

## Farington Parish Council

### Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held at St Paul's Church Hall on Monday 12 August 2024 at 7.00pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Shaun Bradbury (Chairman); Councillor Baz Howard (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Phil Lawson; Councillor Karen Walton and Councillor Haydn Williams.

**In attendance:-** Sue Whittam – Clerk  
Richard Askew – Lancashire County Council  
Megan Hansan – Lancashire County Council  
PCSO Luke Walmsley – Lancashire Police  
PCSO Adam Heald – Lancashire Police  
36 members of the public

#### 43. (24/25) Apologies/Chairman's Health & Safety Announcements

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury welcomed everyone to this Extraordinary Parish Council meeting and briefed everyone on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury explained that this meeting had been organised to deal with a Consultation being carried out by Lancashire County Council on the Preston to Lostock Hall Sustainable Travel Corridor and improvements to the A582. He said that responses to the Consultation had to be submitted to Lancashire County Council by 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024 which was before the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council. The Parish Council felt it was important that the residents of the Parish had an opportunity to look at the plans and comment on the proposals. He asked for residents to indicate if they wished to speak and to give their name and address before commenting or asking a question. The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury welcomed Richard and Megan from Lancashire County Council to the meeting, he said that the Parish Council and residents appreciated them attending and bringing along the plans and paper copies of the surveys.

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury said that due to holidays, apologies for absence were received from Councillor Michael Green, Councillor Tony Green and Councillor Andreea Oprea. It had proved impossible to organise the meeting to enable everyone to attend.

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury then read out a statement that had been sent to the Parish Council by Councillor Michael Green.

“Apologies that I can't be present, due to this being a meeting which wasn't originally in the diary. In any event, I probably couldn't have taken part in any vote this evening, as I am a Cabinet Member at LCC and some of the proposals will come to the Cabinet for a final decision. In general terms, however, I welcome the consultation being carried out by LCC and how some of the proposals will bring

benefits to the residents of Farington. I look forward to hearing the views of fellow Parish Councillors and local residents on the proposals and any changes which could be made to improve them further. I remain fully committed to the full "South Ribble Western Distributor" (which includes the A582 and the B5253) being dualled in due course, as originally planned."

#### **44. (24/25) Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **45. (24/25) Adjournment for Public Participation**

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury adjourned the meeting for public participation.

Richard Askew explained that all the information relating to the Consultation was on the Lancashire County Council (LCC) website and said that if you searched for the A582 it would come up with the survey and the supporting proposed plans and documents. He said that there had been two drop-in events held recently at St Gerard's Parochial Centre and the Gujarat Hindu Society Temple which had been well attended. The plans would also be in Lostock Hall Library so residents could go along and look at the information there. Richard explained that the consultation was being carried out to shape the design. There were no current proposals for full dualling due to funding, but there was an opportunity to make some changes to the road layout to make improvements to benefit residents and all road users.

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury then opened the meeting to questions and comments from residents.

- Farington Road Tank Roundabout, major pinch point and the funding available will not be able to achieve a great deal.
- Lack of capacity is a major pinch point, need to get capacity into the scheme.
- Concerned about the disruption to roads/traffic while the construction is being done – needs to be phased to mitigate impact.
- What has happened to City Deal – thought funding was being provided through there.
- Concern re speeding on Croston Road, if there are speed bumps, they will just drive over them. Chicanes may be better.
- There is no alternative route for the Whitfires HGVs have they been consulted?
- Zebra Crossing on Croston Road, need to ensure it is in the right location.
- Zebra Crossing on Stanifield Lane needs to be included as this is something the Parish Council has provisionally allocated some funding towards in conjunction with South Ribble Borough Council.
- Concerns re filter lane and getting to St Catherine's Hospice as a lot of people who use the hospice are not familiar with the area. Has St Catherine's been consulted on the proposals?
- Concerns re double parking near the school and surrounding roads.

- Parish Council had previously discussed with LCC School Lane being one way to Coote Lane, they would like to see this happen.
- Concerns re double yellow lines and flashing lights on crossings.
- Has the new prison, increase in traffic using Farington Waste Recovery Plant and the new Model Farm that has recently received Planning Permission been taken into consideration with the modelling?
- Intelligent signalling welcomed; can these be changed for different peak flows etc so that vehicles can travel straight through later at night?
- Concerns about the impact of the new cricket pitches on traffic in the area.
- Clear signage is needed, consideration of “Merge in Turn” signs.
- In Europe they have rubber cones on white lines, could be a cheap effective use here.
- Desire to see the speeds on all local roads reduced.

