

Minutes for the Meeting of Parbold Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 5th July 2013 at Parbold Women's Institute Hall.

Present: Cllr B Arnold (Chairman), Cllr S Murrin-Bailey (Vice Chairman), Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake, Cllr Bithell, Cllr Broten, Cllr Butts, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Wess.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Holland

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 7th June 2013

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation:

The meeting will be adjourned for an appropriate time (four minutes maximum per speech) for members of the public to raise matters of concern or interest as notified to the Chairman.

A resident of Brandreth Drive attended to complain about the lack of consultation before erecting signs on the Common Car Park restricting vehicles to a three hour limit. He heard about this through the PCA newsletter and word of mouth but believed that the parish council should have consulted him directly. He explained the knock-on effect on his property because cars are now displaced to the road outside his home. Over the five years he has been living there, he has noticed a massive increase in the amount of traffic entering the Drive and has had to move his car from the roadway outside his home on any occasions to allow traffic through because vehicles parked opposite have been blocking the road and their drivers are absent and not in local homes.

He felt strongly that the idea of limiting parking on The Common had not been thought-through properly and he had been kept entirely out of the loop, he would have been able to explain this before the action was taken.

He also reported many commercial vehicles parked half-on the pavement.

The Chairman in defence of the Parish Council said unless people come forward and tell us, we can't know.

Cllr Bailey explained that if the car park is full of people leaving their cars there all day there is no place for those visiting the shops. If passing trade is allowed to fall, the shops may close. Village shops are local facilities that must be retained so there was a need to do something to protect the shops. It may take months to assess what effect these signs will have and there has to be a settling in period.

The resident said a consultation in the form of a simple formal letter to the residents should have been done. When asked what solution he had, his answer was more policing.

It was noted that The Railway Public House continues to offer parking for rail commuters but it is now at a cost, which is not unreasonable.

Cllr Blake suggested promoting the Railway parking area for railway advertise that it is available at a nominal sum and ask drivers to avoid parking outside people's houses.

Cllr Wess apologised that the Parish Council didn't think to consult the residents directly and that a lesson had been learnt that the council should consult anyone directly affected before acting.

Consideration of double yellow lines or resident only parking could along Brandreth Drive might be made by Lancashire County Council Highways if the residents there ask their County Councillor David Westley.

Cllr Murrin-Bailey asked if response had been obtained from the Burscough Station scheme. The Clerk reported contacting OPSTA (Ormskirk, Preston and Southport Travellers Association) but they couldn't assist with parking around stations issues.

A second Brandreth Drive resident echoed the complaint. As yet he was not in residence, but was in the process of converting a property there. He had also noticed that WLBC bin lorries park there whilst drivers eat their lunch. Parking around Brandreth Drive entrance is a problem because residents cannot see whilst entering or, particularly, exiting their driveways.

It was thought that the problem of drivers stopping in Brandreth Drive to eat their lunch, might be improved by the 3 hour limit because then there should be space for vehicles to park at the rear of the shops for drivers to eat their lunch as the spaces wouldn't be used up by rail commuters.

The Parish Council confirmed the intention to give the signs at least three months to assess their effect before taking any further action. Cllr Blake, in her capacity as Borough Councillor will contact WLBC to ask that bin lorries refrain from parking along Brandreth Drive whilst staff eat their lunch. Investing money on resurfacing the Bramble way car park may alleviate some village parking as it can then be used for ramblers to park their cars. Additional policing or private traffic wardens may need to be explored if problem persists. White H bars outside homes on Brandreth Drive may be another consideration.

PCSO Dave Benson attended the meeting and addressed the question of enforcing 20mph limits. The police had decided to give drivers time to acclimatise to the 20 mph limit before any formal enforcement was carried out as it was preferable to educate drivers rather than penalise them.

Speed traps or community road watch schemes can be considered but other areas, with higher accident rates will be targeted first as there are limited personnel available to carry these out. There will always be some drivers who ignore the signs.

A Community Road Watch day of action might be considered for the Common, but, again, they are volunteers and have to cover the whole of Lancashire.

Police Operation Pathway targets those using mobile phones, seatbelt offences and speeding, but there are only a few people trained to do it, and so it is infrequent.

The Chairman told PCSO Benson that the Parish Council feels there is a lack of traffic police in Parbold.

PCSO Benson agreed but the resources are finite and risk assessments show the most dangerous areas (presently Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington) don't really include Parbold. However, there is a criteria for resources which is all under review and Parbold will be highlighted as an area that residents feel needs more enforcement.

PCSO Benson reported a sudden spike in crime in Parbold: over two nights Brandreth Drive 8 cars on Brandreth Drive were damaged and two commercial premises (Silhouettes, and one other on The Common) were broken into, with a further attempted burglary on Alder Lane.

There was concern that the cctv had not captured any evidential images and Cllr Blake agreed to contact WLBC to ask whether the camera was working and if not, why not? The meeting considered that the cctv camera had let the village down again.

Cllr Stewart addressed the issue of enforcement of the 20 mph, having first raised it through the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting. With clear evidence that mortality rates increase with speed, it is not simply a matter of what can be achieved, it is possible to eliminate the risk entirely, but this requires more attention than just to educate drivers, they must have the threat of enforcement if they drive over the 20 mph limit.

Cllr Bithell expressed frustration that for many issues the Parish Council is completely ineffective at the moment, and proposed that the Council again look at purchasing a speed indicator device (SPID), meeting with someone of authority who can advise (from the police traffic division, Parkwise, LCC, WLBC) or consider training up volunteers or employing someone to take action.

