for the new building, limited screening would mean it was visible from the proposed RSPB Warton Mire project, the additional site lighting required for the new building would add to the light pollution already present on the site and additional run off from the vehicles would be a potential hazard for the adjacent reed bed and the River Keer.

17/01292/FUL – Change of use of land for the siting of three static caravans for holiday use and two lodges for residential use, provision of hardstanding for access track and provision of a new meadow for Mr Adrian D’Alton, Kingdom Hall of Jehovahs Witnesses, 14 Mill Lane, Warton. Objections were raised on the grounds that the application in its present form did not provide enough information covering planning or design and access statements on which to base a decision together with a conviction that the siting of static caravans and lodges in this part of the AONB would set a most dangerous precedent for further development of similar projects.

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

16/00890/RCN – Reviewed 6th September meeting – Application permitted

17/00038/VCN - Reviewed 7th February meeting – Application permitted

LCC/2017/0024 – Reviewed 7th March meeting – Application permitted

17/00417/FUL – Reviewed 4th July meeting – Application permitted

17/00736/OUT – Reviewed 4th July meeting – Awaiting decision

17/00787/FUL – Reviewed 3rd September meeting – Application permitted

17/00897/VCN – Reviewed 3rd September meeting – Application permitted

17/01051/LB – Reviewed 3rd September meeting – Application permitted

17.211 FINANCE: a) Members noted the financial summary for September and October 2017 as follows:

Opening Balance		Current Account	18480.07	
		Village Improvement Account	10014.10	
		Investment Account	7995.82	
		Playground Account	<u>3010.00</u>	
		E & R Wilson Account	<u>437.10</u>	<u>39937.09</u>
Receipts				NIL
Payments				
05.09.17	LCR – Magazine Sub Renewal		17.00	
05.09.17	Npower – Toilet Electricity		68.73	
06.09.17	JW Ball – Salary		363.00	
15.09.17	Tom Oliver – Toilet Cleaning		82.50	
15.09.17	St Johns Hospice – Donation		50.00	
28.09.17	Ratcliffe and Bibby – Legal Fees		130.00	
28.09.17	BDO – Audit Fees		240.00	
06.10.17	J W Ball –Salary		363.00	
12.10.17	LALC – Good Councillor Guides		50.24	
12.10.17	R E Salt – Toilet Repairs		108.81	
12.10.17	Tom Oliver – Toilet Cleaning		<u>48.00</u>	1521.28
				38415.81

Closing Balance	Current Account	16958.79	
	Village Improvement Account	10014.10	
	Investment Account	7995.82	
	Playground Account	3010.00	
	E & R Wilson Account	<u>437.10</u>	<u>38415.81</u>

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

HMRC – Tax Payment - £888.00 – 1916
HW Ball – Expenses - £623.03 – 1918
P Doey – Parish Lengthsman - £750.89 – 1913 and £5.00 – 1914
CPRE – Membership Fee - £36.00 – 1915
Lancaster City Council – AONB Contribution - £925.00 – 1917
Tom Oliver – Toilet Cleaning - £76.50 – 1919
P Doey – Parish Lengthsman £340.00 - 1920

17.212. PUBLIC TOILETS: Councillor Clough reported that it had been necessary to have a blocked urinal drain pipe replaced by R.E.Salt and Co at a cost of £108.81. Tom Oliver continued to work well.

17.213. SPARROW PARK: The clerk reported that the grass had been cut for the last time until next spring.

17.214. ELIZABETH AND RICHARD WILSON CHARITABLE FUND: The clerk reported that a cheque for £1,166 had been received from the Trustees of the Fund as the parish council's allocation of investments earnings for the year ended May 2017. A total of £1,603 was now available for grants.

17.215. THE WEIR CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS: The grassed areas had been tidied for the winter. All equipment was in good working order.

17.216. PARISH LENGTHSMAN: Mr Doey continued to keep the parish council owned areas of the village in first class order.

17.217. SPEED DETECTION DEVICE: Councillor Clough reported that the device was operational.

7.218. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN: Councillor Clough reported that the plan had been accepted by Lancaster City Council and would be operated as required by the team of volunteers recruited by himself. He would remain in overall control as the parish council representative.

17.219. REGISTRATION OF WARTON PARISH COUNCIL LAND WITH THE LAND REGISTRY: The clerk reported that all necessary papers had been forwarded to the Land Registry by Roy Drinkall of Ratcliffe and Bibby. A response was awaited from the Land Registry.

17.220. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE: The clerk reported that the Emergency Plan, annual accounts and notes for the 2016/2017 financial year and agendas and minutes of 2017 meetings had been forwarded to Anne Nichols for inputting to the website. The supply of other documentation was ongoing.

17.221. WARTON CRAG NATURE RESERVE: The clerk reported that no further volunteers had come forward although a future article in the Parish Magazine may result in other interested village residents expressing an interest.

17.222. WARTON AND MILLHEAD SPEEDWATCH SCHEME: The clerk reported that no further volunteers had come forward.

17.223. MILL LANE FOOTPATH: Nothing further to report.

17.224. KEERBRIDGE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT: The clerk reported that the initial offer of £10,000 for the purchase of the parish council land from L & W Wilson (Endmoor) Ltd had been refused and a increased demand of £20,000 had been submitted. A reply was awaited.

17.225. REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATH: The clerk reported that a wreath had been purchased and forwarded to Councillor Clough.

17.226. CPRE MEMBERSHIP: Members agreed that the membership of the CPRE should be continued for the 2017/2018 year.

17.227. PARISH COUNCIL CHRISTMAS TREES: Members agreed that Christmas Trees be purchased for erection on the Weir and as part of the St Oswald's Church Christmas Tree Festival. Councillor Mrs Simmonds agreed to source the Weir tree but warned that it was likely that the cost would be more than that for last Christmas.

17.228. WARTON BOWLING CLUB DONATION: Members considered a request for a donation from Warton Bowling Club but agreed that more information on past expenditure and the proposed use of any donation be sought prior to a decision being made.

17.229. ROYAL AIR FORCE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS: Members agreed to consider ideas to commemorate the centenary. Councillor Peacock agreed to contact Archbishop Hutton's Primary School to suggest involvement of the children in a possible project.

7.230. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i) Councillor Mrs Barker reported that a vehicle was being parked on the footway in Borwick Lane near to Chapel Walk forcing pedestrians to walk in the roadway to pass. This was particularly worrying because children on route to Archbishop Hutton's Primary School were being put at risk. ii) Councillor Clough reported that several cases of vandalism to St Oswald's Church, the village hall and Archbishop Hutton's Primary School had been reported, It was alleged that a group of young people from Carnforth may be responsible iii) Councillor Peacock reported that clearance of scrub and vegetation in the Small Quarry car park would be undertaken by the mountaineering club. iv) Councillor Peacock reported that there were several cases of vehicles parked on house drives in Main Street that protruded onto the footway causing inconvenience and danger to pedestrians v) Councillor Peacock reported that grants were available to finance tourism initiatives that could possibly be used to upgrade the public toilet or the Mill Lane footway between Millhead and Warton. vi) Councillor Peacock reported that an outbuilding adjacent to Archbishop Hutton's Primary School currently in a state of disrepair could be developed as a tourist information centre.

17.231. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Members agreed that the next meeting of the Warton Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 12th December 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Warton.

Items for inclusion in the Agenda to be notified to the clerk by Monday 4th December 2017.

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

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