

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30pm on Friday 2nd July 2010 at Parbold Women's Institute.

Before the meeting opened the Chairman asked members of the public present if they had any concerns to raise.

Resident Joan Sanders told the meeting that Mr Michael Hammond had asked her to speak on his behalf because he cannot be here tonight and she referred to written notes. Mr Hammond wants to point out that he had not been invited to attend the meeting last week and indeed, neither had Mrs Sanders been invited although both had been on the newly formed Alder Lane Sports and Leisure Support Association. The Clerk pointed out that she had not been given a list of members, so could not ensure that members were invited but also asked Council Members to check the addresses on the e-mailed agenda where it could clearly be seen that Michael Hammond had been issued the same agenda and invitation to attend as all of the parish councillors.

The Chairman pointed out that Mrs Sanders had been a full participant at the meeting and that it was simply not possible to rewrite history and the opportunity for free and open discussion had clearly been missed that evening.

Resident George Walker noticed the agenda item regarding a Multi-Use Games Area and wished to comment, in his opinion, this is putting the chicken before the egg and was the wrong way around. The site needs facilities for participants to get changed, toilets etc. As a Life President of a sporting organisation who may be interested in renting or leasing the area for up to seven days a week, he points out that without the proper facilities for our members this cannot be contemplated.

The Chairman explained that the ongoing costs of changing rooms coupled with the build costs make it out of reach for the parish council at the present time. However, the more modest costs of a MUGA could be accommodated and may satisfy tax-paying residents who wish to play tennis, five-a-side football, tennis, basketball, netball and even mini-cricket. The proposal was for a parish asset, not a facility that might satisfy a private tennis club.

Mr Walker explained that he was apprehensive that the Parish Council may make a decision tonight that commits parish funds to an unrealistic project.

Each of the two candidates who had applied for the parish council vacancy were then given the opportunity to introduce themselves and speak to the Parish Council.

1 To record apologies for absence

Present: Cllr Bailey (Chairman), Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mrs Butts, Cllr Mrs Blake, Cllr Mrs Raju, Cllr Rance, Cllr Mrs Wess

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Arnold & Cllr Mrs Harrhy

2 To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Mrs Butts - personal interest in village hall matters as Parish Council appointed observer to the PCA General Committee

Cllr Mrs Wess – personal interest in Youth Club matters; personal and prejudicial matters appertaining to Alder Lane Recreation and Leisure Support Association and a personal interest in the planning application 2010/0625/FUL

Cllr Bailey – personal interest in any items relating to his position as a member of West Lancashire Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Peter Lathom’s Charity Board of Trustees, Richard Durning Trust and WLBC Standards Board.

Cllr Rance – personal interest in matters relating to Parbold Youth Club & The Pear Tree.

Cllr Mrs Raju – personal and prejudicial interest in Alder Lane Recreation and Leisure Support Association and Planning application number 2010/0625/FUL

3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 4th June 2010

Resolution (25/10): Following amendment, the minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Butts, seconded by Cllr Bithell, four in favour, three abstentions.

4 Any Item of Urgent Business at the discretion of the Chairman

Due to timings of meetings, the Parish Council was asked to consider nominated persons to the WLBC Standards Board and select a preferred candidate.

Cllr Mrs Wess, nominated Jacky Citerella, seconded by Cllr Mrs Raju.

Cllr Mrs Blake nominated Margaret Edwards, seconded by Cllr Mrs Butts.

Jacky Citerella - 3 in favour

Margaret Edwards – 2 in favour

2 abstentions - one interest declared

Resolution (26/10): That the Clerk responds to WLBC that the Parbold Parish Council’s preferred candidate is Jacky Citerella

5 To ratify accounts and authorise payment

280610	David Secrett	Gardening & Cleaning	s.o.	£128.00
290610	E A Broad	Salary (June 2010)	s.o.	£ 660.74
300610	Sherwoods	Grasscutting (June 2010)	s.o.	£ 1,119.07*
280610	Yates Playgrounds	Inspections of play areas	2057	£68.15*
020710	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI for June 2010	2058	£88.39
020710	Michael Spooner	Painting – benches	2059	£300.00
020710	LALC	Cllrs Raju/Wess conference	2060	£66.00
020710	E A Broad	Reimbursement for ink Cartridges and stamps	2061	£65.48

020710	BDO Stoy Hayward	External Audit Fee	2062	£334.88*
020710	Yates Playgrounds	2 x cradle seats Burnside	2063	£178.60*

*VAT included.

