

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30pm on Friday 1st October 2010 at Parbold Women's Institute.

Prior to opening the meeting the Chairman invited questions and comments from members of the public present.

Members of the public present: PCSO Dave Benson, Chris Abel, Joan Sanders, John Blanchard.

John Blanchard expressed his concern that the Parish Council had struck a deal with a group from outside the village when he and other residents of Parbold had to travel as far as Tarleton to accommodate their desire to play cricket. He explained that there was a group of people who wished to form a Parbold Cricket Club but they had no pitch to play upon.

The Chairman responded that Shevington Sharks had brought a good deal to the table in terms of their ability to reconstruct the field that was still in need of attention and their ability to deliver a development plan for the site. He reiterated that any group able to produce a development plan had equal chance of using these fields but that the group's ability to deliver what was promised immediately was instrumental in deciding use of the fields. He pointed out that the last meeting of the Parish Council on the 3rd September 2010 was the first time that cricket had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council. An immediate use, of the fields, offered by an established team, linked with their own Association, was required: Shevington Sharks had simply taken the fields as Parbold Football Club had left them.

Shevington Sharks have offered a range of things that nobody else was willing to undertake and it is wrong to describe them as Wigan based as several children from Parbold play for Shevington Sharks.

Cllr Mrs Wess and Cllr Mrs Raju then stated that having read last month's Parish Council minutes they had resigned from the Alder Lane Recreation and Leisure Support Association.

Cllr Mrs Butts explained to Mr Pritchard that the Parish Council had never had the intention for these to be a one sport fields and that Shevington Sharks will have to share the space with other sports.

Cllr Mrs Harry explained that any usage needs to be supported by a strong development plan, an association with the sport's governing body and a willingness and ability to promote the sport to young people. Shevington Sharks presented a well-thought-out, costed option that the Parish Council would have been foolish to turn down.

Cllr Arnold added that he had made exhaustive enquiries with two football teams who had shown interest but just would not commit.

Cllr Bithell welcomed Cllr Mrs Raju and Cllr Mrs Wess back to full parish council discussion following their decision to resign from ALRLSA and the lifting of any interest.

PCSO Dave Benson gave a detailed update and a print-out of recent crime figures. Issues of car drivers jumping the lights at Alder Lane and speeding along Parbold Hill and Tan House Lane were discussed.

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

1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Mrs Middleton

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

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 and WLBC Standards Board.

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

Cllr Mrs Wess – personal interest in The Pear Tree

Cllr Mrs Harrhy – personal and prejudicial interest land behind McColls.

Cllr Mrs Middleton – personal interest in matters pertaining to her membership of Parbold Wildlife Group

3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 3rd September 2010

Resolution (49/10): Following amendment, the minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed by Mrs Butts, seconded by Cllr Bailey, six in favour, two abstentions, one against.

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

None.

5 To consider applications for funding from:-

(i) Village Carol Concert organisers request for £150

Proposal: Cllr Mrs Wess proposed that £150 be donated to the Village Community Carol Group. Cllr Bithell requested an amendment that £150 be donated if required. The proposal voted upon became: that £150 be donated to this group if it is necessary to pay for the accompanying band, proposed by Cllr Bithell, seconded by Cllr Mrs Butts - for: Cllr Mrs Blake, Cllr Bailey. Against: Cllr Harrhy, Cllr Rance, Cllr Mrs Wess, Cllr Raju. One abstention: Cllr Arnold. 4 for: 4 against: 1 abstention – Chairman’s casting vote required – for. Named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Mrs Raju.

The substantive motion was then put and resolved.

Resolution (50/10): That £150 be donated to the Community Carol Group to pay for silver band accompaniment, if required. Proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Bithell, for: Cllr Mrs Blake, Cllr Mrs Harrhy, Cllr Mrs Butts, Cllr Arnold, Cllr Rance. Abstentions: Cllr Mrs Raju, Cllr Mrs Wess. Named, recorded vote again requested by Cllr Mrs Raju.

Cllr Mrs Harrhy asked that the Parish Council acknowledge that they may have given the Community Carol Group very short notice to make alternative arrangements for this year's event.

(ii) The Grove, Burscough

The Chairman declared a personal, prejudicial interest in this item and left the room; Cllr Bithell, as Vice Chairman, took the Chair for discussion of this item only.

The meeting determined that the parish council would not financially support this venture, which was outside the Parbold area and unsupported by audited accounts.

6 To determine donation and purchase of Remembrance wreaths and arrangements to present these at Our Lady & All Saints and Christ Church, Douglas-in-Parbold

Resolution (51/10): That £100 be donated to the Poppy Appeal, noting that this includes payment for the provision of two wreaths. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Wess, seconded by Cllr Mrs Harrhy, all in favour.

