

ULNES WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 14 January 2008 at the Old School, Ulnes Walton Lane, Ulnes Walton @ 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr D Ormerod (in the Chair), Cllr E Doran, Cllr D Todd, Cllr D Williams, Cllr G Gill and Cllr B Pickthall

In Attendance: A Partington (Clerk), CBM C Plummer, and 4 Members of the Public

003/08 Former Chair of the Parish Council

The Parish Council observed a minutes silence to express its condolences re the bereavement of Mr Ted Homewood.

001/08 Apologies

None.

002/08 Declaration of Interest

Cllr E Doran declared a prejudicial interest in relation to agenda item 015/08 re Holker Lane passing places.

Cllr D Williams declared a personal interest in relation to agenda item 009/08 re 07/01343/AGR - Porters Farm, Holker Lane, as he stores his caravan at the site.

004/08 Minutes of Last Council Meeting

RESOLVED: Full Council Meeting minutes of 10 December 2007 were accepted as being an accurate record of the meeting with the exception of one amendment; agenda item 199/07 (i), second paragraph, first word 'the' to change to 'a'. The copy was amended by hand and the Chair signed the minutes on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Council agreed to adjourn the Parish Council Meeting to allow public participation.

005/08 Residents Surgery

No items were raised.

007/08 Borough Councillors Update

No items were raised.

008/08 Police Update

Crimes and incidents within the parish of Ulnes Walton for the period 01.12 to 31.12.07 were discussed. Incidents included a rape (two people have been arrested and forensics are currently being processed), a theft from a farm, a harassment issue and a road accident.

CBM Plummer reported that investigations have been made into a road accident that occurred on Ulnes Walton Lane on either 15 or 16.12.07 where remains of a car had been collected, but attempts to identify the vehicle have failed.

CBM Plummer suggested the introduction of PACT Meetings for the Ulnes Walton parish, to be held initially on a trial basis. Members welcomed the suggestion and felt this would align with responses received from residents on the parish plan questionnaire. The Meeting briefly discussed the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. It was suggested that the introduction of the PACT Meetings and heightening the awareness of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme within the parish could be the subject of a possible presentation at the 2008 AGM.

The Council agreed to re-convene the Parish Council Meeting to continue with Parish Council business.

006/08 Reports from Committees

Road Safety Group

Cllr Pickthall suggested that although he was in regular dialogue with the highways maintenance officer, it might facilitate the position if the Parish Council formally writes to a senior officer at Lancashire Highways with a list of road signage/repairs/improvements that remain outstanding and to request a timeframe on when they will be actioned. Cllr Pickthall to provide the Clerk with a list of outstanding items. Horse signs on Ulnes Walton Lane and signage on Moss Lane/Ulnes Walton Lane routing traffic away from the prisons/Wymott estate to the M6 motorway are also to be included on the list.

Parish Plan Steering Group

Cllr Pickthall reported that initiatives were progressing well. The Steering Group are to progress the production of a Village Information Leaflet that will incorporate community, well-being and welfare information. The funding for the leaflet will be drawn from the Steering Group grant funds. Cllr Pickthall

will report on progress with the Parish Plan publication at the next meeting.

009/08 Planning

Clerk reported that there were no new planning applications to consider. The following planning matters were noted for information.

07/01183/FUL - Longton Riding Club, Showground Moss Lane, Ulnes Walton

Members noted that planning permission was granted, but with a restriction that no illumination is permitted.

07/01343/AGR - Porters Farm, Holker Lane, Ulnes Walton

Members noted that this planning application has been withdrawn.

APP/D2320/C/07/2045877 – Site at Ash House Farm, Ulnes Walton Lane, Ulnes Walton

Members noted that the appeal was allowed and the enforcement notice is quashed.

010/08 Finance

010.1/08 Payments

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following payments. Cllr D Ormerod and Cllr D Todd inspected the invoices and signed the cheques on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr E Doran signed cheque # 271 and inspected the receipts in relation to this item.

