

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 4th November 2016
in Parbold Women's Institute Hall, The Common, Parbold, WN8 7HA**

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Blake, Cllr Holland, Cllr Wess, Cllr Schaffell, and five members of the public.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Bithell, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Butts, Cllr Carruthers and Cllr Stewart.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 7th October 2016

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.

Cllr Wess, speaking as a member of the public raised the issue of the £30 bin charge noting this issue is an agenda item for discussion.

Members of Parbold Wildlife Group attended to stress the importance of funding for the maintenance work at Chapel Meadow. Their voluntary work can only do so much in this large area and larger scale maintenance is required to preserve the wild flower meadow. The status as a Biological Heritage Site has recently been confirmed. However, regular maintenance is required and invasive weeds such as Himalayan Balsam have been sited encroaching the rugby pitch from the railway line. The group constantly seek grant funding but it is rare to find any for maintenance and even capital grants are becoming difficult to access now.

5. Update on odour problem from Hoscarr Sewage Works

Paul Quirk gave an update, stressing that the continued mechanism breakdowns and regular maintenance issues are a main focus. He asked for clarification from the Parish Council as to what Cllr Bithell had suggested during the last meeting, but in his absence that couldn't be done.

There had been nine complaints from nine different complainants in September and eight complaints from four complainants in October.

The method of complaint was discussed following advice that letters often hold more weight than website complaints. Investigation revealed that this can be the case in setting Service

Incentive Mechanism via the OFWAT complaints system. However, OFWAT deals with customer complaints about service provision and not really the odour problems experienced in Parbold. It is therefore considered that building this relationship with the staff at Hoscar and reporting through their website system is the best way forward. The next step will be a further meeting with Rosie Cooper MP and continuing to question why this site experiences continued breakdown of equipment - is it a national issue?

6. To hear update from Flood Action Group

It was resolved to pay for leaflets to be printed to assist recruiting volunteers in an emergency to help the Flood Action Group. Two quotations were considered and the cheapest chosen.

The meeting heard that the Environment Agency will issue flood warnings when the River Douglas is at risk of flooding but not if Dock Brook is filling up.

It was resolved to write to WLBC and ask what risk management plans are in place regarding Dock Brook? What action has been taken so far to reduce the risk of a repeat of last Boxing Day's floods? Rachael Crompton, LCC will also be asked what measures have or will be taken to reduce the risks, following the Flood Report issued last month. LCC, as Flood Authority receive funding, so how is this funding going to be allocated? Can Parbold access any of it?

This meeting noted that Rosie Cooper had a meeting with various agencies but to date Network Rail has not responded.

7. Alder Lane Issues:-

- **Consider questions raised by Parbold Wildlife Group:**
 - 1. Weed wiping**
 - 2. Midstream cut scrub back**
 - 3. Grass cutting of meadow in Summer 2017**

Item moved to end of the meeting, for discussion in closed meeting.

8. Village Hall Issues:-

- **distribute notes from meeting with PCA on 24th October 2016**

The meeting notes were distributed.

The heating system continues to be a problem due to intermittent failure. The heating engineer visited again and advised new parts that are now on order. PCA and PPC will look jointly for grants to support a new system.

The garage at the back of the village hall is filled with festival equipment at present. If this can be relocated to Alder Lane, this would be adequate storage for sand bags for use in the event of flooding.

- **consider action for repairing broken and the uneven paving stones**

In view of the trip hazard posed it was resolved to lift and replace the paving stones and level where necessary.

9. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

041116	E A Broad	Clerk's salary	s.o.	£741.83
041116	Parbold WI	Room hire for 4th Nov 2016	2617	£ 30.00
041116	C Horridge	Clearing scrub and weedkilling Chapel Lane pathway throughout 2016	2618	£295.00
041116	SLCC	Annual Subscription for Clerk's membership	2619	£ 82.20
041116	E A Broad	Reimburse key cutting	2620	£ 3.99
041116	Right Price Print	Print leaflets flood action group	2621	£52.00
041116	spoiled cheque		2622	nil
041116	B Rawsthorne	Grass cutting	2623	£438.00

Recent deposits:-

051016	WLBC	second half precept	£16,818.50
191016	WLBC	second half concurrent	£1,292.50
261016	HMRC	VAT refund	£2,445.99
311016	RBS	interest	£4.58

Bank balance at 311016

Reserve account £112,918.72

Current account £53.03

Total £112,971,75

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

10. To decide a date for a budget meeting

This date will be determined administratively.

11. To consider request from Parbold Unlimited to provide storage space for festivals use.

It was agreed to obtain quotations for a larger shipping container to replace the current one so that half of this could be used for sports equipment and half for festival equipment.

12. Parbold Library update

It was agreed to meet with LCC on Tuesday 8th November 2016 in the afternoon in Parbold and to invite Steve Morgan and Joanne Cast along. This item to be repeated at the end of the meeting for further discussion.

13. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Ref. No: 2016/1074/FUL

New garage, boundary wall and associated landscaping.

Croasdale Corner Croasdale Drive Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7HR

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council is concerned that this property has already been extended considerably in the past and is a featured building in the Lancaster Lane conservation area

Ref. No: 2016/0962/FUL Plot 6 Chapel Lane Parbold Lancashire

Stable building with tack room and engineering works for change of use of agricultural land to form private moorings.

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council objects to this proposal. This would serve to consolidate an unwelcome residential presence on this prominent site in the Green Belt. It is a step too far. The plot is at the far end of an unmade green route off Chapel Lane. It is badly churned up in winter, as is the access across the plot to the boat. Access to the stable block would sooner or later involve horse boxes/trailers, and an application for hard surfacing which would compound the visual damage to the area. This creeping development ought to be stopped. Even though a small stable might be tolerated in the green belt, the access is poor and visibility high (after the felling of the original trees).

Concern was raised that work on the development at 9 Tan House Lane is continuing despite a Natural England request to stop when a bat roost was located in the loft.

14. Items raised by Councillors:

- **Speed Indicator Devices**

The quotations were considered and it was resolved to select Pandora Technologies Ltd. The working group will contact LCC to install poles and plates.

- **Lancaster Lane parking at school times**

This issue is becoming more dangerous with a recent incident reported involving an HGV insisting a lady driver reverse and causing a collision. The school is even busier, with many pupils being brought from out of the area. It was understood that the Head Teacher will be leaving the position this Christmas so the matter will next be discussed in the New Year.

- **Charges for green bins**

It was resolved to write to WLBC complaining about the imposition of the £30 charge for green bins.

- **Items for inclusion in the next newsletter (January)**

Include the objection to the green bin charge.

15. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Blake - asked whether the request for a further charity box at The Common has been responded to. It was agreed that there is no space for one.

16. 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.

Resolution agreed.

17. The Common car park repairs

The quotations obtained were not accepted as too expensive. The Clerk was asked to seek alternatives and to ask recommendations from Tom Owen.

18. To consider application for lengthsman work.

The quotation obtained was considered but the Clerk was requested to find further comparative quotations.

Item 7

- **Consider questions raised by Parbold Wildlife Group:
Weed wiping
Midstream cut scrub back
Grass cutting of meadow in Summer 2017**

It was resolved by majority vote, that the Parish Council will pay for weed wiping, Midstream to work on the scrub clearance and grass cut with removal of cuttings at the meadow.

Item 12 Parbold Library Update

Parbold Parish Council resolves to support another community group in taking over the library building and operation but cannot provide volunteers or funding for the venture.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 pm

Chairman - Cllr B Arnold

2nd December 2016