

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

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Butts, Cllr Holland, Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Stopford.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake & Cllr Carruthers.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 2nd February 2018

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.

No items raised.

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

The Clerk was asked to inform WLBC that the Parish Council would not give permission for a road to be installed between Bramble Way and Chapel Lane.

6. Update on Wigan Waste Water Treatment Centre

It was agreed that a site meeting at Hoscar at 3pm on 10th April 2018. The Environment Agency and WLBC will be invited to attend and Councillors Arnold, Butts, & Holland will represent the Parish Council.

7. Update on the Dry Dock restoration and consider proposal to request WLBC restore the surrounds to a recreational area

An update received by email from Kathryn Georgeson was distributed. The trees that were growing in the dock have been removed but the roots remain.

8. To consider Flood Action Group's plans to install community-led telemetry equipment at Dock Brook

The Parish Council are happy to make a donation for funding to support the Flood Action Group but cannot take on responsibility for the maintenance of equipment, particularly the flood warning system envisaged for Dock Brook.

9. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented and agree appointment of internal auditor

210218	RBS	Bank charges	d.d	£5.00
020318	B Rawsthorne	Bramble Way & village hall grass verges	2727	£104.00
280218	E A Broad	Salary for February 2018	s.o.	£695.71
280218	NEST	pension (£7.44 Parish contribution)	d.d.	£61.05
020318	Helping Hands	Litterpickers	2728	£190.27*
020318	Midstream Garden Centre	Clearance at Chapel Meadow	2729	£384.00*
020318	Parbold WI	Room hire for 2nd February 2018	2730	£32.50
020318	Glasdon	Two new benches for play areas	2731	£1,235.58*
020318	Paul Scott	Clearing guttering village hall	2732	£45.00
020318	Midstream (West Lancs) Ltd	Groundworks at Chapel Meadow	2733	£320.00*
020318	Mark Knowles	Heating repair at village hall	2734	£95.16*

*contains VAT

Bank balance as at 31st January 2018 = Reserve account = £112,350.24 and Current Account = £37.78. **Total = £112,388.02**

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment. It was agreed to request that Sandra Jones conduct the internal audit of account for financial year 2017/18.

10. Village Hall Issues:-

- **Update on issue of heating systems in the village hall**

It is currently very windy and the main hall heating is locking out again and failing to work when required. Unfortunately, the engineer is inundated with work and cannot come out until next week. The unusual east wind is blowing the heating out. Cllr Arnold agreed with Sue Halton to order portable heating system if required and that the cost would be met by the Parish Council.

The new heating system in the small hall is now completed and the external equipment is now caged to protect it. However, the hole in the brickwork still needs blocking in.

11. Alder Lane Issues:-

- **Update on pitch usage, including Parbold Show use of the fields**

Currently the rugby pitch is being used by Shevington Sharks and the football pitch by Appley Bridge Football Club. There is some concern that the changing rooms are being left untidy and dirty and that they have been flooded on occasion. The Chairman agreed to speak with users to ensure that they comply with the terms of use.

The Clerk was asked to obtain a list of the membership of the 'Parbold Festival Committee' that is organising the 'Parbold Show' on the fields.

At this stage, permission for any other group to organise events on the Sunday following the Show is with-held following concerns that last year's events were not sanctioned by the Parish Council, not properly run and no proof of insurance cover had ever been received.

It was stressed that Parbold Unlimited assist with the Parbold Show but are not, as far as the Parish Council is aware, on the committee or organisers of the events on playing fields. Their involvement in village life is restricted to Parbulele, Parbold Street Festival and provision of Christmas street decorations and promotion of businesses in the village.

However, the village noted an email received after the issue of the agenda, from Steve Morgan of Parbold Unlimited, requesting consideration of funding for the Parbold Show, which will be considered by the Parish Council at the next meeting.

12. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number 2018/0157/FUL

Two storey extension at side and front porch, conversion of existing garage to a lounge. (Amendment to planning permission 2017/0846/FUL).

17 Brookfield Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7JJ

Parish Council Response: No objection to the proposal, provided that the full height of the pitched roof, which is the full gable end of the property, has orientation that does not create overshadowing of the smaller rear garden at number 15. Appreciating that neighbours have no right to light, they do have a right to amenity and overshadowing would reduce the amenity of their rear garden.

The following application was noted but no comment was invited.

Ref. No: 2018/0145/CON

Approval of Details Reserved by Condition No. 12 of planning permission 2016/0961/FUL relating to a landscaping scheme to compensate for the loss of tree G1.

Plot 8 Chapel Lane Parbold Lancashire

13. To agree notes for inclusion in next PCA Newsletter

There will be a community litter pick on Saturday 14th April 2018, meeting at the Village Hall at 10am. Gloves, hi-viz vests and litter-pickers will be provided. If you could please email the Clerk to let us know you will be joining in, we welcome everyone along. We continue to seek regular volunteers to work independently on particular routes on a regular basis and thank those who have already come forward to do this.

Through careful budgeting, the Parish Council is able to keep the precept at the same level as last year so there will be no increase in residents' council tax attributable to the Parish Council this April, indeed that component should appear on your statement as a slight decrease on the previous year.

There have been provisional enquiries from Network Rail to extend Bramble Way through the fields to meet with Chapel Lane so that the level crossing on Chapel Lane can be closed to meet their safety concerns. At this early stage, the Parish Council are not convinced that this is the only option and have asked that Network Rail consider instead upgrading the crossing to an automatic controlled barrier with obstacle detection as an alternative, because the new road would inevitably result in damage to the playing fields, car park and biological heritage site at Chapel Meadow.

Can we ask that enquiries about the new bin collection system be directed to West Lancashire Borough Council because it is not a Parish Council matter and the Clerk is not equipped to answer queries on this.

14. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Charles Bithell - General Data Protection Regulation - applies May 2018

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

Resolved.

16. To ratify grass cutting contract commencing April 2018

It was resolved to keep the present contractor if confirmed that the grass can be removed from the playing fields.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Cllr Brian Arnold
Chairman

4th April 2018