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Blake will present the wreath to Our Lady & All Saints RC Church and Cllr Mrs Wess will present the wreath in Christ Church, Parbold-in-Douglas.

7 To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

290910	E A Broad	Salary (September 2010)	s.o.	£ 660.74
100910	David Secrett	Cleaning/gardening	s.o.	£128.00
180910	LALC	Conference fees – Middleton/Harrhy	2077	£66.00
180910	LALC	Conference fees – Butts/Broad	2078	£66.00
180910	David Secrett	litterpicking equipment	2079	£32.22
300910	Sherwoods	Grasscutting (September 2010)	2080	£1,119.07*
011010	Eurooffice	Paper and ink supplies	2081	£144.46
011010	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI	2082	£ 88.39
011010	Brighthouse Wolfe	Legal advice – village hall flooring	2083	£ 799.00
011010	CPRE	Annual Subscription	2084	£29.00
011010	Community Carol Group	donation to pay for band	2085	£150.00
011010	Royal British Legion	Poppy appeal and wreaths	2086	£100.00

- **Update regarding Shevington Sharks use of playing fields at Alder Lane**

The Chairman updated the meeting. Councillors requested that the Clerk issue a copy of the agreed licence to all Councillors.

- **To review maintenance of playing fields**

The Chairman explained that part of the agreement with Shevington Sharks was that the field would be brought up to a standard for play. No additional council costs were being incurred. They were making their own arrangements for marking out and any additional cutting requirements.

The meeting then extensively discussed differing pitch requirements of football, rugby league and cricket and the intention that as many sports as possible be accommodated.

The meeting noted Jimmy Kelly's concerns about the drainage issues of the old field and asked that the Clerk respond that the Parish Council were treating this as an issue of top priority. Clerk to ask if there are any temporary measures required to protect property from water damage but also to explain that car parking at the top end of Bramble Way was not possible as it would be at the expense of playing field space.

- **Consider inclusion of Youth Shelter within the Alder Lane development and update on MUGA**

The Clerk confirmed that WLBC capital grant of £5k towards a £7k spend on a youth shelter was currently still available. The meeting then discussed location for the shelter. Council Members who had attended a site meeting three years ago recalled that police advised the shelter be placed on the corner of Bramble Way/Alder Lane so that it is monitored by passers-by. However, now that the second pitch was in use the more appropriate position might be to support people watching sport at this field.

Resolution (55/10): That the Parish Council agrees in principal to erect a shelter adjacent to the car park; design and particulars to be determined by a future meeting. Proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Harrhy, Cllr Blake, Cllr Arnold & Cllr Rance in favour, Cllr Mrs Wess and Cllr Mrs Butts against, Abstentions: Cllr Bithell and Cllr Mrs Raju. Named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Mrs Wess.

Resolution (56/10): That the Parish Council write to West Lancashire Borough Council asking that they clear the land as they are legally bound to restore the whole of the field to playing field standard. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Wess, seconded by Cllr Arnold, all in favour.

With regard to the MUGA, the Clerk explained that she had contacted four companies in total but that she was working without the information obtained two and half years ago, (other than one quotation from Russell Leisure). Updated quotations were being prepared and will be available for the next meeting. The location selected, next to the car park, will require extensive excavation and build-up to make it level as well as removal of a number of trees. All play equipment reps that visited the site advised that the already flattened section near the entrance to Chapel Meadow would be far more economical and reduce noise nuisance. It had the added advantage of little or no tree removal, close proximity to the new footpath to meet

DDA requirements and being less obtrusive, will have less impact on the rural aspect of this pretty site. Reps were requested to prepare quotations for both sites.

Floodlighting was then discussed, with members of the Alder Lane Management Sub Committee believing the decision had been taken to install floodlighting as it would be too much money to spend on a facility that can only be used when light. However, the full council had not determined whether flood lighting would be installed and there was still some issue about attracting people to this site after dark.

11 To consider response to WLBC Licensing Policy

It was decided that individual councillors would have to respond to this consultation rather than forming a parish council response because those who had ordered a paper copy of the policy had not received it in time for discussion. There was now insufficient time before the deadline for a Parish Council response.

12 To review Standing Orders

Standing Orders were amended as follows:

Change “District” to “Borough” throughout

Remove “Pecuniary” in page 8 of the document

Resolution (57/10): That accounts be presented to Council quarterly rather than monthly. Proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Arnold, for: Cllr Blake, Cllr Mrs Butts, Cllr Mrs Harrhy and Cllr Bithell – against: Cllr Rance, Cllr Mrs Raju, Cllr Mrs Wess. Named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Mrs Raju.