Resolution (27/10): That the accounts be ratified and authorised for payment. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Butts, seconded by Cllr Mrs Bailey, all in favour.

6 Village Hall Matters:

- **To receive update on Land Registration**

None available to date.

Cllr Mrs Wess informed the meeting that Sue Halton had requested a Keep Clear sign be put onto the gate at the rear of the village hall. All agreed that permission to erect a notice be given.

7 Alder Lane:

Cllr Bithell raised concern about the interests that so many members of the council now had to declare because they were members of a separate interest-group. He was concerned that the parish council is crippled and unable to operate because members have to leave the room when important discussion was required. He foresaw a situation where procedure would get in the way of good sense and progress.

- **To note current progress on funding application for goalposts at the new field**

Cllr Mrs Raju and Cllr Mrs Wess declared a personal, prejudicial interest and left the room.

The Clerk confirmed that a £335 Football Foundation grant had been awarded to Parbold Parish Council. The goalposts would be ordered as soon as a delivery address was confirmed. Clerk to continue to liaise with Cllr Arnold on this project.

Resolution (28/10): That the Parish Council consent to match fund the purchase of the goalposts, proposed by Cllr Bithell, seconded by Cllr Rance, all in favour.

- **To update members on the Footpath project**

The Clerk confirmed that the footpath was now under construction. She had been concerned that work appeared to have stopped. However, a recent e-mail from Stephen Waterworth stated that this was due to a machine failure and work would recommence on 5th July 2010, continuing until the project was completed. She had asked that Councillors visit the site to ensure that they were happy with the progress so far.

- **To agree recommendations for an interpretation board at Chapel Lane Meadow**

The Clerk informed the meeting that Cllr Mrs Vikki Harray had met with Jon Hickling and David Secret to discuss this project. The council agreed that

- 1) The interpretation board be on a lectern-style stand at wheelchair height, to be positioned at the entrance to the field
- 2) They would accept advice from the working party as to whether A1 or A2 size was most appropriate
- 3) The Parish Council thank Jon Hickling for his help and guidance so far.
- 4) Whilst the sensory board was attractive, the style was not appropriate for the site and the cost was too expensive.
- 5) The Parish Council welcomed the help of both Jon Hickling and David Secrett and agreed that a meadow-view with selected species would be most appropriate design for the board.

The Parish Council added that a vandal proof design which repels water ingress was essential. The Clerk was asked if full costs, including installation could be obtained for the next meeting.

- **To determine the position and specification for a Multi-use Games Area**

Cllr Bithell led the discussion regarding the proposed MUGA for Alder Lane, asking that councillors let their opinions be known. The time appeared to be right for ordering a MUGA as groundwork was relatively inexpensive due to the current economic climate.

Resolution (29/10): Cllr Bailey, formally proposed, Cllr Butts seconded, that Cllr Bithell and the Clerk obtain quotations to be returned to the next meeting, all in favour.

- **To decide what action to take for maintenance of the new football pitch, including rabbit control and additional grass cutting**

There was concern raised that the new pitch was not in good condition and that action must be taken to maintain the field at this early stage.

Resolution (30/10): That up to £500 be used for improvement of the new sports field, with additional cutting, feeding and weeding as advised by WLBC and the contract grounds-workers. Proposed by Cllr Bithell, seconded by Cllr Mrs Butts, all in favour.

The field was also being subject to burrowing and digging by wild rabbits, creating trip hazard for walkers and footballers and destroying the field drains. A resident had contacted one of the councillors to offer to remove and relocate the rabbits without killing them.

Resolution (31/10): That the council accept the free offer to remove and relocate the rabbits in an attempt to avoid creating hazardous rabbit holes in the playing field. Proposed by Cllr Bithell, seconded by Cllr Butts, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake, Cllr Rance, for: Cllr Mrs Raju and Cllr Mrs Wess, against. Named, recorded vote requested.

- **To determine procedure for user liaison at Alder Lane**

Item deferred until a later date.

8 To update members regarding the land adjacent to McColls, The Common

The Clerk reported that a letter asking for removal of the cabinet had been sent very recently and a response as yet not received. If no response received within 14 days then a visit to be made to see the manager by Cllr Bithell.