Value	To	Description
£183.01	Clerk	Salary for December 2007
£51.48	Inland Revenue	Tax Deducted from AJP for December 2007
£22.79	Clerk	Reimbursements for December 2007
£88.10	D Todd	Printing of December 2007 Newsletter Reimbursements of Festive Refreshments Parish Plan: Printing for Community Well Being Day Leaflet Parish Plan: Reimbursements for Refreshments for Community Well Being Day
£8.58	E Doran	Reimbursements of Festive Refreshments Parish Plan: Reimbursements for Refreshments for Community Well Being Day
£39.81	L Rowett	Back Pay April 2007 to August 2007

010.02/08 Financial Monitoring Statement

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the monitoring statement for period ended 14.01.08 and the Chairman signed the copy on behalf of the Parish Council.

011/08 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received from 11.12.07 to 14.01.08 was tabled to the meeting. The Clerk summarised the salient pieces of mail. Members discussed the following specific pieces of correspondence:

- Communication from Lancashire County Council re progress on the Parish Charter Development. Members considered the communication and confirmed they wished to be involved in the focus groups to discuss locality working, consultation and communication/information. The Parish Council agreed in principle to become involved in the focus groups, but this would be dependant on Members availability and the level of involvement required. Clerk is to respond to LCC in this regard.
- Villages in Partnership AGM on 29 January 2008. Members considered the invitation and asked the Clerk to decline with thanks.

012/08 2008/09 Precept

The Chair confirmed that the Precept Working Party had met and reviewed the budget requirements in detail for 2008/09. Three budgets had been prepared, Budget A (Basic), Budget B (Middle of the Road), Budget C (Developmental). The Chair thanked the Clerk for the preparation and involvement into the process. The Parish Council considered all three budgets prepared for the financial year 2008/09. It was **RESOLVED** to accept Budget B (Middle of the Road) and set the precept at £5,306.08 (average Band D property = 20.34). The Clerk was requested to submit the necessary paperwork to CBC.

013/08 Ulnes Walton Trail

Cllr Ormerod updated members on the current status of the trail. The progression of the trail is currently in the hands of Margaret Whitmore (LCC) and Dominic Rigby (Lancashire Countryside Agency) and it is hoped that LCC will take over the ultimate responsibility of the trail in the future via a local concessionary agreement.

The laying of hardcore from the SITA site at Garth has been actioned on section 5 of the trail, but it

was disappointing to report that neither Pump House Lane nor Nixon Lane had been repaired. The work undertaken on section 5 of the trail has not met LCC standards and Margaret Whitmore is currently in direct contact with HMPS regarding this matter.

The Parish Council felt that an organisation such as Groundwork Trust who has professional project management skills, sources of funding and experience of supporting community projects should be considered to work in close relationship with LCC on the trail project. Cllr Ormerod will liaise with Margaret Whitmore in this regard.

The Wymott Park project was briefly discussed and suggested the matter would need to be included on the next agenda. Cllr Williams offered to lead the project.

S106 monies were briefly discussed. Both the trail and park projects have approximately £5K of S106 funds allocated. The Clerk was requested to establish the timeframes on the S106 monies and advise CBC that both initiatives are live projects.

014/08 Deer on Road, Ulnes Walton

The Clerk advised that a resident had reported the sighting of deer on Moss Lane/Ulnes Walton Lane and had suggested deer road warning signs be erected to pre-warn drivers. The Clerk had reported the matter to LCC Highways and a communication was received which Members considered. LCC Highways advised that unless there were repeated sightings of deer around the area, it was not normal practice to put signs up. Members requested the Clerk to respond and advise Highways that this was not an isolated incident. Clerk to also contact the Police Wildlife Liaison Officer to gain his opinion and views on the matter.

Cllr E Doran left the room at this stage of the meeting, having declared a prejudicial interest in relation to agenda item 015/08.