Resolution (58/10): Standing Orders were updated accordingly and unanimously accepted by the meeting.

13 To discuss proposal to restructure format of agenda and minutes

Cllr Harrhy explained that it would be preferable for the minutes to record resolution and action points for quick consultation to reveal what had to be done, rather than in prose form, from which salient points are difficult to elicit.

Noting delays to the meeting so far and concerns about completing business by 10 pm, it was agreed that the meeting return to this issue next meeting, with Cllr Mrs Harrhy bringing examples of the proposed structure of the minutes.

14 To consider action to clear vegetation in the alleyway behind the shops on The Common

Cllr Mrs Harrhy declared a personal, prejudicial interest in this item and left the room, but returned immediately afterward.

Resolution (59/10): It was unanimously resolved that the Clerk get this area cleared if costs are less than the amount paid last time (two years ago).

15 To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2010/0977/FUL

Proposal: Erection of 2 timber canopies to entrances.

Location: Parbold Douglas C Of E Primary School, Lancaster Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HS,

Parish Council response: No objections to this proposal.

Application Number: 2010/1023/FUL

Proposal: Replacement of existing hedge with 1.6 m high stone wall and supplementary planting.

Location: The Roost, Lancaster Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HS

Parish Council response: That the proposals, particularly with regard to the height of the hedge, are in keeping with the surrounding conservation area and within limits permitted in a conservation area.

Proposed Works: T1 Sycamore Fell To allow more light through & give room for the 2 Oak at the rear.

T2 Oak Light crown raise upto 5m . (Secondary branches only). To clear road of low branches.

T3 Oak Crown clean . Crossing branches and deadwood. To clear road of low branches.

T4 Oak Light crown raise upto 5m. (Secondary branches only). To clear road of low branches.

Location: Delph Lodge, Brandreth Park, Parbold, Wigan

Parish Council Response: The Parish Council would wish the opinion of the Arboricultural Officers to be followed in this instance.

Application Number: 2010/1068/PNT

Proposal: Development by Telecommunications Code System Operator - Erection of 11m wooden pole approximately 9m above ground to replace existing pole.

Location: 6 Bradshaw Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NQ

Parish Council Response: No comment

16 To determine representation at forthcoming meetings

Forthcoming meetings include:

21st October 2010 – LALC Area Committee meeting – WLBC Offices – all councillors encouraged to attend, though voting members are allocated.

Best Kept Village Competition Awards Ceremony will be held on the 11th October 2010 - Chairman has been invited to attend, with guest: Cllr Mrs Butts agreed to accompany the Chairman.

The Clerk reminded those present that the LALC AGM and the LCC Parish & Town Council Conference will both be held on the same day – Saturday 6th November 2010 – this free event is open to all Parish Councillors and is an excellent networking opportunity.

17 Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

- Cllr Mrs Raju Minutes that go in Parbold Library
- Cllr Mrs Wess Road Salt Bins filling up
- Cllr Arnold The traffic lights at Alder Lane with regard to PACT meeting minutes asking the parish council to refer this to the appropriate council.
- Cllr Mrs Harrhy Proposes that Parbold Parish Council designate one of its Councillors as Environmental Champion to co-ordinate matters related to the natural environment and energy conservation/awareness. Decide where we are going to site the Best Kept Village plaque.
- Cllr Mrs Butts Discussion about siting the shoes and clothes banks

At 10 pm in line with Standing Orders the Chairman was asked to close the meeting.

Resolution (60/10): Cllr Bailey proposed that the meeting continue, Cllr Bithell seconded, all in favour.

18 Resolution (61/10): 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. Unanimously agreed.

19 To consider play area inspection reports and suggested repairs

Resolution (62/10): Due to the urgent nature of these repairs the quotation from Yates Playground was accepted without additional comparative quotes being obtained. Proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Bithell seven in favour, two abstentions.

Resolution (63/10): Cllr Vikki Harrhy noted that interim visual inspections were no longer being conducted and offered to undertake such inspections if appropriate instruction and documentation was provided to her. The meeting thanked her for this kind offer and unanimously gave consent.

20 To consider tenders for tarmac repairs

Two of the three quotes requested were available for the meeting. It was unanimously agreed to wait one month and obtain further quotations for the repairs, including a quotation from LCC.

21 To receive update from the Clerk regarding the Main Hall Flooring

Resolution (64/10): That the Clerk enquire of the parish council solicitor, the cost of a search for a structural engineer with experience of wooden flooring and the cost of obtaining this engineer's report on the flooring. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Raju and unanimously agreed.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.25 pm.

Chairman – Cllr R M Bailey

Clerk – Mrs E-A Broad

Date