

## Warburton Parish Council.

Minutes of meeting held in the Parish Rooms on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Mr Richard Clegg, Mr Richard Nicholls, Mr Mark Priestner, Mrs Clare Grace, Mrs Lucy Houghton, Mr Paul Beckmann, Mrs Gaye Fletcher

In attendance: Mrs Joanne Fogarty

Apologies: Cllr Sean Anstee, Cllr Dr Karen Barclay, Cllr Claire Churchill

As a result of the resignation of Mr Alec Austin, as reported previously, the Council needed to appoint a new chairman and a new councillor.

The Clerk chaired the beginning of the meeting. There were two proposals put forward.

1. Proposal. Mr Richard Nicholls be appointed Chairman of the Parish Council.

Proposed: Mr Mark Priestner. Seconded: Mrs Clare Grace

2. Proposal. Mr Paul Beckmann be co-opted as a full Council member (rather than just advising on planning matters)

Proposed: Mr Richard Clegg. Seconded: Mr Mark Priestner

Both proposals were put to the vote and passed unanimously. Mrs Clare Grace will continue in her role as Vice-chairman. The Parish Website will be updated accordingly. Mr Richard Nicholls thanked everyone for their confidence and took the chair.

Marion McNaughton had tendered her resignation from the Parish Council feeling that her role as HS2 spokesperson was almost complete. She had sent personal notes to all fellow councillors. She will still keep the Parish Council informed of any further news. Everyone met Marion's resignation with sadness, she had been a tremendous asset to the Parish Council. A letter of thanks would be sent.

### **Minutes.**

Minutes of meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> January and 24<sup>th</sup> February were duly approved by the Council.

### **Matters arising.**

Marion McNaughton had asked who was the person in charge of Climate Change at Trafford Council. We had learnt this was Nikki Shaw and Marion had been advised of this

### **Finance**

There is £9,614.18 in the bank. An invoice from Steven Abbott Associates for £240 had been received and the invoice from Killian Garvey for the first part of his fees (£6,000) would be paid once the invoice had been corrected.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

The first Steering Group meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February was good though disappointing that only two new people had attended. We will circulate an invitation to the village before the next one scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> March to get more input from residents. The NP has to be more democratic and involve residents though it was acknowledged that the PC might need to lead. E-mails will also be sent out to those people who have agreed that their e-mail addresses can be kept on file. Little Bollington's Neighbourhood Plan is good and due soon for final publication. Louise Kirkup from Kirkwells will assist in our grant application.

### **Redrow Developments**

Since the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February, the Council had learnt that there was a possibility of the enquiry being extended by a further 4 days. The costs quoted for the Barrister to be present for these extra days would be a further £5,000 + VAT, alternatively we could allow Mr Garvey to use his discretion as to which days he should attend on our behalf. Having no further available funds, the council had to accept the latter option.

It was reported that having leafleted the village asking for donations, we had received £930 so far, with pledges of £5,000 and two further enquiries asking for bank details to enable BACS donations. We have also launched a Justgiving page.

We would try and keep full attendance during the hearing, though some of the case would be more in the way of discussion round a table and it is not known if interested parties could be present. A Statement of Case needs to be produced by 10<sup>th</sup> March but it is uncertain who should present it. In view of Mr Garvey's holidays, Mr Paul Beckmann would compose a statement for it to be scrutinised prior to presentation by Mr Garvey on his return. With regard to expert witnesses, Mr Mike Nevell

has agreed to appear and would cap his fees at £700 +VAT. Mr Beckmann had been working on the Proof of Evidence and under the landscape character assessment he had noticed the Greater Manchester & Trafford Sensitivity Rating quoted was done in 2018 but there had been two other assessment guides since. Further, Trafford had challenged the worst case scenario but not described the height of buildings. In the Design and Access section a 2 and a half storey building would be 12M high, more than twice the height of any building in Warburton and would swamp Partington. The Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment devalues our historic heritage. The deer park is not designated even though it is of great importance as Warburton's listed buildings surround it. Dr.Jo Parmeter would be an ideal expert witness on ecology but her fees would be excessive. We will enquire how much it would be for her to do a desk top assessment. The further applications by Redrow Homes for two footpaths/cycleways from Site 1 and Site 2 into Partington are detailed under Planning Applications.

### **Correspondence.**

We have received updated costs from Kirkwells for help in preparing our Neighbourhood Plan. These costs would be met by a grant. We had written to Trafford advising we would not be requesting a precept for the financial year 2020/2021, before being advised of Redrow instigating their appeal. An invitation to Veolia UK to speak about waste and recycling was chased up as was our request to Trafford for footpath clearing. Cllr Claire Churchill had chased up Amey with regard to the footpath maintenance but had had no response. We would ask Cllr Sean Anstee if he can help. Also to see if the footpaths in Dunham Road can be cleared as the road is very dangerous for pedestrians. Mark Dale from Trafford has advised they are reviewing their CCTV coverage to cover hotspots for fly-tipping. They are also to check whether fly tipping gets worse after visits to the recycling tips are limited.