015/08 Holker Lane

The Chair summarised the current position in relation to the passing places and the alternative option put forward by LCC (plastic bollards at a cost of £700). Members confirmed that the Council did not feel that this was an acceptable call on Council funds. The Clerk to write to all properties on or backing onto Holker Lane to advise them of the current position and the alternative suggestion put forward by LCC and to ask for their views and comments.

Cllr E Doran returned to the meeting.

016/08 Planning Committee

RESOLVED: Members considered and approved the creation of a Planning Committee and agreed their terms of reference to be the consideration of planning applications/matters where the timeframe falls outside of normal Parish Council Meeting calendar dates. All Members of the Parish Council be Members of the Planning Committee, with a quorum of 3 Members. Responsibility to be delegated to the Planning Committee to respond to the relevant Planning Authority on behalf of the Parish Council for such matters considered. A Planning Meeting was scheduled for 21.01.07. Clerk to issue usual notices, agenda, papers, etc within prescribed timelines.

017/08 Twin Towing

Members considered an exchange of communications from Ulnes Parish of North Aurdal, Municipality in Valdres of the Oppland County in Norway. Members discussed the potential to extend contacts/relations going forward with the aim of potential Twin Towing. The Clerk was instructed to respond formally advising them of our interests and to create a portfolio of relevant material to send to them. A holding email communication is to be sent in the mean time. Clerk to investigate guidelines/regulations from advisory sources in relation to Twin Towing.

018/08 Parish Plan Steering Group

Members reviewed the composition of the Parish Plan Steering Group in terms of Parish Council representation and felt its current structure was a fair balance and therefore no changes were recommended.

019/08 LCC Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan

The Clerk was instructed to respond to the consultation document advising that the paper lacked consideration to issues such as local nuclear power stations at Heysham and Sellafield.

020/08 Consultation Documents

Members considered this matter and requested the Clerk to continue to bring forward consultation documents for the attention of the Parish Council and that each paper will be considered on its own merits. The Clerk advised that involvement with LCC in the development of the Parish Charter through the focus groups would be an ideal vehicle to raise comments concerning consultation and communication.

021/08 Parish Council Website

Cllr Williams advised that he would be formally relinquishing responsibility for the Parish Council's website with effect from the February 2008 parish council meeting. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Williams for his support and work over the past 5 years. Members briefly discussed the merits of the continuance of the website. The Clerk advised that a website is one of the mandatory criteria for the Quality Parish Council Scheme. Cllr Williams provided examples of how the website could be developed in the future eg discussion board, consultation tool, directory for local business advertising (source of revenue). The Clerk agreed to undertake the maintenance of the website as it is currently structured ie. updating general information, uploading agendas, minutes and reports, etc.

022/08 Matters of Concern

Ulnes Walton Lane – Blocked Roadside Ditches

A member raised the issue of blocked roadside ditches on Ulnes Walton Lane. The matter had previously been raised and discussed at Council and advices received from Lancashire County Council indicated it was the landowner's duty to maintain and clean out ditches. The matter was requested to be included on the next agenda. The Clerk was asked to circulate any relevant copy correspondence in this regard.

Public Footpath (Ridley Lane)

A member requested this matter be included on the next agenda as the gate and stile was in disrepair and required attention.

Glover Close Litter Bin

A member requested this matter to be included on the next agenda to ascertain the frequency of when the bin is emptied, following recent resident complaints.

Water Drainage

A member requested this matter be included on the next agenda, as over the last couple of months the gullies/drains on the Moss Lane/Ulnes Walton Lane junction are not coping with recent high rainfall, which is resulting in the road being flooded.

Chairmanship of Parish Council

The Chair reminded Members that his term of office as Chairman would come to a conclusion in May 2008 and he would not be available for re-election and asked Members to give the matter thought.

023/08 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 11 February 2008, commencing at 7.30 pm at the Old School, Ulnes Walton Lane, Ulnes Walton.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed:

Dated: