

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 2nd February 2018 in Parbold Women's Institute Hall.**

Present: Cllr Brian Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Charles Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Rob Bailey, Cllr Sarah Carruthers, Cllr Sue Holland, Cllr Schaffel,

The Council observed a minute's silence in respect and remembrance of Cllr John Stewart. The Clerk was asked to convey condolences to his wife and family.

**1. To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Blake & Cllr Butts.

**2. To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr Sue Holland declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in Item 4

**3. To notify Councillors of a casual vacancy**

The Parish Council were informed that the casual vacancy arisen from the sad, sudden death of Cllr John Stewart is now being advertised.

**4. To consider application for co-option onto the council**

It was resolved to co-opt Justin Stopford to fill the vacancy arisen by Councillor resignation in November 2017. A declaration of acceptance of office was read out, witnessed and signed.

**5. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 5th January 2018**

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

**6. 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 reported on communication with Hoscar Sewage Works over the completion of planned maintenance to the conveyor belt. Although odour disturbance might have been expected at this time there have been no complaints at all during January 2018. A site meeting will be arranged or March or April 2018, to maintain communication with management and other agencies and continue to represent the residents who are affected by the work process there.

**7. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented**

210118	RBS	Bank charges	d.d	£8.05
160118	SLCC Lancashire	Clerk's training Data Protection	2722	£20.00

160118	B Rawsthorne	Clearance behind the shops	2723	£120.00
spoiled cheque Number 2724				
280118	E A Broad	Salary for January 2018	s.o.	£695.71
280118	NEST	pension (£7.44 Parish contribution)	d.d.	£61.05
020218	Parbold WI	Room hire for 2nd February 2018	2725	£32.50
020218	BKV Competition fee	Entry to best kept village	2726	£25.00

\*contains VAT

Bank balance as at 29th December 2017 = Reserve account = £114,493.93 and Current Account = £22.49. **Total = £114,516.42**

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

The Clerk informed the Council that Parish Champion Paul Rigby had agreed a grant of £150 to assist with the purchase of litter picking equipment.

The bank mandate form was updated removing former Councillors and adding Cllrs Arnold, Carruthers and Stopford as signatories to the accounts.

Cllr Bithell arrived at the meeting at 7.38pm.

## 8. Update on Network Rail proposals to close Chapel Lane Level Crossing

The meeting acknowledged that an automatic barrier might create disturbance for the house immediately alongside the railway crossing, however a road of any description would cause reduced facilities for the village in general and affect many more people. The general feeling was that the crossing is low risk for incidents having no history of injury at that specific site. A bridge could not provide the access that is currently available and is a step backwards in that respect. Bramble Way Car Park is already too small to support the current field use so to remove or reduce the size of this facility represents a specific detriment to the amenity of the village by this scheme.

On this basis therefore, the Parish Council would refuse permission to put a road across Chapel Meadow and fight any compulsory action for one to be installed.

The Clerk was asked to convey this to Network Rail and ask if they might be available for an evening meeting in public or with only Councillors in attendance bringing details of the MCB-OD system and its installation cost. West Lancashire Borough Council should be invited to attend also.

## 9. Village Hall Issues:-

- **Update regarding the abandoned vehicle on the car park**

WLBC has agreed to put a seven day notice on the car advising that the owner remove it or it will be disposed on in seven days.

- **To confirm date for next liaison meeting with PCA**

The Clerk was asked to obtain dates for a meeting in February or March particularly because the Parish Council now has concerns about the fan for the new heating system being positioned in the children's play area. The Clerk was also asked to advise that any claim for any loss of earnings due to heating failure will not be entertained.

#### **10. Alder Lane Issues:-**

- **Security at Changing rooms**

Cllr Arnold explained that the changing rooms were flooded and the heater torn off the wall, but there was no evidence of break in. All pitch-users have been told to ensure that the water is turned off and the windows locked before they leave.

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

**Application Number: 2018/033/FUL**  
**Delph Bungalow, Hall Lane, Wrightington, WN8 9EH**  
**Extension with internal alterations to existing bungalow**

Cllr Arnold declared an interest in this item, knowing the householder.

Parish Council Response: No objection to this application.

**Application Number 2017/1324/FUL**  
**2 Alderbrook Drive, Parbold, WN8 7HF**  
**Proposed rear and side extension to include Family/Kitchen/Dining Space, Utility Store and Rear Dormer to bedroom 3**

Parish Council Response: No comment on the proposal

#### **12. The Local Plan - WLBC's Review and discussion of Parbold proposed sites for development**

Each of the areas identified by the SHLAA were looked at and various comments made. The Clerk was instructed to point out that much of the village has issues of flooding and poor utilities infrastructure. There have been a number of recent permissions granted for large executive homes but residents report a need for smaller properties as starter homes for grown up children and for older people downsizing.

