

**MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in the Village Hall, Warton.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors K Briggs (Chairman), D Clough, Mrs J Cody, A Hilling, C Peacock and Mrs L Simmonds.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs D Longman and W Muckle, County Councillor Mrs P Williamson and District Councillor A Duggan.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest from Councillors concerning the items on the agenda of the meeting.

**19.277. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 having been previously circulated be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings at those meetings and be signed as such by the chairman subject to at Public Participation item 5 of the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 meeting 14 Main Street be amended to 13 Main Street and item 19/275 para 3 of the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 meeting 4-0 be amended to 3-0 with reference to Councillor Muckle deleted.

**19.278. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS NOT COVERED BY OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:** The clerk reported that i) he had invited Belinda Barclay, Local Nature Reserve Warden to the meeting scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and was awaiting confirmation of acceptance ii) the new notice boards had been assembled and erected in position at Coach Road and Sand Land, Warton and at Millhead iii) notification had been received that the section 137 donation limit calculator had been increased by 20p per elector from £8.12 to £8.32 iv) the Warton Parish Council Christmas tree for inclusion in the St Oswalds Festival of Christmas Trees had been purchased and erected by Councillor Clough v) an invitation had been received to take part in the VE Celebrations planned for May 2020. Members deferred discussion to the January 2020 meeting vi) a letter of thanks for the parish council donation to the Village Hall had been received vii) the Millhead bus shelter had been vandalised with 1 window panel and 3 seats pulled from their support, but after attention from the parish lengthsman the shelter had been made safe for use viii) emails covering other matters had been forwarded to members for their consideration on receipt.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

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

Obstruction of the Highway –Greendale Drive/Hazelmount Avenue – members were informed that on advice from the police the owner of the boat involved had agreed to move it onto the drive of his property.

The clerk reported that he had received an email complaining about pavement parking and obstruction of access. Members agreed that the instances of inconsiderate parking around the Methodist Church be investigated and that although legislation to control such action was not currently available it may be possible to arrange a voluntary agreement.

**THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING**

**19.279. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON:** County Councillor Mrs Williamson was unable to attend the meeting because of a prior engagement and had advised the clerk that she had no items to report but was available to give any assistance required.

**19.280. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR A DUGGAN:** District Councillor Duggan was unable to attend the meeting because of a prior engagement and had advised the clerk that he had no items to report, but was available to give any assistance required.

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

**19.282. PLANNING MATTERS: a)** There were no planning applications that required consideration.

b) Members noted that current status of planning applications already received as follows:

17/00736/OUT – Reviewed 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 18/01603/FUL – Reviewed 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 18/01589/REM – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00003/FEF – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/0012/REF – reviewed 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00563/VCN – Reviewed 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00795/LB – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Application permitted  
 19/0098/TPO – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/01054/FUL – Reviewed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 meeting – Application permitted  
 19/00020/FUL – Reviewed 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/00034/REF – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision  
 19/01390/OUT – Reviewed 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 meeting – Awaiting decision

**19.283. FINANCE:** a) Members noted the financial summary for November 2019

Opening Balance	Current Account	13780.62	
	Village Improvement Account	12151.69	
	Investment Account	8058.47	
	Playground Account	4519.11	
	E & R Wilson Fund	<u>67.30</u>	<u>38577.19</u>
Receipts			
26.11.19	E & R Wilson Fund Income		<u>1560.60</u>
			40137.79
Payments			
05.11.19	Lancaster C.C. – Election charge		288.00

05.11.19	Warton Village Hall – Donation	800.00	
05.11.19	Tom Oliver – Toilet Work October	76.50	
05.11.19	Astarte Web Design – Web Hosting Charge	125.00	
05.11.19	J W Ball – Safety Warning Tape	59.94	
05.11.19	P Doey – Parish Lengthsman	488.19	
06.11.19	J W Ball – Salary	370.26	
19.11.19	Warton Village Hall – Donation	<u>1000.00</u>	<u>3207.89</u>
			36929.90
	Closing Balance		
		Current Account	10572.73
		Village Improv Acc	12151.69
		Investment Account	8058.47
		Playground Account	4519.11
		E & R Wilson Fund	<u>1627.90</u>
			<u>36929.90</u>

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

GDM Home Property Maintenance – Toilet Repairs - £560.00 – 2051  
 K Barrett & Sons – Notice Boards - £594.00 – 2052  
 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work - £90.00 – 2053  
 J W Ball – AAT membership - £83.00 – 2055 (subject to approval at item 30)  
 J W Ball – Expenses 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 - £209.40 – 2056  
 AONB – Annual Subscription - £925.00 – 2057  
 D Clough – Christmas Tree - £19.99 – 2058

Members agreed that payment of £1213.48 (cheque no 2054) to the George Washington Hotel be delayed pending checks of water usage and the cartilage of the toilet block.

c) Parish Council Precepting 2020/2021

The clerk reported that he had received notification from Lancaster City Council that the application for receipt of the precept for the 2020/2021 financial year was required. Should members require inclusion of items in the precept calculation the clerk requested they notify him accordingly. Members agreed to consider the proposed level of precept at the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 meeting of the parish council.

**19.284. PUBLIC TOILETS:** Councillor Clough reported that work to upgrade the toilets had been completed to a high standard.

**19.285. SPARROW PARK:** Members requested that Councillor Clough remove the Silent Soldier from the park and place in storage until next required.

**19.286. ELIZABETH AND RICHARD WILSON CHARITABLE FUND:** The clerk reported that a payment of £1,560.60 had been received from the Fund Trustees being 10% of the investment interest received during the financial year ended 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019. A total of £1627.90 was now available for the payment of grants to applicants. At present 1 application for a grant had been received.

**19.287. THE WEIR CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND:** The clerk reported that the wood chip segments had been removed from the sandpit but the non slip tape had not yet been applied to the cattle grid because of inclement weather conditions. No further information was available from Zurich Municipal concerning the pending compensation claim.

**19.288. PARISH LENGTHSMAN:** The clerk reported that the parish lengthsman continued his work around the village including the emergency repairs to the vandalised Millhead bus shelter.

**19.289. SPEED DETECTION DEVICES:** Councillor Clough reported that a combination of low levels of sunlight for battery charging and high volumes of passing traffic had resulted in the Borwick Lane device shutting down, Councillor Clough would arrange for the solar unit to be re-directed to increase the battery charging function. The Mill Lane, Millhead unit was operational.

**19.290. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN:** Councillor Clough reported that the updated plan had been agreed by Lancaster City and was ready for use if required.

**19.291. REGISTRATION OF WARTON PARISH COUNCIL LAND WITH THE LAND REGISTRY:** The clerk reported that the Statements of Truth for both the outstanding parcels of land had now been signed by Councillors Briggs and Clough and would be forwarded to Mr Foreman of Ratcliffe and Bibby for his action.

**19.292. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE:** The clerk reported that changes to the website were in hand.

**19.293. WARTON AND MILLHEAD COMMUNITY ROADWATCH SCHEME:** Nothing further to report.

**19.294. MILL LANE FOOTPATH:** Nothing further to report.

**19.295. COMMUNITY CHAMPION VOLUNTEER PROJECT:** The clerk reported that arrangements to join the project were in hand.

**19.296. DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS RELATED TO PLANNING APPLICATION 15/00847/OUT:** Members discussed options available and agreed that the clerk contact Lancashire County Council to gain assurance that the funding available for the provision of a bus shelter was secure and would not be diverted to another project and to once again state their disappointment at the decisions taken without adequate consultation with the parish council, particularly as County Councillor Mrs Williams had arranged for a road safety signage to be erected on Mill Lane by the Speed Management Group.

**19.297. SALE OF PART OF THE LITTLE WEIR:** The clerk reported that he had emailed Byron Wilson of Wilson Properties Limited to inform him that members had decided not to sell the portion of land requested. A response was awaited.

**19.298. ENGLAND COASTAL PATHWAY – WARTON SALTMARSHES:** The clerk reported that he had been informed that the Ramblers Association would be objecting to the proposals put forward by Natural England concerning the erection of fences when the proposals were published for consultation.

**19.299. OPEN SPACES SOCIETY DONATION:** Members agreed not to make a donation at the present time.

**19.300. LUNE VALLEY RURAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION GROUND MAINTENANCE**

**CONTRACT:** Members agreed not to express an interest in bidding for the contract to provide grounds maintenance for the association.

**19.301. FLOODING:** Members agreed to keep the matter under consideration at future meetings until resolved.

**19.302. SMALL QUARRY POTHOLE REPAIRS:** The clerk reported that the work had been completed. Councillor Clough reported that a site visit would be arranged to decide the extent of work required to improve car parking facilities.

**19.303. CLERKS ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

Members agreed that the fee of £83.00 be paid by the parish council.

**19.304. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS:** i) Councillor Peacock reported that road works at the junction of Sand Lane and Mill Lane and in Millhead were causing difficulties for residents wishing to use Carnforth bound buses with no obvious arrangements for temporary bus stops ii) Councillor Briggs reported that an unofficial sign stating 'Children Playing' was causing confusion for vehicle drivers as it did not appear to be an official sign iii) Councillor Briggs reported that the public footpath near to the allotments was difficult to use in wet weather and needed maintenance.

**19.305. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no further business the chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.10pm arranging the next meeting for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Warton.

Items for inclusion in the Agenda for the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 Meeting to be notified to the clerk by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes subject to agreement at the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.