

MINUTES OF THE WARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th September 2023 in the Village Hall Warton.

PRESENT: Councillors K Briggs, F Senior and Mrs L Simmonds.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J W Ball – Clerk to Warton Parish Council, County Councillor Mrs P Williamson, District Councillor Mrs S Tyldesley and Mr P Hardcastle-Warton Flood Action Group.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Hilling and Lee.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest in relation to items covered by the agenda.

23.147. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th July 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.

23.148. REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING MATTERS IN PROGRESS NOT COVERED BY OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: The clerk reported that: i. A function had been held in the Small Quarry involving the placement of tables and chairs. No further information was available concerning earlier action by Lancaster City Council enforcement officers.

ii. Action was necessary to attend to a possibly dangerous tree behind a property owned by Dr Kopcke. The tree was the responsibility of the parish council and efforts were ongoing to arrange a visit from a tree surgeon.

iii. The clean up of the Small Quarry area had been completed by the village scout group.

iv. Information on available local facilities had been provided for inclusion in the Lancaster City Council update of the Sustainable Settlement Review.

v. A request for information on suitable sites in the parish for future tree planting had been received from Lancaster City Council.

vi. Martin Elliot – Access Representative for the British Mountaineering Council – Arnsdale and Silverdale area had contacted the clerk to review the local climbing information held by the parish council.

viii. Morecambe Town Council had been awarded a contract from Lancaster City Council for weed control in the parish and had requested access to water for use in weed killer concentrate. No action taken as the work had already been carried out in Warton and Millhead.

viii. An invitation to take part in the Lancashire County Council Local Delivery Scheme during the coming year had been received. Members instructed the clerk to contact Lancashire County Council with agreement to take part in the scheme.

ix. Details of funding available under the Community Ownership Fund had been received.

x. Information on land registration was awaited from Land Registry.

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

The clerk reported that he had received a complaint on behalf of residents of Borwick Close and Well Lane that grass cutting as agreed by the parish council and Lancaster City Council had not been carried out. The clerk reported that the grass had now been cut, the work having been delayed because of machinery problems.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

23.149. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS P WILLIAMSON: County Councillor Mrs Williamson reported that contractors had now been appointed to carry out re-surfacing work on the A6 roundabouts in the parish.

County Councillor Mrs Williamson was thanked for her report and continued support.

23.150. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS S TYLDESLEY: District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley reported that she had approached Lancaster City Council officers requesting a decision on funding availability for the Warton Public Toilet. The clerk reported that he had received information that a financial contribution would be made but a decision on the level of funding to be provided was still awaited from accountants.

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

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

23.152. PLANNING MATTERS: a) The following application had been received for review and comments by members and decisions on proposed actions were agreed.

23/00642/FUL – Erection of a single storey side and rear extensions for Mr & Mrs G Ogden, 153 Main Street, Warton – No objection raised.

23/00849/FUL – Erection of a dormer extension to the front elevation for Miss I Brown, 2 The Croft, Croftlands, Warton – Objection already lodged.

23/00837/FUL - Retention and relocation of solar panels, installation of replacement windows, doors, rooflights, new casement windows, construction of car port and associated landscaping for Mr C Atherton & Mrs E Berry, 78 Main Street, Warton – No objection raised.

23/00838/LB – Listed building application for works to partition walls, removal of fireplace/timbers/panelling/glazed canopy/section of first floor ceiling/internal stair/render, repairs to external stone and render, lime plastering, alterations to openings, replacement of external/internal windows and doors, new casement windows, restoration/repainting of existing windows, renewal/relocation of internal stair, installation of internal timber steps, glass balustrade, internal SVP, installation of replacement roof lights/rainwater goods, repair to roofing/chimney, retention and relocation of solar panels, construction of replacement front porch, demolition of boundary wall and raising of existing boundary wall for Mr C Atherton & Mrs E Berry, 78 Main Street, Warton – No objection raised.

23/00326/LB – Listed building application for the construction of a new stone boundary wall for Mr William Prew, 90 Main Street, Warton – No objection raised

Payments	
04.07.23 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work June	135.50
04.07.23 Gary Marsh – Internal Audit Fee	100.00
06.07.23 J W Ball – Salary	385.17
07.07.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity	36.40
05.08.23 Npower – Toilet Electricity	37.00
06.08.23 J W Ball - Salary	385.17
07.08.23 Tom Oliver – Toilet Work July	<u>152.50</u>
41070.83	<u>1231.74</u>

Closing Balance Current Account 39839.09

Closing Balances – All Accounts

Current Account	39839.09
Village Improvement Account	12481.19
Investment Account	8058.47
Playground Account	4536.23
E&R Wilson Fund Account	<u>96.80</u>
	<u>65011.78</u>

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

Thomas Oliver – Toilet Work August - £137.50 - 2308

Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd – Toilet Consumables - £191.81 - 2309

c) Review of Internet Business Banking Systems

Nothing further to report.

d) AGAR

The clerk reported that the Period of Public Rights for inspection of the AGAR papers had ended on Friday 11th August 2023. No requests from the public had been received.

