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**MINUTES OF ELLEL ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN  
THE VILLAGE HALL, DOLPHINHOLME AT 19.15 MONDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2015**

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**Present:**

Councillors: Mr S Booth (Chairman), Mr J Greenwood (Vice Chair), Mr I Collinson, Mr M Helm, Mr M O'Riordan, Mark Blundell.

Others: Mr G Catterson (Clerk to the Council), 7 members of the public.

**138/14 APOLOGIES** – Mrs H Helme

**139/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllrs Booth, and Helm declared an interest in any item regarding the Village Hall.

**140/14 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes (previously circulated) of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 12 January 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**141/14 OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a) The Council were asked if the grit in the bin outside St Marks Church could be used for the church paths, Councillors explained that the grit in the bin was supplied by Lancashire County Council Highways and was only for use on the footpaths and the road junction. The bin had to be kept locked.
- b) The improvement to the notices, following complaints at the previous meeting, had been noted and appreciated. A question was raised as to whether it would be possible for Councillors to hold a surgery, perhaps on a market day, for residents of the Parish. The Council said that residents were welcome to come to Parish Council Meetings and raise their concerns in sessions such as the current one. The subject of communication between the Council and residents was discussed more widely and Councillors agreed to consider how they could better engage with residents.
- c) In answer to a question about the hedge alongside the playing fields and when this would be relayed the meeting was informed the work would start in approximately 2 weeks.
- d) The Clerk informed the meeting that he had received an email expressing concern regarding the excessive traffic speed on Highland Brow in Galgate. He relayed the contents of a series of emails between a concerned mother of two children and Lancashire County Council. The Councillors agreed with the concerns expressed and asked the Clerk to email the relevant person at Lancashire County Council to add pressure to resolve the situation. Councillor Helm also added that this issue highlighted the need for the completion of the upgraded footpath from Galgate to Leech House for those cycling to work at the University.

**142/14 POLICE** – No report had been received.

**143/14 PLANNING**

a) **Applications to consider**

1. **15/00028/FUL** - Erection of an agricultural building. Mr S Burrow, Cinder Hill Farm, Starbank, Ellel, Lancaster, Lancashire LA2 9AQ – no comment.
2. **15/00033/FUL** - Erection of a 2 storey rear extension and conversion of garage to office/gym. Mr & Mrs Armer, Latham House, Abbeystead Lane, Dolphinholme, Lancaster, Lancashire LA2 9AH – concern was expressed that there appeared to be little evidence of agricultural work being carried out and that it had been suggested to the Council that Mr & Mrs Armer were relocating their business to Latham House. The proposal was therefore thought to be a conversion of a garage for commercial office space. If this was the case the Council objected to the application on the grounds that it was not a suitable location for a business.
3. **14/01353/FUL** - Installation of x340 85kW Solar PV panels on two south-facing roofs. Mr Benjamin Berry, Lancaster House Hotel, Green Lane, Ellel, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 4GJ – no objection.
4. **15/00059/FUL** - Retrospective application for the erection of a single storey rear extension. Mr Kevin Clarke, 17 Stoney Lane, Galgate, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA2 0JY – no comment.

5. **15/00113/FUL** – Demolition of garage and utility room, erection of a new dwelling and re-positioning of existing access point. Mr & Mrs Prest, 9 Pennine View, Dolphinholme, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA2 9AW – the Council objected to the application on the grounds that it was “cramming” and not a suitable location for an additional property. In addition it would increase on-street parking in an area that was already of concern with respect to road safety.

b) **Other**

1. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) Consultation – the Council noted this consultation.
2. Meeting Housing Needs Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – the Council noted this consultation.

**144/14 FINANCE**

a) **To consider and authorise payment of the following accounts:-**

Mr G France – Salary January £72.00	G Catterson – Salary January £292.27
PAYE January - £91.20	G Catterson – Expenses £
British Gas - £279.37	EON - £224.87 + £82.56 (recreation rooms) DD
R J Solar – £6370.00	

**RESOLVED: That the Council agree payment of all the above accounts**

- b) The following income was noted:- Rhubarb News Advertising Fees this month £409.60
- c) The bank statements were checked and signed
- d) The PAYE Records were confirmed and signed by the Chairman

**145/14 Galgate Recreation Field Charges**

No progress had been made but Cllr Collinson agreed to discuss the matter with Cllr Mather and report back to the next meeting.

**146/14 Lease of Car Park at the Craft Centre, Galgate**

The Clerk declared an interest in this matter in that his daughter was a partner at BSG Solicitors. He reported that from his understanding of the correspondence on file, there was no point in pursuing the matter as a result of the tenant being uncooperative and the legal costs far exceeding any increase in rent. He offered to discuss the matter further (at no cost to the Council) with the solicitor handling the case at BSG and the Councillors accepted.

**147/14 Correspondence**

- a) New Regulation regarding electronic copies of Agenda – this was noted.
- b) Bowland Bulletin – this was noted.
- c) Assessment of Green Spaces – this was noted.
- d) Formal consultation on the County Council's Budget proposals for 2015/16 - 2017/18 – this was noted.
- e) Healthy Streets and 20mph Zones – this was noted.
- f) Lancashire County Council Parish Conference - 21st March 2015 – this was noted and Cllr Helm expressed an interest in attending.
- g) Three Tier Forum agenda – this was noted and Cllr Helm stated he would raise the issue of the unacceptable broadband service in Galgate.
- h) Consumer Alerts – this was noted and the Clerk stated he would post the document on the Parish Council's website.
- i) Environmental Services Playground Report, Dolphinholme – Cllr O’Riordan received the report and agreed to address the issues raised.

*The meeting closed at 20.40hrs*

**Date and time of next meeting – 9th MARCH 2015 –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
RECREATION ROOMS, GALGATE - 7.15PM**

Signed ..... Chairman      Dated .....