9 To receive response regarding the continuing lack of a Community Beat Manager in Parbold

The Clerk confirmed that a full response had not been received, only an acknowledgement from the Chief Constables office and an assurance that the matter would be responded to once investigated.

10 To receive police response regarding photographing of suspects by vehicles

The Clerk had provided a response in briefing notes, following her conversation with Chief Inspector Dean Holden.

It was agreed to invite Chief Inspector Holden to attend the September meeting to allow discussion on Items 9. It was also suggested that PC Milne and PC Thompson be invited as well as they are intermittently stationed in Parbold during PC Hackney's absence. Concern was again raised that PCSO David Benson is working on his own.

11 Update on the operation of the WLBC cctv camera

The meeting was pleased to note that the cctv equipment was now working properly.

12 To discuss the future of the PCA newsletter

Cllr Bithell explained that it had come to his notice that the editor of the PCA newsletter is wishing to retire. He was concerned that this great asset that pulls together all the groups and organisations in the village may be at risk. If the newsletter requires parish council support this should be offered. It was noted that the Community Association have responsibility for running this newsletter and the Parish Council would not wish to take over, nor would they wish to see it fail, so the Clerk was asked to communicate this with the PCA.

13 To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2010/0473/FUL

Proposal: Single storey rear extension

Location: Blue Cedar, Lancaster Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HQ

Parish Council response: no objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2010/0625/FUL

Proposal: Replacement front window with patio doors.

Location: 18 Alder Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NN

Parish Council response: No objection to this proposal. Personal and prejudicial interest declared by Cllr Mrs Raju, who left the room during discussion and personal interest declared by Cllr Mrs Wess.

Application Number: 2010/0581/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of existing gable wall. Erection of a two storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear. Replacement windows.

Location: 13 Mill Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NW,

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

Cllr Mrs Blake confirmed that she will be speaking at the next WLBC Planning Committee meeting against the developments at Chapel Lane Moorings. WLBC Enforcement Officer confirmed that permanent mooring was not legal at this site and those who had erected washing lines and sheds had been told to remove them before the 15th July 2010 or face enforcement procedure.

The Clerk was asked to obtain an update on the LCC meeting regarding Round O Quarry and lorry movements. No representation had attended the June meeting due to illness, though the Clerk believed the decision had been delayed until a date in July.

14 To determine representation at forthcoming meetings

Members were reminded that the LALC AGM will be on the 15th July 2010 at 7.30 pm at Ormskirk Council Offices and that all councillors are invited to attend.

15 To note councillors objectives for the parish council over the coming year

Cllr Bithell – make this the year for a genuine effort at Alder Lane and look to environmental improvements by flowerbeds etc. around the village.

Cllr Mrs Butts – would like to improve relationships and build bridges with other village groups.

Cllr Mrs Raju – continue working as hard as I have ever done over the last twenty years: getting people the answers they want, communicating, Alder Lane development.

Cllr Mrs Wess reported that she had contacted United Utilities to cut the substation vegetation on her estate, not they had still not done the one at the Pear Tree; she is assured it will be done within the next two weeks. As to her personal objectives she feels this is the sort of thing the parish council should be doing more of and that councillors should be more in touch with the residents they represent.

Cllr Rance – wants to give more and become an integral part of the community and assist new businesses etc.

16 Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Bithell – would like to discuss Parbold Library and ask if the Parish Council can support by promoting, lobbying for library services or encouraging people to use the library.

Cllr Mrs Wess – Wants councillors to bring ideas that can be raised as a proposal at the LALC AGM

- 17 Resolution (32/10): Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (terms & conditions of employment), the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda**

Proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Butts, all in favour

- 18 To decide which applicant to co-opt onto the council**

The Chairman took the vote on the two applicants:

Rachel Middleton - four in favour

Chris Morris - three in favour

Resolution (33/10): It was resolved to co-opt Mrs Rachel Middleton onto the Parish Council

- 19 To determine the next action to be taken following advice received regarding the Main Hall Flooring**

The Clerk reported receipt of e-mailed correspondence from Brighthouse Wolfe solicitors, requesting further information. The meeting noted this positive step and agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Mrs Raju respond.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.55 pm.

Chairman – Cllr R M Bailey

Clerk – Mrs E-A Broad

Date