

Parbold Parish Council

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Under the provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020, and The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this Meeting of the Parish Council was held at **7.30 pm on Friday 5th February 2021** by Zoom conferencing

MINUTES

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

1. To record apologies for absence

None, all present.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. Public Participation:

Any item raised by a member of the public via email will be discussed at this point.

No items raised on email.

Members of the public who wish to watch a virtual meeting may join the Zoom meeting using the meeting ID and Passcode publicised but are requested to inform the clerk in advance of the meeting. They are reminded that members of the public do not participate in the meeting, other than raising issues under Item 3 – Public Participation.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 8th January 2021

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and will be signed in due course by the Chairman.

5. Alder Lane Issues:-

- **Completion of cctv installation at Bramble Way under WLBC Capital Grant Scheme**

The project is complete. Copy invoices will be sent to WLBC to claim the Capital Grant supporting the project.

A recent report of possible rat poison being deposited near to the shipping containers has been taken up by the police. A public warning was issued by them for dog walkers in the area.

- **Consider Signage - No HGVs, Overnight Parking and more CCTV with ANPR signs**

LCC Confirmed: Ref: 58694

We are not aware of any Lancashire County Council (LCC) highway operatives vehicles parking here. We will pass a message onto our operatives and make sure they are aware they can't park on this car park.

If you have a registration number of the LCC vehicle, you can telephone our customer contact centre on: 0300 123 6780 who will log the details for investigation.

District Lead Officer, Highways and Transport, Lancashire County Council

However, many of the vehicles are labelled "Road Management" working with LCC, perhaps subcontracted. One was witnessed filling the vehicle with diesel, some of which was spilt and residue was thrown into the hedgerow.

It was agreed to return to LCC if numberplates are obtained, for them to investigate.

- **Update on the use of the Playing Fields**

£1,500 has been received from Shevington Sharks and £300 is expected shortly from Appley Bridge Football Club. Both teams are interested in retaining their field licence going forward.

6. Village Hall Matters

- **Consider meeting with PCA to discuss up-to-date situation at the Village Hall**

The emailed letter from the PCA had been circulated. There was concern raised about the high cost of annual maintenance contracts for the heating. It was resolved to arrange a Zoom meeting with Roger Perry, Sue Halton, Clare Gillard, Mike Bonsall to discuss general issues regarding the hall. Cllr Arnold, Cllr Bithell and the Clerk will attend. A separate, possibly onsite, meeting to follow, to include Cllr Stopford to discuss the heating maintenance contracts.

7. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

180121	RBS	Bank charges	d.d.	£4.90
270121	E A Broad	salary	s.o.	£906.85
290121	NEST	Pension (£30.17 from parish, rest is employee contribution)		£102.59
080121	PCA	contribution to newsletter printing	2966	£150.00

080121	Helping Hands Ltd	12 litterpickers	2967	£155.90*
270121	LCC	Christmas lamp post lighting	2968	£570.00*
050221	B Arnold	Chairman's allowance	2969	£100.00
050221	Wrightington Windows	Cleaning Village Hall <i>reduced amount from £25 due to cleaning only outside</i>	2970	£20.00
050221	Argus Security	Village Hall alarm – new battery	2971	£31.20*
050221	B Rawsthorne	Grass cutting contract	2972	£320.00

Anticipated:

210221	O2	Contract for cctv Bramble Way	d.d.	21.60*
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*contains VAT

Bank balance as at 29th January 2021 = £79,975.37.

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

8. To appoint an internal auditor for accounts

It was resolved to ask Sandra Jones to complete the internal audit of accounts after 31st March 2021.

9. To note flood threat and response over week commencing 18th January 2021 and thank the Parbold Flood Wardens for their work

There was relief that the flood warnings issued were heeded and despite rising levels few properties were affected by flood on this occasion.

The Parish Council formally thanks the Flood Action Group and Flood Wardens and volunteers who all helped over this worrying time.

The emailed request for funding from the Flood Action Group was considered. In principle it was agreed to support, however, in line with other grant requests, a copy of a recent bank statement to be provided with an explanation of how much money is required, and how that money is spent. It is understood that insurance for the group and annual maintenance of the community-led camera is required.

The meeting noted Rosie Cooper MP's press release that the five pumping stations in the Alt Crossens catchment area serving West Lancashire will not be switched off at the end of March.

10. To note Lancashire County Council response regarding grit bins

Following the Parish Council's request that LCC grit around Brandreth Drive and Broadmead estate, this reply was noted.

Re: 58686

Thank you for your enquiry below and our update are as follows.

Secondary routes are the roads that link primary routes together or roads that are not on the primary route but have an appreciable gradient that warrants treatment.

Treatment of the remaining road network will only commence on a priority basis once the defined Priority Road Network, the defined Secondary Road Network and the defined Priority Footway Network are all maintained clear, but only during daylight hours. Some minor roads and cul-de-sacs will inevitably have to thaw naturally. The Priority Road Network specifically excludes housing estate roads and minor roads without appreciable gradients.

Many residential roads, particularly non-through routes, do not carry sufficient volumes of traffic to activate the salt, and can be difficult for gritters to access due to parked vehicles. On this basis, unfortunately, we would not consider adding the Broadmead and Brandreth Drive Estates on to our secondary route programme. If residents would like to request a grit bin at a particular location, you can via the link:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter/gritting/gritting-map/>.

