

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 6th September 2013 at Parbold Women's Institute Hall.**

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake, Cllr Bithell, Cllr Butts, Cllr Holland, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Wess.

### **1. To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Murrin-Bailey. The Meeting was informed of the resignation of Cllr Irene Broten.

### **2. To receive declarations of interest**

None declared

### **3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 5th July 2013**

The minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman. Cllr Bithell arrived at 7:35pm.

### **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 for over forty years attended to ask for Parish Council support in his and other residents fight against Hoscar Sewage Works. Direct complaints to United Utilities, WLBC Environmental Health and the local MP have resulted in very little and the problem has been worse than ever over the summer months. Hoscar are under a duty to mitigate any smell emanating from the sewage works and odour elimination technology is available to them but it is clear that it is not being employed. Hoscar confirmed on one occasion that the equipment suffered a breakdown, but this is not good enough under the DEFRA guidelines that they should be held to. At the request of Environmental Health he is now filling in a 30 day diary to present as evidence. However, it is obvious that most residents are no longer interested in complaining because nothing ever happens. Monthly meetings held at Hoscar some years ago were suspended when Hoscar agreed to spend a lot of money on a state-of-the-art odorizing equipment and cover the open vats, which, they assured residents, would solve the problem. However even with this system in place, the problem is here, so they have not done enough as they are obliged to under the DEFRA guidelines. He asks that the Parish Council help to galvanise residents into direct action to tackle the problem as he feels strongly that unless Hoscar are threatened with legal action they will continue to ignore complaints. He also asked that the Parish Council approach neighbouring parishes for their support.

Discussion included the proposal that an independent engineer be employed to obtain irrefutable evidence of the problem that can then be presented in legal argument against Hoscar, however, it had to be accepted that this would be a costly option. Momentum was created last time by such a level of complaint, that Hoscar had to do something so this momentum needs to be generated again, by working alongside the Borough Council, setting

up a petition, or website where we can log the complaints. A phone number where we can inform Hoscar when it is bad and encourage people to use it. A small village survey could be a useful exercise to obtain evidence of the problem.

#### **5. To determine response to residents' enquiries**

- **any action to be taken regarding odour emanating from Wigan Waste Water Centre, Hoscar**

It was agreed that the Parish Council write to WLBC Environmental Health and request an update on what they have done to date and advice on any further action that could be taken. Also, to obtain a "complaint" hotline number so that people can all complain to the same place and their complaints can be logged. This number to be circulated in the PCA newsletter and people encouraged to complain again. It was suggested that Hoscar be requested to liaise with residents more and recommence the residents meetings. Borough Councillors present also agreed to take up the issue with David Tilleray, WLBC.

- **Maintenance of the telephone exchange building**

The Chairman reported discussion with British Telecom, who gave him contact details for the maintenance officer for that area, who lives in the Wigan area. He has done some work tidying the area but there is more hedge-trimming planned and the white fence is still unsightly. The Tree Wardens have tidied up the Jubilee Gardens side of the fence. Now that this useful contact has been made the Parish Council will explore the possibility of replacement of the fence with them. A high-pitch resonating sound has been heard emanating from the building. It was understood that local residents were in discussion with BT about this.

- **Speeding cars on Broadmead estate**

It was accepted that this estate had a particular problem with speeding vehicles. It was agreed to ask LCC for more signs to make it clear that this was now a 20 mph, explore the possibility of a letter or leaflet drop to homes there to remind residents of the speed limit and consider purchasing a mobile SPID (Speed Indicator Device) with this estate as one location for the device. It was accepted that utilising a SPID will necessitate training and risk assessments.

- **Yellow lines along the corner of Tan House Lane and Brandreth Drive**

The meeting noted that residents now confirmed WLBC vehicles were no longer stopping in Brandreth Drive whilst the staff took a lunch break. It was also noted that lorries delivering to the shops have been seen to arrive in pairs and stop on the double-yellow lines on Tan House Drive. Discussions with the County Council suggest that double yellow lines on the edge of Brandreth Drive will only move the problem of parking further up the Drive and so would not be pursued.

- **Request to site bench at Parbold Viewing Area**

The Clerk was instructed to respond that the Parbold Viewing Area is not parish-council-owned and the enquiry should be made of Lancashire County Council or the land owner. It was further suggested that Christ Church, Douglas-in-Parbold may be more receptive to

installation of benches than LCC Highways, because LCC have cuts to make and future maintenance costs will be of concern to them.

## 6. The Common

- **Feedback following the time-limited parking on The Common Car Park**

Inspections at various times on various days suggest that the time limited parking signs have had the desired effect as there always seem to be at least two or three places available. Additionally, inspections along Brandreth Drive show work vehicles around the house being renovated and no evidence of long-term parking on the road. No residents complaints about long-term-parked vehicles have been received over the last two months.

