

Parbold Parish Council

*Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA
1 Pinewood, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, WN8 6UZ
Tel: 01695 557678 Mob: 07973 340254
e-mail: parboldpc.clerk@yahoo.com*

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 4th April 2014 in the Community Room at Parbold Douglas School, Lancaster Lane, Parbold, WN8

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Blake, Cllr Bithell (arrived 7.35pm), Cllr Stewart, Cllr Wess.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Butts, Cllr Holland, Cllr Murrin-Bailey, Cllr Bailey.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 7th March 2014

The minutes were initially disputed and debated; a vote was taken (named, recorded vote requested by Cllr Blake). It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, and duly signed by the Chairman, Cllrs Arnold, Blake, Bithell, Stewart in favour, Cllr Wess against.

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.

Resident Paul Quirk addressed the Parish Council, following the Hoscarr & local residents meeting arranged by WLBC Environmental Health on the 24th March 2014. He expressed his frustration that WLBC and Wigan Waste Water Treatment Centre are asking that residents do their job for them in terms of recording and reporting malodours. Surely it is part of their business to deal with this? The meeting was welcomed but those officers attending were not in a position to make any changes or answer any questions posed to them. It was noted that, though well-attended, there were still not enough people complaining for the matter to be taken seriously, largely because people have become lethargic over complaining because nothing seems to get done about it anyway.

There was a suspicion that following this meeting, odour control measures will be implemented, in spite of their cost, so that complaints are reduced and United Utilities can claim, there is no problem.

Mr Quirk again offered to assist with obtaining petition signatures, so that a true record of how the odour affects residents can be ascertained, evidenced and used to bring pressure on those who can direct funding towards odour-control and ensure all odour control measures are used.

It was accepted that this residents meeting was only a springboard from which to gauge depth of feeling over the issue. However, Mr Quirk felt strongly that those who are in charge of protecting the general public must eventually act against rather than continually work hand-in-hand with businesses that create a risk to the general public. It is commendable that WLBC Environmental Health and WWWTC are working together, but last summer's obnoxious smell was created by failures that should have been reprimanded. There needs to be some threat of statutory action, to ensure all effective measures are followed.

Cllr Stewart had asked the meeting organisers if he could have a copy of the people attending but was told that this was not possible due to data protection issues.

It was generally agreed that the smell from Hoscar sewage works had improved over the years, probably due to the amount of money invested in odour control systems. It was now proposed that we work with the local manager to ensure that he receives the resources from central management to continue investment in odour control. This must be a priority for United Utilities.

It was suggested that the Parish Council organise a petition for Parbold residents directed to United Utilities with WLBC Environmental Health and DEFRA copied in. It was also suggested that Dalton residents be invited to contribute if they are similarly affected, but for the time-being, this would be a Parbold initiative.

5. To consider items raised by members of the public

- **Proposal that the Parish Council commission Richard Houghton to compile an updated addendum to the World War 1 Memorial Books in Parbold Library**

It was proposed that the two books, compiled by Richard Houghton and commissioned by the Parish Council many years ago and now on display at Parbold Library, could have an addendum prepared to update information about those Parbold residents who served in World War 1. Mr Houghton had already got some information to begin this process but would require financial support to continue the study and produce information for publication. An initial outlay and then hourly rate was proposed.

It was resolved not to pursue this project in the light of uncertain cost to the Council and questionable benefit to the community, in terms of spending public money.

- **Proposal that a social event be arranged to commemorate World War 1 Centenary**

It was resolved in principal to support an event and engage local groups to work with. Cllr Wess agreed to approach Clare Griffin, Head Teacher at Our Lady & All Saints Primary School and Cllr Blake agreed to approach Paul Smith Head Teacher of Parbold Douglas

School. An afternoon tea dance in the Village Hall was envisaged, involving the school children in creating decorations and musical entertainment provided for older residents in the village. Cllr Stewart offered to consider preparing a presentation from his own family history as entertainment for the event; he will confirm this at the next meeting.

- **Follow up after Hoscar Residents Meeting**

Following discussion in the public access section of the meeting, recorded above, it was resolved that the Clerk draft a petition, circulate this amongst Councillors and work with Paul Quirk to ensure it met the needs of obtaining evidence to support the use of further odour control measures at Wigan Waste Water Treatment Centre, Hoscar.

The Clerk was asked to contact WLBC Environmental Health to request a copy of the minutes from the meeting and, if possible, a list of attendees. Also to ask again for a designated e-mail address, dedicated reference number, telephone number for all residents to use to complain about the smell when it is noticed.

6. To consider application for funding towards the Carols around the Tree event in December 2014

It was resolved to donate a Section 137 donation of £150 to the Community Carol Group to assist with their costs in hiring a brass band for musical accompaniment.

7. To receive 2013-14 accounts (if available) and authorise submission to the internal auditor

The Accounting Statements and the Annual Governance Statement, confirming that to the best of the Council's knowledge and belief, a sound system of internal control has been employed in the preparation of the accounting statement, were resolved and duly signed in accordance with the financial regulations.

8. Alder Lane:

- **Consider Shevington Sharks request to use football pitch**

Shevington Sharks request use of the football pitch on an occasional basis for over-spill on training sessions. They agreed that they would vacate the field if pre-booked by others but offered remuneration of £250 for a season of such ad-hoc use.

It was resolved that any sessions on the football field must be booked and paid for under the existing strategy, namely, booked in advance with Cllr Wess, and paid for at a rate of £10 per hour. This is to avoid confusion and overbooking with other users. The sum of £10 per hour is a subsidised rate, base on a number of factors, including youth sport provision.

- **Update on Village Survey on Alder Lane Playing Field facilities**

54 completed questionnaires had been collected and will be given to Cllr Murrin-Bailey to forward to Edge Hill students for analysis.

- **Any update on Dog Control Order**

The Council recorded thanks to Cllr Stewart, Dr Shams Mir and Clare Gillard for their contribution to putting an article raising awareness about the risks of dog fouling.

It was resolved to erect a sign at the fields as soon as possible. Draft wording will be circulated to all Councillors before any order is placed.

- **To decide action on Chapel Lane Meadow Path Flooding**

The far corner of the created pathway is currently flooded however, due to the very heavy recent rain it was considered best to monitor this over better weather. This section was considered lower priority than the car park because of its rural nature.

The section of footpath running alongside the leachate tank was also flooded and a quotation for £950 had been obtained to insert a drain here.

- **To confirm progress on utility connection**

The Chairman confirmed that this was progressing. Cllr Wess offered to make enquiries at the Borough Council as regards council rates.

- **To consider additional drainage between rugby pitch and the car park**

Following resurfacing at the car park, it has become clear that drainage is required just inside the new fencing before reaching the rugby pitch. A quotation of £1,250.00 plus VAT has been obtained, to include installing 3m deep stone covering an area of 120 square metres, so that this area is of more use.

It was resolved that the Chairman & Clerk negotiate with contractors to obtain drainage around the new car park, adjacent to the rugby pitch and adjacent to leachate tank, within a £1,500 plus VAT budget.

It was resolved also, to undertake surface weed and feed of both pitches as per Lancashire Turf quotation circulated. The cost was within the amount previously agreed for pitch maintenance.

9. Follow up on Peter Lathom historical stone

This project was progressing. Councillors were asked to look at Jubilee Gardens and consider whether it would benefit from a professional landscaper.

10. Village Hall:

- **Update on solar panels on the village hall roof**

Three quotations had been circulated by email: £5328.57 (Wigan) £5233.34 (Burscough) £5747.00 (Barnsley), excluding VAT.

Green Energy Nationwide, based in Burscough, was chosen with an agreed final price of £5,052 inclusive of VAT. The work was progressing.

- **Update regarding roof and redecoration of ceiling**

Whilst the water leak had been repaired, the ceiling was still in need of redecoration. The Clerk was asked to contact the company for an update.

- **Set a date for next PCA Liaison Meeting**

The date will be set administratively, after consultation with the PCA Chairman.

11. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

210314	Green Energy Ltd	Deposit for solar panels	2403	£100.00*
280314	Green Energy Ltd	First half payment for solar panels	2404	£2,747.50*
240314	David Secrett	Cleaning and gardening services	s.o.	£128.00
280314	E A Broad	Salary (January 2014)	s.o.	£718.46
040414	Green Energy Ltd	Second half payment for solar panels	2405	£2,204.50*
040414	Yates Playgrounds	Play area repairs	2406	£.475.20*
040414	AP Pest Control	Pest control Alder Lane Playing Fields	2407	£120.00
040414	W H White	Dog tie rings on The Common	2408	£65.00
040414	Brian Arnold	Materials and sundries	2409	£25.84
040414	Community futures	Renewal annual	2410	£30.00
040414	Community Carol Group	Section 137 donation	2411	£150.00

*includes VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

12. To note Planning and Planning Applications

2014/0209/FUL

11 Bradshaw Lane, Parbold, WN8 7NQ

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of two storey rear extension.

Parbold Parish Council Response: As a Grade 2* Listed Building in the Conservation Area and Green Belt, all regulations must be applied.

2014/0127/FUL

Newstead Stoney Lane Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7AF

Two storey side bay extension and first floor extension to existing detached garage to create additional living space.

Parbold Parish Council Response: Object to this proposal as the development would have an adverse effect on privacy for the neighbouring residence.

Reference Number: T2014/0023/TPO Yew Tree at 15 Tan House Lane, Parbold

Parbold Parish Council is highly concerned about the loss of a preserved tree due to building to erect a dwelling at the rear of 15 Tan House Lane.

13. Items raised by Councillors:

- **Consider a parish council response to the WLBC Citizen Survey**

The meeting noted that the closing date for this survey had past.

- **Consider the article in the Champion (19th February 2014) regarding WLBC unspent Section 106 monies**

Cllr Wess referred to an email she had obtained from Helen Rafferty, WLBC in which Ms Rafferty state Parbold has not received any Section 106 monies because here has not been any new developments in the village. The Clerk refuted this, as £9,800 was received from WLBC on 2nd December 2011, obtained for use on community open spaces and the money was put to essential drainage of the football field.

14. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Stewart - Speeding vehicles in the village. A "smiley face" speed indicator device had been positioned on the Common, outside Cllr Stewart's home on a 20 mph stretch of road. Over a half-hour period they noted down the readings from the device. The majority recorded between 27 - 37 mph with only one at vehicle travelling at 20mph. Clearly enforcement of the speed limit is still a necessity to bring it home to drivers.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

Chairman - Brian Arnold

2nd May 2014