

Parbold Parish Council

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MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Friday 1st November 2024 in Parbold Village Hall, The Common, WN8 7DN

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Gill (Vice Chairman), Cllr Bailey, Cllr Long, Cllr Butts and Cllr Shaffel.

5 members of the public in attendance.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a two minute silence was held in remembrance of the armed forces personnel who volunteered, served, fought and died for our freedom.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Carruthers and Cllr Blake.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. 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.

Several residents from the Broadmead/Burnside estate explained to the Council the impact of the recent flooding upon their homes and their lives. This time the surface water had flowed down from the railway track and platform into the rear gardens and houses. There was a discussion about the overtopping of Dock Brook onto the railway line and also the dredging of the

river Douglas. It was explained that on this occasion the gullies on the estate were free flowing as they had been repeatedly cleared by WLBC and that the flooding appears to have been restricted to the houses adjacent to the railway line.

A resident raised the issue of speeding along Mill Lane in Parbold, which has a 20mph speed limit. There were discussions about the use of speed indicator devices (SpID) or engineered solutions such as speed bumps. It was acknowledged that the vehicles which are regularly parked along this road can act as a regulator of speed at times. Also, the use of a SpID is effective whilst in place but does not change behaviour in the long term. It was explained that the County Council uses collision data when determining speed reduction solutions and apparently the data collected to date does not raise this road as enough of an issue at this time.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 4th October 2024

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

5. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented or already paid

150824 T and VP Wade – meadow mowing	BACS	£720.00
041024 Tom Owen Groundworks - Capital work	BACS	£15108.00
041024 Tom Owen Groundworks – Grantscape work	BACS	£10200.00
071024 SLCC membership for Clerk	BACS	£183.00
071024 Community Carol Group donation	BACS	£150.00
121024 Boiler Care – village hall	D/D	£19.25
151024 Vision Link	D/D	£24.00
151024 O2 CCTV	D/D	£28.07
241024 Noticeboard Company – map board	BACS	£710.38
281024 B Joule – salary	S/O	£886.10
281024 Festive Lights – village hall decorations	BACS	£266.94
281024 Clerk 2024 pay award back pay	BACS	£223.39
281024 Print cartridge	BACS	£11.47
291024 Tree Check – Grantscape project	BACS	£420.00
011124 Laurence Davis October 2024	BACS	£955.00
311024 Bank charges	D/D	£5.40
311024 HMRC tax/NI	D/D	£804.03

6. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application No: 2024/0805/FUL

Proposal: Demolish and replace existing bungalow with new bungalow.

Location: Stonewold, Tanfield Nook, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire.

Comments: The Parish Council offers no objection to this proposal

Application No: 2024/0831/FUL

Proposal: Proposed front porch extension - Remodelling of front elevation similar to the neighbouring property.

Location: 54 Alder Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7JH.

Comments: The Parish Council offers no objection to this proposal

Application no: 2024/0860/FUL

Proposal: Single storey rear residential extension.

Location: 16 Alderbrook Drive, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HF.

Comments: The Parish Council offers no objection to this proposal

7. To note the LGS 2024 pay award for the Clerk to the Council

Members were informed of the Local Government Scheme pay award for the Clerk, which had been agreed and backdated to 1st April 2024. The impact upon the Council was explained and Members noted the change.

8. Village issues

- **To discuss the recent flooding issues in the village**

Further to the discussion generated in the public participation item it was suggested to hold a public meeting and invite relevant agencies to hear the residents' concerns and look for a collective solution. It was resolved to look into this suggestion and see whether it is a feasible option.

- **To receive an update on the usage of SPIDs within the village in order to monitor speeds of road users**

The Parish Council own 2 speed indicator devices (SpID). One is in use in the village and the other one has been in for assessment for repair and upgrade to solar power. In light of the issue raised in the public participation, and general feeling that these devices are of benefit to the

village, it was resolved to authorise the work to the second SpID and to locate it along Chorley Road between The Common and Hilldale, as there have been concerns about speeding along that road. LCC will be contacted to request the installation of a suitable pole that will bear the increased weight of the solar powered unit.

9. Alder Lane matters

- **To discuss the inclusion of a budget item for the maintenance of the Alder lane field drain at the upcoming Finance meeting**

It is felt that the playing fields may need some attention as the ground has become compacted and therefore unable to drain effectively. There is also a muddy area immediately inside the gate from Bramble Way car park to the Alder Lane football and rugby field. This could possibly be crush damage to the underlying drains as a result of heavy vehicles driving onto the field. It was resolved to allocate funds for the maintenance and repair of the field in the 2025-26 PC budget, which will run alongside the Sport England pitch improvement project.

10. Update on Councillor raised issues

- **To receive an update on progress with the maintenance of the Station House**

It was resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

11. Clerk's Report

The report was duly noted.

12. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

- Cllr Long raised the issue of vehicles parking too close to the junction of Lindley Drive and The Common. This appears to be a perennial problem and the obstruction of the junction is a safety issue.

- Cllr Gill raised the issue of falling leaves blocking gullies and drains on a number of roads around the village. These blockages can lead to excess surface water and flooding. Cllr Bailey informed Members that LCC Highways have targeted the lower lying estates to ensure that gullies are kept clear at this time of year.

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, if any.

13. To further consider a donation to Christ Church, Parbold for the repair of fencing around the newly consecrated ground

As no quote for the fencing has yet been received it was resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

14. To receive an update on the meeting with the Architect regarding the PCA project to extend the village hall.

The Council discussed the outcome of the meeting held with representatives from the PCA, their architect and Members on 14th October. The Council had previously requested a 12 month business plan from the PCA, to assist in establishing the viability of the extension project and before a decision could be made about releasing the necessary funds. There was concern that without a clear plan of how the planning and ongoing costs would be met there is a risk of the project failing. Also, that the original plans for a moderate extension have now increased to an ambitious two story extension. Therefore it was resolved to withhold the previously agreed funding of the architect’s fees until the Council have been reassured that all ongoing costs could be met and that the new plans will be cost effective.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 2100hrs.

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Chairman

1st November 2024