- **Review of maintenance of the black bollards**

The Chairman congratulated Cllr Bailey for his work in adding a highlighted strip to the bollards. Re-painting was not required at this stage.

- **Determine next action to be taken to remove the Heart Variety Charity Collection Point**

The meeting noted that this has now been removed. The fencing behind it was now seen to be damaged, as reported by members of the WI to the Parish Council this evening. However this fence is on WI land and not on the Parish Council asset register. The Clerk will liaise with Parbold WI on this issue.

- **CCTV - feedback following Chairman's visit to WLBC**

Cllr Arnold and Cllr Blake were very impressed by the WLBC CCTV suite and can confirm that the camera and new system is working and the occasional non-use of the system should not be broadcast as this would diminish the deterrent effect.

## 7. Village Hall:

- **An opportunity to raise any issues regarding the Village Hall following the PCA Liaison Meeting on 28th August 2013**

The notes of the meeting were available and distributed

- **To consider granting permission to dispose of worn-out chairs**

It was agreed to grant permission to write off the damaged blue chairs, for accounting purposes.

## 8. Alder Lane:

- **To consider a proposal for a Parbold Charity as applicant for licence**

Cllr Stewart reported discussions with Parbold Community Association with a view to their accepting a management role at Alder Lane Playing Fields. A number of small meetings had

been held over the summer recess and the PCA had called an Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the General Committee to take the matter to their Members for consideration. That meeting was currently underway.

Cllr Stewart proposed that Parbold Community Association be put forward a suitable Parbold Charity; their suitability being evidenced by their constitutional terms of association which include promotion of recreational facilities, that they do not currently fulfil. Their suitability is further evidenced by their experience in successfully obtaining grants to support development of the Village Hall.

Considerable discussion ensued with main concerns raised that some Parish Councillors had received insufficient notice of this matter to reach informed decision, and that it would be sensible to hold a meeting of the Amenities Committee first in order to iron out the details of the what the Parish Council expectations of a third party taking over are.

At 9.10pm, the meeting was closed briefly for Cllr Wess to contact Michael Hammond to request the PCA response to the proposal which was fed back to the meeting as positive.

The Parish Council resolved that the PCA will be considered as a suitable licensee to manage facilities at Alder Lane. An Amenities Meeting will be called in the next few weeks to discuss further details and explore the concept further.

- **Update on ownership of containers on Bramble Way Car Park**

The Chairman reported attending another two meetings with Shevington Sharks and that the container could be purchased from them by the Parish Council at a cost of are prepared to sell it for £3,780.

The alternative plan of replacing an existing Parish Council owned container with one fitted out with three toilets, changing area and kitchen could be achieved for £2,000 with the cost of a refurbished container £2,500 - company offering £500 part-exchange on the old one.

It was agreed to purchase the refurbished container at the cost of £2,500 to replace the one with the broken floor, (part-exchange value £500) proposed by Cllr Arnold, seconded by Cllr Bithell, in favour Cllrs Blake, Butts, Holland, Stewart & Wess. Cllr Bailey - abstention. Named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Wess.

At 9:35pm Cllr Holland left the meeting.

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

Cllr Arnold explained the proposed system to take cabling from the existing electricity box across the car park, and put in a new distribution pillar intended to feed the other units. This system was agreed and a budget of up to £5,000 set aside for connection of services to be deployed under the Chairman's direction.

- **Follow up on resurfacing & Grantscape grant**

The meeting noted that resurfacing work was due to commence within three days. Letters of explanation of the work to be done had been posted through the doors to Bramble Way

residences. The Grantscope forms for completion had been distributed to those on email. Payment of the funding would be made when the work was complete.

The Clerk was asked to add the Grantscope funding to the next agenda for discussion as the matter of Shevington Sharks being a third party contributor was not clearly understood.

- **To consider installing a gate at Bramble Way car park**

Item postponed to next meeting.

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

The meeting date was agreed as 7:30 pm on Wednesday 9th October 2013 at Parbold Village Hall.

- **To confirm mechanism for bookings of Alder Lane Playing Fields**

Cllr Bailey proposed that the Clerk take the bookings for Alder Lane Playing Fields, seconded by Cllr Butts, in favour Cllr Blake.

Cllr Wess proposed that she take the bookings, seconded by Cllr Stewart, in favour Cllr Bithell.

After the Chairman's casting vote, it was agreed that Cllr Wess will continue to take bookings for Alder Lane Playing Fields.

Named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Wess.