5. The Common

- **Any update on action to enforce time-limited parking on The Common Car Park**

The meeting noted that the signs had now been erected. Concern from Brandreth Drive residents that the problem had been shifted onto the road outside their houses was noted. It was agreed to contact West Lancashire Borough Council to ask that their staff refrain from parking in Brandreth Drive to eat their lunch.

- **To consider maintenance of the black bollards**

Enquiries with Glasdon products proved fruitless in terms of maintenance as the bollards were not supplied by them but they did confirm that they stock a stick on visibility strip. Cllr Bailey agreed to paint the bollards with Hammerite over the summer and paint a white strip on rather than use the tape.

- **To consider installing a seat on the bus shelter**

The suppliers, Queensbury Shelters confirmed that seating could be added to this bus shelter from their Arun range. It was necessary to measure the width of the shelter and a quotation could then be provided. It was resolved to delegate action to the Clerk to have a seat fitted if the cost is less than £500.

6. Village Hall:

- **An opportunity to raise any issues regarding the Village Hall**

No issues raised.

7. Alder Lane:

- **To further discuss ownership of container on Bramble Way Car Park**

Estimated running costs and a cost for purchase of the shipping container were still awaited from Shevington Sharks. Without these the Parish Council couldn't reach a decision.

- **Follow up on restoring utility services at Bramble Way**

Three quotations obtained by Shevington Sharks were available at the meeting. Cllr Arnold had already contacted another contractor for an independent quotation, which was awaited. It was agreed that a specification be written up, distributed by email to Parish Councillors before being agreed.

- **Follow up on resurfacing**

Item moved to the end of the agenda.

- **To confirm a meeting date with the Parbold Wildlife Group**

The date will be agreed administratively.

8. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

140613	David Secrett	Cleaning and Gardening services	s.o.	£128.00
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300613	E A Broad	Salary (June 2013)	s.o.	£704.59
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050713 spoiled cheque number 2332

050713	Parbold WI	Room hire	2331	£22.00
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050713	B Rawsthorne	Grass cutting as per contract	2332	£674.00
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050713	Lathom South PC	Reimburse for course - see below	2333	£14.29
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050713	E A Broad	salary adjustment	2334	£7.64
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050713	Inland Revenue	NI payments	2335	£16.45
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050713	PCA	Room hire for 12th June 2013	2336	£27.00
050713	UK Host 4U	Website domain registration	2337	£119.99*
050713	UK Host 4U	Website web hosting	2338	£47.99*
050713	E A Broad	Sundries - inc key cutting	2339	£11.70
050713	LCC	Parking restriction signs	2340	£598.28*

*VAT included

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

Bank Balance as at 28th June 2013:

Business High Interest Account	£ 124,604.33
Current Accounts	£ 32.45

Total: £ 124,636.78

9. To agree response to External Auditors question

The Clerk was instructed to respond that the village hall remains on the list of assets. Cllr Bailey agreed to provide evidence of land ownership from the material that had been passed from the solicitors.

10. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2013/0607/LDC

Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness - Conservatory at rear.

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

Application noted.

Application Number: 2013/0682/COU

912 Lancaster Lane Parbold Lancashire WN8 7AB

Change of use from hotel and restaurant/managers flat to single dwelling house including replacement single storey extension to front/side; new entrance canopy at side; detached double garage; single storey rear extension linking dwelling to existing detached outbuilding and conversion of outbuilding to living accommodation; alterations to fenestration; reinstatement of 2 no. chimneys to side; reinstatement of 2 bay windows to ground floor front elevation; new vehicular/pedestrian access.

Parish Council Response: No objections, once all biodiversity investigations have been completed.

11. To consider parish council action with regard to enforcement of speed limits within the village

Discussed during the public forum above.

12. To determine representation at forthcoming meetings

18th July 2013 LALC area committee meeting and Mayor's At Home at Civic Hall Ormskirk.

Saturday 9th November 2013 - LALC AGM. (also usually has LCC Parish Liaison meeting on same day).

13. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Blake: availability of parking at the Railway public house, request those who tend to park alongside residents homes, do not do so.

Cllr Butts: we need to tell people who are travelling in from other area, so we need publicity on a wider scale.

Cllr Murrey-Bailey: Re-introducing school walking buses, using school staff and teaching assistants to run this. Can we investigate with both schools if it is something we can look at again?

Cllr Bailey: CCTV camera - as it is not working again the Parish Council should send a stern letter. If we can't discovered who trashed the shops cars, can we consider putting up a reward?

Cllr Wess: Add to the next newsletter that trees and hedges are already overhanging and dog faeces are again a problem around the village.

14. Resolution: 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.

Agreed.

15. To select preferred signs for Alder Lane Playing Fields

Four quotations for signage and notice board (Greenbarnes, Signs of the Times, Shelley Signs and Harry Stebbing) were considered with the preferred manufacturer determined to be Harry Stebbing.

7. Alder Lane

- **Follow up on Resurfacing**

It was agreed to accept a quotation of £1,470 to pay Tim Carr of Carr Faulkner Associates, Structural Engineers to project manage the car park resurfacing. In favour: Cllr Bailey, Cllr Murrin-Bailey Cllr B Arnold, Cllr S Murrin-Bailey, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake, Cllr Bithell, Cllr Broten, Cllr Butts, Cllr Stewart.

Against - Cllr Wess. Named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Wess.

It was agreed to accept the lowest of the four quotes - Tom Owen, subject to confirmation of a fully itemised project distributed to all councillors, with an additional 10% contingency for the addition of cabling or water ducting. All in favour.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10 pm.

Chairman - Cllr B Arnold

6th September 2013