### **HS2**

The future of the Golborne Spur is looking more and more uncertain. The Secretary of State for Transport, Grant Shapps, told a group of MPs from this area that "the writing is on the wall for the Golborne Spur". Graham Brady thinks we are close to getting the Spur removed, though the details will have to be worked out with officials from Northern Powerhouse Rail; we may hear more by the summer.

An open letter to Grant Shapps was compiled at our suggestion, and approved by our Councillors, also Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Councillors and Croft Parish Councillors. It gave a concise explanation of the expected costs of the spur, which probably amount to over £3billion, though it now serves no practical purpose. We focussed on cost because the government is trying to reduce the costs of HS2 where possible. Copies of the letter were also sent to the Chancellor, the new HS2 Minister, Andrew Stephenson, local MPs, Leaders of Trafford and Warrington Council and local media. The Warrington Guardian published the letter in its entirety.

Chris Packham claims there would need to be two new power stations built to run this new line.

**Planning Applications.** 99736/HHA/19 Application to build rear single storey extension. We would be guided by Trafford Conservation officers as this property is in a conservation area. Two Planning Applications in Partington were noted 100109/FUL/20 for 156 dwellings on Land off Hall Lane, and 100110/RES/20 for 299 dwellings on Land adjoining the Manchester Ship Canal off Lock Lane and Thirlmere Road. These applications would be challenged on the grounds of traffic congestion, not enough primary school places, over subscribed doctor's surgeries, no eating places and inferior public transport. Further applications had been submitted for a Footpath/cycleway No. 100093/FUL/20 from land east of Warburton Lane in Warburton into Partington and another under No. 100074/FUL/20 from land west of Warburton Lane in Warburton into Partington. These applications would be challenged because, while the first one would involve a bridge over Red Brook, the height of the bridge at 2 metres would not allow sufficient room underneath to cover the amount of water which floods onto either side of the brook. Furthermore the steps needed at the Partington side, could not allow this route to be called a cycleway and would be impossible for people with prams, wheelchairs or mobility scooters to use. The land on to which the bridge would end on the Partington side is owned by a 3rd party and there would be no control. The second application for a footpath/cycleway, on the west side of Warburton Lane, would cut through Coroner's Wood, part of which is listed as Ancient Woodland. Totally inappropriate. Trafford would be advised of these facts.

### **Cross Base.**

Elisabeth Lewis and Tony Pearson met Andrew Partington from Stone Central, a company recommended by Trafford, to discuss how we should approach repair of the cross base. A quotation of £12,956.25 from Stone Central for renovation work had been received. We discussed doing the

work ourselves but we will also be approaching two other firms for comparative prices to comply with our Standing Orders. The Council is looking into bodies that might offer grants to cover this work.

#### **Open Meeting**

Mrs Clare Grace has booked the Parish Rooms for 7.30pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. She has asked the Chairman to speak and invited a PCSO to talk about security. There are a few communities in the village with WattsApp groups and this could possibly be merged into a Warburton Village Group one. The idea is to promote a Neighbourhood Watch type scheme to keep the village safe. There would need to be co-ordinators to communicate.

#### **Climate Change Emergency and Threat of Flooding**

We have more information from Robert Reid, Tree Unit Manager from Trafford Council. Sites are being sought to plant trees obtained by Trafford Council in partnership with The City of Trees.

#### **Trafford Council Boundary Review**

At the information event held by Trafford we learnt that Trafford Council's electoral boundaries have not been reviewed since 2003. The Electoral Review determines the total number of councillors, total number of wards, ward boundaries, number of councillors elected to each ward and the names of each ward. The consultation on warding patterns will take place between 25<sup>th</sup> August and 2<sup>nd</sup> November and the consultation on draft recommendations will run from 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 until 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021. However, the inference was that there was no need to change in Trafford.

#### **Defibrillator**

Mrs Clare Grace will take over the project to install a defibrillator in the village.

#### **Vehicle Accident Log**

Debris from a vehicle had been seen in Townfield Lane and this would be added to the Vehicle Accident Log. As it was only minor it was suggested that each incident would be listed as major or minor. The question was asked whether we should have an incident log for crime. There has been an incident where a brick was thrown through the window of a cottage.

#### **Any Points of Interest**

The Vernacular Archeological Group will be visiting Warburton on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

#### **Parish Magazine**

We will advertise for a new councillor, ask for suggestions of sites on public land to plant trees, advise of our Rule 6 status and the engagement of a Planning Barrister and thank people who have, or are planning to, donate.

#### **Dates of next meetings:**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Also Annual Meeting.

Minutes duly approved at Council Meeting.



Chairman's signature. Date 07/04/2020