The Borough Council will take comments on board and prepare a Preferred Options paper which will be published in the coming autumn.

#### **13. Introduction of how the General Data Protection Regulation, in force from 25th May 2018, affects Parish Councils**

The Clerk attended training from Society of Local Council Clerks about this issue. This introduction will be followed by leaflets from Information Commissioners Office when available and draft policy documentation for consideration at a later meeting. The EU's General Data Protection Regulation comes into force on 25th May 2018 and the Parish Council will publish their policies relating to this on the website by that date.

**14. To consider request to site a commemorative bench at Parbold Hill (current benches are provided and maintained by WLBC, not Parbold Parish Council)**

It was resolved not to accept requests for commemorative benches in the parish. The reason being that there is no effective mechanism to ensure that the donor pays future maintenance, the costs of which fall on the residents. This is particularly the case where the donor does not live in the village or at a later stage moves away from the village. To be fair to everyone, a policy of no commemorative benches is created.

As regards the enquiry currently being considered the Clerk was instructed to inform the enquirer that Parish Council has no jurisdiction over the land at Parbold Viewing Point and that the benches were put there by WLBC in September 2015.

**15. To finalise any application for WLBC capital funding**

It was resolved to enquire if an application for £1,000 towards a £2,000 project for flood early warning system for Dock Brook was possible when the money would not be under the control of the Parish Council but would be on behalf of the Flood Action Group.

Should this not be possible, submit an application for £1,000 towards a £1,500 spend on a David Ogilvy metal bench to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War One.

**16. To agree notes for inclusion in PCA Newsletter (March 2018)**

Can we please discourage over-lighting of property because we are getting complaints that people cannot walk their dogs at night without triggering home security lights even though they are simply walking down the pavement of a public road. It is most disturbing to be suddenly lit-up for no apparent reason. If you have security lights please make sure they are covering only your property and not causing a nuisance to others. They also prevent those who wish to see the night sky.

Thank you to those who are willing to undertake litter-picking in their surrounding area. A grant has been obtained from LCC Parish Champion's fund (County Councillor Paul Rigby) to purchase litter pickers for our use. So please do let the Clerk know if you require a litter picker, hi-viz vest and gloves. It would be helpful to know which area you wish to litter pick so that your work can be logged. We're hoping to cover the whole of the village with volunteers willing to do a little, once a month or so on a regular basis.

We are currently looking at refurbishing the play areas at the village hall and Burnside. If you have any ideas for enhancing these areas please do let your Council know. Can we ask that those with gardens on the borders of Burnside Play Areas check that their fencing is in a good state of repair.

Please remember to park considerately and legally around the local schools. Traffic Enforcement Officers are attending regularly now to conduct enforcement.

Please can you report any potholes on the LCC Highways Report It System so that they are logged correctly with the agency who deals with repairs. To access the system, Google Lancashire County Council Report It

<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/fault-search.aspx>

We have been notified by Canal & River Trust that substantial works will begin in March at Parbold Dry Dock. In preparation for this there will be some ground clearance and tree felling taking place earlier. This has been achieved by the hard work of Parbold Heritage Group.

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

Cllr Bithell - what can be done about the articulated lorries chewing up the pavements when they travel down from Hilldale direction. One, with foreign plates, transporting fruit and vegetables was seen on the wrong side of the road at Miry Lane. Can calming measures, a narrowing chicane, reduce access to certain roads, or at least advisory signs be suggested to LCC Highways.

Why has the van advertising the Farmers Arms been left on Parbold Hill? Such tacky advertising can only have a negative effect on the relationship between residents and the public house. The Clerk confirmed that the publican had been asked to move the van from in-front of the public footpath and had done so, but moved it across the road where it remains on private land. A request to remove fly-posting was met as hostile with the publican insisting he had not breached advertising rules. WLBC Planning Enforcement agreed to visit but no response had yet been received. LCC Trading Standards had also been asked if advertising that the public house was in Parbold as in 'Farmer Arms At Parbold' was not a breach of trade description as the pub is not within the village or parish.

Cllr Holland - please include in newsletter a request that security lights on houses do not stretch across the public roads and light up pedestrians for no reason.

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

This resolution was resolved.

### **19. To determine policy for use of Alder Lane Playing Fields for charitable or fundraising purposes**

It has been brought to the Parish Council's attention that Sunshine Sunday events were not organised by the Festival or Show Committee and therefore had no permission from the Parish Council to use the fields at all.

As far as the Parish Council is aware, no money from that collected was ever given to the charity cited.

It was resolved to write to the Festival Committee to remind them that subletting of the fields is not permitted.

It was resolved also to write to the Sunshine Sunday organisers and demand clarification as to what money was collected and what proportion ought to have been donated to the charity concerned.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

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*Chairman - Cllr Brian Arnold*

*2nd March 2018*