#### **9. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented**

120713	David Secrett	Cleaning and Gardening services	s.o.	£128.00
290713	E A Broad	Salary (June 2013)	s.o.	£704.59
060813	UK Host 4U (replaces lost cheques)	website costs	2341	£17.98
060813	Barry Rawsthorne	Grass cutting	2342	£438.00
060813	Fire Equipment	Service contract at Village Hall	2343	£126.00
cancelled cheque 2344				
060813	Argus Security	Service contract at Village Hall	2345	£120.00*
260813	WLBC	Planning application Alder Ln signs	2346	£192.50
260813	David Secrett	Cleaning and gardening services	s.o.	£128.00
280813	E A Broad	Salary (August 2013)	s.o.	£718.46

060913	County Training Part	Chairmanship training (Cllrs Arnold & Murrin-Bailey)	2347	£50.00
060913	Ambirad	Service of village hall boiler	2348	390.72*
060913	B Rawsthorne	Grass cutting August 2013	2349	£386.00
060913	Parbold WI	Room hire	2350	£22.00
060913	E A Broad	Stamps and envelopes	2351	£14.20
060913	E A Broad	Back pay following NALC advice	2352	£22.89
060913	ROSPA	Annual Inspection of Play Areas	2353	£159.60*
060913	Inland Revenue	Tax & NI for three months	2354	£62.26
060913	B Arnold	New fence panels and brush	2355	£82.30

\*includes VAT

#### **Bank Balances as at 30th August 2013**

<b>Current Account:</b>	<b>£15.80</b>
<b>Reserve Account:</b>	<b>£120,604.33</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>120,620.13</b>

#### **10. To note Planning and Planning Applications**

2013/0755/FUL

Newstead Stoney Lane Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7AF

Part two storey/part single storey extension to side. First floor extension to existing attached garage.

2013/0782/FUL

Brandreth Barn Chorley Road Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7AN

Single storey extension to rear of dwelling and a single storey side extension to existing detached garage.

2013/0852/FUL

Tall Trees 15A Bradshaw Lane Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7NQ

Two storey rear extension. Front dormer. Extension and alterations to existing rear dormers. Rendering of front and rear elevations.

2013/0869/FUL

Douglas Dale 23 Bradshaw Lane Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7NQ

Extensions and alterations to include: - Removal of existing conservatory and erection of a part two storey/part single storey side extension with entrance canopy. Single storey extension to other side and re-siting of entrance porch.

**Application Number: 2013/0869/FUL**

Proposal: Extensions and alterations to include: - Removal of existing conservatory and erection of a part two storey/part single storey side extension with entrance canopy. Single storey extension to other side and re-siting of entrance porch.

Location: Douglas Dale, 23 Bradshaw Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NQ,

Conservations

Please note the following appeal has been lodged:

APPEAL BY: Mr & Mrs David Nancollas

PROPOSAL: Detached dwelling.

LOCATION: Land Adjacent To 76A The Common Parbold

START DATE: 18th July 2013

The planning applications were noted with no objections but comment made that those in the conservation area must comply with regulations relating to conservation areas.

**11. To compose response (if any) to WLBC Consultations:**

- **Balancing the Budget 2014/2015**

No response

- **West Lancashire Armed Forces Community Covenant**

It was agreed to support this Covenant

- **Sefton Local Plan Consultation**

Noted but no response formed, as area is outside this Borough

- **Adopt annex to Code of Conduct**

The meeting adopts the Annex to the Code of Conduct as worded.

**12. To compose response to consultation on changes to the Peter Lathom Charity**

The Meeting discussed the draft revised Trust Deed and determined that the proposals are sensible in the circumstances and have no objections or further comment to make.

**13. To determine representation at forthcoming meetings**

- **9th November 2013 - Parish & Town Councils Meeting**

The Clerk was asked to submit the Chairman as a delegate and Cllr Stewart as an additional delegate should space become available for more than one. The Chairman will also attend Lathom Parish Council Civic Service on the 6th October 2013.

#### **14. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings**

Cllr Wess: dog faeces and encroaching hedgerows.

Cllr Stewart: contract with Grantscape and agreement with Shevington Sharks that rent be remitted in lieu of their becoming third party contributor to the car-park resurfacing.

#### **15. 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.

#### **16. To consider cost-of-living rise to Clerk's salary as advised by NALC**

Agreed.

#### **17. To consider Clerk's request to attend LALC Employment Training Course 7-9pm Wednesday 18th September 2013 at a cost of £14.29**

Agreed

#### **18. Distribution of Clerk's Contract of Employment**

The Chairman proposed that the signed document distributed be accepted as the true record of the Clerk's Contract of Employment. Carried with one abstention - Cllr Stewart.

Cllr Bithell asked that items of this type be dealt with by the Chairman and not brought to full public meeting as they are a mechanical issues that no-one could object to and this method is intimidating for the Clerk.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10 pm.

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*Chairman - Cllr B Arnold*

*6th September 2013*