

ULNES WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD 14 FEBRUARY 2005

In Attendance:

Cllr D Ormerod (Chairman), Cllr Mrs D Todd, Cllr Mrs E Doran, Cllr P Mortimer and Cllr D Williams

Also Present:

Mrs L Rowett (Clerk)

17/05 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Ascroft who was away on a weekend break.

18/05 Declaration of Interest

Members were asked to consider any personal/prejudicial interests they may have to disclose in respect of any matters under consideration at the meeting. Cllr Mrs Doran declared an interest in the planning item concerning The Holmstead Holker Lane. The Clerk also declared an associated interest in the item relating to the Old School.

19/05 The Old School

John McKie (the Secretary of the Trustees) briefed Members on the implications for the Old School as a result of the recently received grant from the Lancashire Environmental Fund of £4650 to carry out a feasibility study. Architects will be engaged to assess the condition of the building. Two consultation events will be held to ascertain local feeling about the future use of the building.

It was agreed that the Trustees should be congratulated on receiving the grant and the consultation days be advertised through the newsletter.

20/05 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of a meeting held on 10 January 2005 were accepted and signed as a true record.

21/05 Matters Arising on the Minutes (not elsewhere on the agenda)

a) Prison Issues (Item 05/05d)

The Prison Authority had was nothing further to report

b) New Lane Area (Item 05/05e)

The Clerk had met with Mr Gilson and the board now erected.

c) Dog Nuisance (Item 05/05f and 13/05c)

The matters had been reported to the Borough and it had been pointed out that the promised dog waste bin had not materialised, but there had been no reply.

d) Prison Liaison Panel (Item 186/04)

A letter had been sent to the Borough Council but there had been no reply.

e) Quality of Service/Value for Money Offered by Principal Authorities (Item 07/05)

Due to the full agenda this item is deferred to the next meeting.

f) Cyclists (Item 13/05b)

The matter of the cyclists without lights had been reported to the Police Officer.

22/05 QP Investment Fund

The bid to fund equipment has been successful and the full amount requested of £7950 had been awarded.

The Clerk briefed on the plans for spending the grant. The display boards and laminating equipment had been ordered. The notice board was presenting a problem, it was suggested that a local wood turner be contacted.

23/05 Glover Close Development

a) Planning Application

Cllr Williams briefed on the recent meeting between the residents and representatives of Chorley Borough Council and Wyre Housing. As a result of the discussions and the letter sent by the Parish Council the high fencing had been removed and parking provision improved.

It was noted that the development was subject to Section 106 criteria and it was important to establish what the implications were for this.

It was suggested that the Parish Council needed to look at the parking facilities on the estate in general. Perhaps it might be appropriate, if the residents were willing to partake, to consider an addendum to the Parish Plan covering issues on the estate.

There was a need to establish who is responsible for maintaining the various areas of the estate and to discuss the matter in more detail at a future Parish Council meeting.

b) Lettings Policy

The Parish Council had been requested to have some input to the lettings policy. It was agreed that the model supplied by Wyre Housing was suitable but it was essential that existing residents of Ulnes Walton should have priority.

24/05 Multi User Track

The Clerk briefed on recent progress. It was anticipated that Nigel Locke from the Prison Authority would be visiting the area in March so the project could be discussed in more detail with him and representatives from Lancashire County Council.

Papers had been logged with the Worden Estate Land Agent in November but there had been no progress.

25/05 Boundary Signs

South Ribble Borough Council had been unwilling to issue a licence for the signs as it appeared that Lancashire County Council were unaware of the fact that it was intended to manufacture them from wrought iron – which was not the case as the Clerk had a letter from the County Council confirming the location and design were suitable. The issue was now at stalemate and it was agreed that if necessary Cllr Anne Brown be contacted for assistance.

26/05 Website

Cllr Williams briefed on proposals for upgrading the website. He had intended to complete a full revamp of the site, however following receipt of many favourable comments it was agreed that it should be left in its present format for the time being with some minor changes.

