

Parbold Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 6th March 2015 in Parbold Women's Institute.

Present: Cllr Charles Bithell (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake, Cllr Butts, Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Wess.

Cllr Stewart gave notice that he would be late.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Arnold, Cllr Butts, Cllr Murrin-Bailey.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 6th February 2015

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

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.

Jackie Emery of Brandreth Drive reported frustration at drivers leaving cars for long periods of time at the end of Brandreth Drive making it impossible to see clearly when entering or exiting the Drive. She would like double yellow lines along here to prevent the problem. It was agreed to contact County Councillor David Westley on her behalf to raise this.

5. Update on issues regarding Wigan Waste Water Treatment Centre

Paul Quirk updated the meeting by email following his meeting with United Utilities management and Rosie Cooper MP.

United Utilities reported that they were making good progress with the work to improve the odours and now had a new Odour Management Plan which had been agreed with the

Environment Agency and WLBC. They have new monitoring equipment in place and have isolated a number of potential trouble spots and have now covered and extra 2 tanks on the site. They have reviewed the tank cleaning systems but still need more investment to get that area 100% clean after storm use. This is in the budget but funds won't be available until April. They emphasised that Hoscar is a high priority site for UU and investment funds should be available for some major work if required. They also have an in house engineering odour expert working on the site and have established an odour task force to help tackle the problems we have been discussing. Rosie Cooper MP pressed them hard and demanded that they solve the odour problem or she would take the matter to the highest level and even ask questions in the House. It was an excellent meeting and she said she will meet with them again in October to review the progress and if there was a repeat of the issues we have had in previous summers then there would be consequences.

6. To consider any policing issues

No police in attendance at this meeting but PCSO Dave Benson forwarded the following statistics. From 1st February to 6th March 2015 in the Parbold area:-

- 2 offences of shoplifting (both at McColls)
 - One criminal damage at Miller & Carter
- 2 males stopped and dealt with for possession of a small amount of cannabis
 - One assault, verbal dispute between two parents at school
- One incident of Anti Social Behaviour - a personal matter between work colleagues.

This compares to last year when we had a total of 11 crimes (3 criminal damages, 2 assaults, 2 thefts from vehicle, 2 burglaries, 1 possession cannabis, and one theft of property from Miller & Carter) In the same period last year we also had two incidents of ASB.

Local councillors and residents are asked to consider signing up to:-

<http://www.stayintheknow.co.uk/>

7. To consider request for funding from Parbold Scouts

It was resolved that the £300 left in the budget be donated by way of Section 137 grant to Parbold Scouts.

8. To confirm appointment of Trustee to Richard Durning Trust Board

Cllr May Blake was confirmed as Parish Council appointed Trustee to the Richard Durning Trust Board.

9. To agree change of date for Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM to the 15th May 2015, following Parish Council Elections

The first meeting of the new Council was confirmed as Friday 15th May 2015 in Parbold Women's Institute Hall at 7pm for the Annual Parish Assembly and 8pm for the Parish Council Annual General Meeting. Cllr Wess offered her apologies .

The meeting noted that the next parish council meeting will be held on Friday 10th April 2015 at 7.30pm in Parbold Village Hall.

10. Issues on The Common:

- **Consider proposal to employ a Parish Warden**

Following Paul Quirk's suggestion that the Parish Council employ a warden to undertake the cleaning, gardening, maintenance, parking, dog fouling issues in the village, this matter was discussed. The meeting agreed that there is a need to establish the scope of any new position, add some things, set a job specification and work out remuneration for the work and organise a recruitment process and payroll.

It was agreed to write, thanking David Secrett for the work he had done over the years and ask if he, perhaps, may know of any local people who would be interested in the work.

Cllr Holland agreed to discuss this further with Paul Quirk to see what he envisaged for such a position.

Cllr Blake asked who owned the boggy land behind Station Road and the meeting heard that it was West Lancashire Borough Council.

11. Issues regarding Parbold Village Hall:

- **Any update on green heating system**

Cllr Schaffel reported back to the meeting. The control panel to the current boiler is not easily accessible because of the storage of tables inside the cupboard. Also, there are a lot of confusing buttons, so a crib sheet for hall users has been produced to show which button to press to prompt the heating for a further two hours, when it shuts off. The system is old, not entirely suitable for the hall use now but it is in working order. It has a large air input and a big duct, where it vents into the roof space and play area outside. This has now been blocked off, keeping more of the heat inside the building.

Cllr Stewart arrived at 7.50 pm.

Infra red and black heat systems were looked at but the current lighting system is very complex so it is difficult to see where we could fit them.

A metal cabinet, presumably housing cinema equipment has been screwed into the floor. As the flooring is Junckers wooden sportshall flooring, which is designed to expand and contract this could compromise the entirety of the floor. The Clerk was asked to write to the PCA to ask why it was done without notice to the parish council and make it clear that should any floor problem arise it must be met at PCA cost. The Parish Council wonders if the contractor can be made to put it right.

- **Update on maintenance of windows**

One quotation had been obtained and in view of the high cost, two comparative quotations were requested. The Clerk was asked to request of the PCA why the windows in them main hall had been blacked out.

- **Consider maintenance of fire doors**

The quotation for metal doors was considered and in view of high cost, two more quotations will be required.

- **Consider power- wash of play area surfacing**

The quotation for power-washing of the play surfacing at Parbold Village Hall was considered very expensive by the meeting. Councillors volunteered to undertake this task themselves.

12. Issues around Alder Lane Playing Fields:

- **Update following meeting with Appley Bridge Boys Football Club**

It was resolved to await reply from the enquirer to see if they still wished to use the fields, having discussed the issues with their representative

- **Request by Festival Committee for use of Fields - 11th July 2015**

The application email was discussed but it lacked detail and clarity. The Clerk was asked to obtain a detailed, day-to-day timetable for events planned on the fields with a person specified for each activity who will bear responsibility for the activity and ensure there is adequate insurance cover for that specified activity.

Last year's festival was not without incident and it is hoped that this method will ensure everyone knows what is happening in advance of any problems arising.

The matter of a grant will be discussed at the April meeting so that payment is in the next financial year.

13. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

280215	E A Broad	Salary (February 2015)	s.o.	£762.80
280215	David Secrett	Cleaning and gardening	s.o.	£128.00
060315	John Stewart Homelands	Hedging Alder Lane	2485	£300.54
060315	Smart Heating Ltd	Village Hall Boiler annual service	2486	£192.00

060315	Post Office Counter	Tax and NI for three months	2487	£74.09
060315	Midstream Ltd	Chapel Meadow clearing scrubland	2488	£210.00 *
060315	Fire Equipment Services	Annual service village hall	2489	£147.77 *
060315	Parbold Scouts	Section 137 Donation	2490	£300.00

Recent Receipts:

Martin McColls = rent on land adjacent to 17 The Common £1,000.00
Bank interest = £3.12

Bank Balance as at 27th February 2015:

Business Current Account	=	£ 17.75
Business Reserve Account	=	£ 81,870.10
Total	=	£ 81,887.85

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

14. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Ref. No: 2015/0090/FUL 11 Bramble Way,
Demolish existing garage, side and rear porches. Erect two storey side and single storey rear extension.

Parish Council response: No objection to this proposal.

Ref. No: 2015/0091/FUL Crimond Croasdale Drive, WN8 7HR
Conversion of integral garage to bedroom and bay window extension at front

Parish Council response: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2015/0151/LDC

Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness - Use of agricultural land as domestic garden.

Location: 50 Greenfield Avenue, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7DH,

Parish Council response: Matter has been discussed and result of the application is awaited. Should a planning application be deemed necessary, the Parish Council consider this and may comment further.

15. To agree update to Communications Policy

The amendments were agreed and the website will be updated as soon as practicable.

16. Items raised by Councillors:

- **Cllr Bailey - maintenance of village open spaces**

This matter will be considered in the process described under Item 10 above.

- **Cllr Bithell - consider agreeing policy on solar farms, wind turbines and fracking applications.**

The meeting discussed whether there should be set, written-down policies regarding issues of these types so that prompt response can be made for any local applications of this type. It was confirmed that any application within the parish will be notified to the Parish Council because it is a Statutory Consultee and the Planning Authority must seek their opinion. The meeting resolved that applications will be dealt with individually and on their own merits rather than by blanket policy, which may prove to be in negative for any proposal.

17. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Blake - LCC is cleaning the graffiti off the canal bridge, even though it doesn't meet priority as it is not obscene or offensive. Another skin will be put onto the wall. The matter was raised at the Three Tier Forum and actioned immediately because it would be seen from the road and may be off-putting for visitors hoping to enjoy the village facilities in the coming summer months.

Cllr Holland - would like to update the Parish Councillors on the draining issues as she was asked to attend the meetings on behalf of the Council. The meeting had only parish councillors present rather than other members with more expertise in this area. It appeared to be intended to investigate the proposal of an internal drainage board to maintain the Alt Crossens pumps. The follow up meeting had been cancelled.

Cllr Bailey commented that the Three Tier Forum meeting had recently heard that the Environment Agency had now decided that the pumps will not be turned off.

Cllr Stewart - received complaints from members of the public that overhanging hedgerows on Parbold Hill were making it impossible to walk along the pavement there. The Clerk agreed to notify LCC via their website and request that the land owner cut back the hedgerow.

Cllr Schaffel - requested clarification on the forthcoming elections. The Clerk confirmed that the process begins on the week of 23rd March, when nomination forms can be obtained from WLBC. They must be completed and returned by hand to the WLBC Offices in Ormskirk. The Returning Officer will then run the process through to election on 7th May 2015.

Cllr Wess - Noticed that LCC empty the grids but leave the debris on the road, where it is washed back down the grid. The matter had already been reported by the Clerk to both LCC

and WLBC. Also, the potholes all around the village but in particular Broadmead and Burnside are getting worse.

18. 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, the public and the press, leave the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda

Item unanimously resolved.

19. To agree appointment of internal auditor of accounts

It was agreed to appoint Mrs Sandra Jones to conduct the internal audit of accounts.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Chairman - Cllr Brian Arnold

10th April 2015