Richard and Megan thanked the Parish Council and the residents for providing their comments and concerns and they asked if people could complete the survey with these suggestions and any additional ones before the deadline of 21<sup>st</sup> August.

The Chairman, Councillor Shaun Bradbury thanked everyone for attending and then reconvened the meeting.

#### **46. (24/25) Consultation on the Preston to Lostock Hall Sustainable Travel Corridor and improvements to the A582**

The Parish Council gave consideration to their response to the consultation, taking into account the comments raised by residents.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to make the following comments: -

Farington Parish Council welcome these proposals that aim to reduce congestion, help businesses move freight more efficiently, and make it easier and safer for people to travel, however they would wish to see the dualling of the A582 and the B5253 as originally planned, and they will continue to lobby for this to be achieved.

The Parish Council appreciated the Officers from Lancashire County Council attending the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 12<sup>th</sup> August which was arranged to discuss the proposals and listen to the comments raised by residents.

Although not part of this consultation, the Parish Council would like to see the reduction in speed limits in the areas in South Ribble, especially on the approaches to the newly configured junctions. Residents were concerned about double yellow lines and flashing lights on the crossings in particular on Croston Road, and the Parish Council supports the residents’ concerns. Consideration should be given to suitable traffic calming, although speed cushions are suggested, chicanes may be more appropriate as they are less noisy to local residents, due to cars and vehicles just travelling at speed over the bumps. Previously changing School Lane into one way to Coote Lane has been raised by the Parish Council and was discussed with the former County Councillor Keith Iddon (as Cabinet Member Highways) who attended a site visit with Officers and gave his support for the proposals. The Parish

Council would like this to be considered as part of the changes to the road safety measures in the area. Officers advised that as part of the modelling the increased use of Farington Waste Plant in relation to food waste disposal had been included in the traffic projections. They also advised that the new model farm that has just received Planning Permission from South Ribble Borough Council would have an effect on the modelling. Residents raised concerns at the meeting about the increase in traffic, so the Parish Council would like to ensure that the modelling takes into consideration the latest plans for the new model farm and also the potential new prison, which is awaiting a decision with the Secretary of State, at Ulnes Walton (close to HMP Garth and Wymott), which although is in Chorley Borough, it is recognised that all traffic will have to access the prison via Farington.

The proposed filter lane for St Catherine's Hospice needs further consideration as many people who visit are from outside the area. The Mill at St Catherine's relies heavily on people using their facilities. Please could you ensure that St Catherine's have been personally consulted on the proposals as the proposals may have a detrimental effect on their charity.

Likewise, Whitfires on Church Lane need to be consulted on the proposals, as they have large HGVs attending their site on a daily basis. There is no other access to the site so the HGVs cannot use an alternative route.

With regard to pedestrian crossings, the Parish Council welcomes the proposals for additional crossings. They have for some time been working closely with South Ribble Borough Council to install a crossing on Stanifield Lane close to Farington Park as the area is well used by families and children. The Parish Council would wish to see this crossing included as part of these proposals. They would also wish to see an additional crossing on Church Lane due to the frequency and size of the HGV's travelling to Whitfires as mentioned above.

The Parish Council welcomes the intelligent signals to deal with queues but would also welcome clear signage and "merge in turn" signs at the tank roundabout to deal with problems already encountered on the busy junction. There have been a number of accidents and near misses and the Parish Council is encouraging all residents to report these to help build up the data on this problematic junction. Can the signals be turned off during "off peak" times to keep the traffic moving?

The Parish Council would like to see minimum disruption to their residents when these works go ahead. The Parish Council understands that they are due to start in Spring 2026, and they would like to see a phased approach with full communication to residents so that people can continue with their daily work/lives without too much disruption.

## **Resolved**

- i) That the Clerk replies on behalf of the Parish Council to the consultation as presented above.
- ii) That a letter is sent to Paul Foster MP to seek his support to secure the funding to dual the A582 and B5253.

**47. (24/25) Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next scheduled Parish Council meeting would be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at Bashall Grove Community Centre, PR25 4JU.