A further email was then received:-

Thank you for your query.

Unfortunately we cannot include these types of roads for our gritting vehicles for numerous reasons. They are not through roads and do not link primary or secondary routes together. They only serve residential properties and not hospitals, emergency services etc. The grit we put down on the road surface requires traffic to run over it to make it effective and these cul-de-sacs and dead ends would not achieve that. The substance that we use is a natural resource and not sustainable so has to be used sensibly and as efficiently as possible. During a winter weather event there are only enough vehicles and drivers to keep the primary and secondary routes across the country as safe as possible and this in itself is a challenge. I hope this helps.

Regards, Tony Kavanagh, Technical Support Officer (Revenue Maintenance West Lancs)

Cllr Blake in her capacity as Borough Councillor had contacted LCC requesting further grit bins be provided to these roads.

11. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2021/0060/UL

Location: 63 The Common, WN8 7EA

Proposal: Two storey extension to be constructed to front of the property to form new porch and extension to existing bathroom

Parbold Parish Council/Minutes/050221

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2020/1256/FUL

Location: 20 The Common, WN8 7DA

Proposal: Loft conversion with rear dormer and extension to driveway incorporating repositioning of lamp post

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council object to this application. The proposed flat-roofed dormer would occupy the entire rear roof-slope of the main house element, and would reach upwards to the main roof ridge: so that half of the main house would be flat-roofed at 2nd storey height. This would create a heavily unbalanced design with a disproportionate and over-dominant element of flat roof.

Application Number: 2020/1255/FUL

Location: 58 Alder Lane, WN8 7JH

Proposal: Single storey rear extension.

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2020/1236/FUL

Location: Bowling Green House Farm, Broadhey Lane, High Moor Wrightington WN6 9BD

Proposal: Demolition of existing rear two storey and single storey extensions. Proposed two storey and single storey rear extensions. Proposed porch to the front elevation.

Improvements to existing elevation.

Parish Council Response: No objection to the proposal.

Application Number: 2020/1239/FUL

Location: 39 Lindley drive, WN8 7ED

Proposal: Single storey rear extension and external alterations including pitched roofs to dormers.

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council objected to Application 2020/0939 for the following reasons: The side wall is alongside the garden to Number 41 which is a chalet bungalow style of home. The proposal is a huge increase in mass of building along that boundary. The effect is that it would cut off quite a lot of the view from the garden; there would be no early morning sunlight intrusion as is currently a feature of this garden and the openness would be completely cut off. This development would be oppressive and overbearing for the neighbouring property due to the oppression created by the very tall brick wall domination.

Few of these issues have been addressed by the amended application, therefore Parbold Parish Council continues to object to this proposal.

Reference Number: 2020/1205/FUL

Location: 4 & 4A Station Road, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NU

Proposal: Change of use from short term letting/leasing rooms (Class C1) to residential apartments (Class C3).

Parish Council Response: no objection in principle to this proposal. However, the flood risk to the property needs to be verified, as neighbouring properties are known to have flooded in the past.

12. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Schaffel – the bit of land on The Common, outside The Heys is looking in a shocking state again. Ask WLBC to resume enforcement against the owner. Also, ask if owner is willing to sign it over to Parish Council, but only if no cost to PC is incurred? It is a prominent place in the village and everyone benefits from it looking nice.

Cllr Carruthers – A resident raised concerns about the dog grooming business at Coffee Etc, as waste water is being discharged straight into the brook there. Also, it is clear that building work is taking place.

The threat of a breach at Dock Brook in the previous week had alerted people to a property on West View that had erected a fence to protect their land. A resident in Burnside complained about this saying the water comes into their garden because of it. Cllr Blake will check this out with WLBC.

Cllr Stopford – cctv at Bramble Way – can we arrange for the contractor to return and solve the teething problems?

Cllr Holland – the new equipment for leachate at Bramble Way is concerning. The new machinery makes a lot of noise, not always but it is disturbing. There has been no attempt to fit in with the landscape; it is messy, noisy and a very poor arrangement, having been brought forward from the footprint of the old equipment. The previous installation was covered and did not make a noise, so this is far from an improvement. It must be disturbing to wildlife and certainly would put off anyone wishing to moor their boat along the canal there.

Cllr Arnold – Regarding the garage removal from the courtyard at the rear of the hall £600 has been agreed however, there will be a requirement for skips to be added to this quote. All in favour of continuing.

13. 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. Any members of the public viewing the proceedings will now be removed from the Zoom meeting.

Not needed; no members of the public present.

14. Consider tenders for grounds work 2021-22

Of the four tenders presented, the contractor Laurence Davis was selected.

15. Agree how to move forward with filling the parish council vacancy

Parbold Parish Council/Minutes/050221

It was resolved that:-

- 1) Councillors email the Clerk any questions they wish to put to the candidates before Tuesday 9th February 2021
- 2) Clerk circulate these questions to all Councillors and decide who asks which question, with all questions to be asked as written
- 3) Hold a Zoom meeting, inviting each candidate at 20 minute intervals, during which Councillors put these questions to them – each candidate to be asked the same questions, but follow up possible
- 4) Hold a Zoom poll at the end of this meeting
- 5) Invite candidate with most votes to attend March meeting and be co-opted onto the Parish Council

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

Cllr Brian Arnold
Chairman

5th March 2021