23.154. LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MAIN STREET TRAFFIC PROPOSALS: The clerk reported that the proposals would be formally advertised in the Lancaster Guardian and other local papers and Lancashire County Council Website on 14th September 2023. He had been assured that those residents directly affected by the proposals would be notified.

23.155. EVOLIS SPEED RECORDING EQUIPMENT: The clerk reported that a further Main Street site had been identified as being possibly suitable for the proposed Main Street (North end) unit and details had been submitted for approval by Lancashire County Council Engineers.

23.156. SPEEDING TRAFFIC: The clerk reported that the problem had been referred to the Road Safety Partnership and Police. Because of unsociable behaviour incidents the police had agreed to add Quarry Car Park and Crag Road to their patrol plan. Councillor Mrs Simmonds requested that Lancashire County Council Highways be asked to consider the erection of warning signs on the parts of Main Street without footways.

23.157. WARTON STOCK CAR CLUB: The clerk reported that a response had not been received to the complaint of speeding traffic through the village. Councillor Lee suggested that consideration be given to the erection of signs advertising those attending the meetings should not use routes through Warton and other villages, but via Carnforth only.

23.158. WARTON MIRES PROJECT: The clerk reported that Lancashire County Council had applied for funding from the Environment Agency for the planned work to clear the

blocked catch pit and drainage pipe. A decision was expected during October 2023. Mr Hardcastle reported that flooding of Gardner Road during the period of heavy rain in July had been avoided by releasing the catch pit cover and allowing the excess water to flow onto the surrounding land. The next meeting of the Mires Sub-Group was scheduled for Monday 2nd October 2023.

23.159. TRANSFER OF WARTON FLOOD ACTION GROUP ASSETS TO WARTON

PARISH COUNCIL: Members considered the transfer to Warton Parish Council of ownership of the assets of Warton Flood Action Group. Members agreed that the clerk contact Zurich Municipal Insurance as Warton Parish Council insurers for a view on the likely changes to the policy if those assets become the responsibility of the parish council.

23.160. CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND ACCIDENT: The clerk reported that he had been unable to obtain advice from Lancaster City Council officers. Members considered the possible actions required to safeguard the young people using the sand pit in the future and agreed that the following options be considered:

- i. Closure of the sand pit.
- ii. Closure of the sand pit and replacement with other play equipment.
- iii. Continue operation of the sand pit with regular safety inspections.

Councillor Mrs Simmonds agreed to circulate village residents requesting views on the future operation of the sand pit.

23.161. PUBLIC TOILETS: The clerk reported that he had received confirmation from Lancaster City Council that a financial contribution would be available for the 2023/2024 financial year, the level of funding yet to be decided. Members agreed to review the position at the next meeting of the parish council scheduled for 3rd October 2023.

23.162. WARTON PARISH COUNCIL CASUAL VACANCY: Members instructed the clerk to start procedure for the filling of the Warton Ward councillor vacancy caused by the resignation of Councillor Clough.

23.163. THE WEIR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: Members discussed the provision of Christmas Lights as in previous years and agreed to continue the display. Members agreed to consider the extension of the lights if possible with £150 maximum expenditure.

23.164. NATURAL ENGLAND CL45 SALTMARSHES WORKS: Members considered the proposed work on the Saltmarshes as part of the Coastal Pathway and agreed to take no action at present. The situation to be kept under review.

23.165. WAR MEMORIAL WEBSITE APPEAL: Members agreed that the Warton War Memorial was the responsibility of St Oswalds Church and no further action was required.

23.166. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS: i. Councillor Mrs Simmonds reported that the Village Hall Management Committee were prepared to assume responsibility for the Warton Emergency Plan.

ii. Councillor Briggs reported that the public footpath to the allotments and Senset Well needed clearing of nettles.

iii. Councillor Briggs reported that the grassed area in Croftlands needed cutting.

iv. Councillor Briggs reported that the land at the junction of Borwick Land and Chapel Lane needed tidying.

23.167. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members, County Councillor Mrs Williamson and District Councillor Mrs Tyldesley for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 9.00pm. Members agreed that the next meeting of Warton Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 in the Village Hall. Items for inclusion on the agenda should be notified to the clerk by Monday 25th September 2023.

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

Minutes subject to agreement at the 3rd October 2023 meeting of the Warton Parish Council.