It was important that the Privacy Policy and Disclaimer are loaded onto the site.

It was further suggested that local business listings could be included, but it was agreed this should be a matter for discussion on the next agenda.

Members also noted the content of a letter received from Charnock Richard Parish Council asking for advice on the management of a website. It was agreed that the Clerk should respond answering the questions raised, but it was felt important not to become too involved.

27/05 Bin Collection

Discussion took place on the proposed fortnightly collection of waste bins. It was agreed that a watching brief be kept on the situation and it be reviewed after a few weeks.

28/05 The Green Centre

Cllr Ormerod will brief on recent developments at the Green Centre and the implications for the Parish Council. Funding bids to secure the future of the Centre had failed to materialise and they were now in a running down period and would probably close in July. It was felt important for the Parish Council to keep a watching brief on future developments.

29/05 Chorley Borough Council Spending Plans 2005/06

Members considered the consultation document prepared by Chorley Borough Council on proposed spending plans for 2005/06. Broad agreement was felt that the proposals were acceptable and that in particular the decision to spend extra money on the Planning Section was applauded. However it was felt disappointing that the increase in expenditure was mainly directed at the urban rather than rural areas.

Further discussion on individual spending areas would take place at the next meeting.

30/05 Feedback

- a) Cllrs Ormerod and Williams briefed on the recent Parish/Borough Liaison Meeting. It was felt to have been somewhat disappointing as the presentations highlighted improvements to the urban scene rather than rural issues and concern had been expressed by a number of parishes about the condescending attitude adopted by the Borough.
- b) Cllr Ormerod briefed on the recent LAPTIC Area Committee, the bulk of which was taken up by appointments to outside bodies and there was little else to note.

31/05 Parish Plan Implementation

- a) Twinning

Emails had been sent to contacts in both Norway and Denmark but there had been no reply.

It was noted that St James School had expressed an interest in the twinning arrangement.

- b) Action for Ulnes Walton is intending to apply for Heritage Lottery Fund to embark on a wild flower and bee project. A provisional date had been set for the 2 July to hold a 'Bee Awareness' day, with activities associated with bees, honey etc.

32/05 Planning

Cllr Mrs Doran declared an interest in this item and left the room

- a) New Application - Removal of an agricultural occupancy restriction on The Homestead Holker Lane. The notion of the restriction was accepted and provided the accepted protocol had been followed for the sale of this type of property there were no objections.

b) Approval had been given to the construction of a conservatory to the rear of Pear Trees Barn.

33/05 Finance

Approval was given to the following items - L Rowett £113.82 - salary January; Inland Revenue £3.80 – clerks tax element; Neill Thompson £20 erection of notice board.

The content of the monitoring statement was noted in particular the amount of grants received during the year which had increased the spending power immensely.

34/05 Buckingham Palace Garden Party

An invitation has been received for Cllr and Mrs Ormerods names to be entered in a draw to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party. Members gave this approval.

35/05 Matters of Concern

a) Rubbish Ulmes Walton Lane

It was noted that a considerable amount of rubbish was strewn along Ulmes Walton Lane that needed picking.

b) Hedge Opposite Nixon's Lane

It was noted that despite South Ribble Borough being notified of the condition it still had not been cut.

c) Wymott Park

It was noted that a lot of the trees on the park had been damaged.

d) Transfer of Doctors

It was noted that a couple of residents had been requested to find alternative medical practitioners due to the pressures being put on the surgeries in Euxton as a result of the developments at Buckshaw, it was suggested they be advised to contact PALS the Chorley and South Ribble Primary Care Trust. However it was felt that the principle needed addressing and if the residents would care to write to the Parish Council it could be taken up on their behalf.

36/05 Borough Councillors Report

There were no Borough Councillors present.

P C Caroline Plumber was allowed to give her report. It was noted that several cyclists had been stopped on Ulmes Walton Lane for failing to use lights. It was agreed this should be noted in the next newsletter.

37/05 Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be convened for Monday 14 March 2005 at 7.30pm.

Signed Date.....