

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Parish Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 21 June 2010 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7:30 pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs J Burton (Acting Chairman), Mr J Clinch, and Mr I McRae. Also present Borough Councillor Gartside and County Councillor Ms C Evans and County Councillor Otter.

OPEN FORUM

The Chairman – Welcomed County Councillor Mike Otter, Parish Champion, attending to present the Parish Council with a cheque for £250.00 following a successful request for assistance towards the purchase of a Parish Council Notice Board for Apple Lane South, Appley Bridge. Councillor Otter thanked Parish Councils for the valuable work they undertake. The Chairman thanked Councillor Otter for his support and financial assistance and, for attending this evenings meeting.

Public Present – Several residents from Church Lane reported serious concerns relating to activity at 4A Church Lane. They are informed it is a care home however, the Police have attended on a number of occasions and removed young people in handcuffs. Screaming and swearing has been heard at the property. It would appear someone may be living in the garage and cars and social workers are visiting the property all the time. The house is rented from a private landlord. Neighbours have never received any information or notification, nor been able to comment/make observations on activity at this address. The Council will endeavour to obtain some information on the current situation. Members of the public reported on attendance at the recent PACT Meeting where discussions became quite heated and reports on anti-social behaviour at Mossfields have increased. The Council will enquire how many reported incidents at Mossfields have been logged and whether the Police are working with West Lancs. BC to try to address/resolve these issues.

Reports – The footway on Mossy Lea Road, from Raby Fold Farm towards the Mulberry Tree is severely narrowed by overgrown vegetation. The contractor will be asked to cut this back. It was reported that the success of the funding bid for approx £80,000 worth of play equipment and drainage work at the playing field, Mossy Lea, was detailed in the local newspaper. Residents of Mossfields have witnessed young males urinating at the rear of the houses. They could not obtain the registration number of the vehicle, though they do realise this information would be useful. Flats bordering the grass verges have received consultation letters on the possible installation of ‘No Ball Games’ signs. The Chairman agreed to assess the impact of a wood-pile stacked against the wall of 311 Mossy Lea Road. If it is considered dangerous the Parish Council will contact the occupier. The Police will be asked to patrol Church Lane to check the speed and the impact of motorcyclists using this route to the motorcycle shop on Toogood Lane.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Were received and accepted from Councillors Mr Hodgkinson (holidays), Miss Malivoire (family commitments)
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members were asked to consider any personal/prejudicial interest they may have to disclose in relation to matters under discussion at the Meeting. There were no declarations at this point in the meeting.
3. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17 May 2010 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – Nothing specific.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

Items reported to, and noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 4 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Annual Reminder to Parish Councillors to update Register of Interests if necessary - NOTED
- b) Notification of consultation on “No Ball Games” signs at Mossfields – NOTED.
- c) Up-date/info. from the Police on policing parades – THE VICE-CHAIRMAN AND CLERK WILL FOLLOW THIS MATTER UP, ENQUIRING WHY THE GUIDELINES HAVE NOT BEEN ISSUED BEFORE AND HAVE NOT PUBLICISED. THE COUNCIL WILL NEED TO KNOW THE PROCEDURE FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY.
- d) Consultation on proposal: Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Lancashire County Council – (West Lancashire Borough Area) – (Prohibition of Stopping on School Entrance Markings) Order 201*, for your observations – NO OBJECTIONS. (Standing Orders were lifted to allow a member of the public to ask about enforcement of these proposals – THE COUNCIL WILL ASK THE QUESTION). THE MEETING RESUMED.
- e) Invitation to the Parish Council to the Civic Sunday Service – 27 June – NOTED.
- f) Notification of Small Sparks Grants via Help Direct – CLERK WILL FOLLOW THIS UP.
- g) Sample of 3mm acrylic mirror-board – KEEP ON FILE FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE USE AT APPELY BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL.
- h) Info. on Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service and request for nominations – NOTED.
- i) Current position with regard to s106 funding and proposals for Mossy Lea Play Area – IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE FUNDING FOR ALL ELEMENTS OF THE SCHEME HAS BEEN APPROVED.
- j) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – i) Request from LCC for Parish Council opinion on the offer of land at Hall Lane – THE CHAIRMAN REPORTED THE LAND IS APPROX. 15 yards x 100 yards, INCLUDED ACCESS TO A PUBLIC FOOTPATH AND WOULD CREATE A GOOD AMENITY AREA. JAPANESE KNOTWEED WOULD NEED ERADICATING AND THE SURFACE CLEARING TO THE OLD TARMAK ROAD-SURFACE UNDERNEATH. THE PARISH COUNCIL COULD APPLY FOR FUNDING TO CLEAR, CUT BACK TREES, PLANT THE AREA PUT IN A BENCH, BIN ETC. RESOLVED: GO AHEAD WITH THE AGREEMENT WITH LCC. (Standing Orders were lifted to allow the Council to explain the location of the land in question to a member of the public present). THE MEETING RESUMED.

6. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS – Reports

1. Wooden stakes are still in the grass verges on Appley Lane North. The Council will request that they be removed and the grass verge returned to its previous condition.
2. (Standing Orders were lifted to allow County Councillor Otter to report that the Parish Council can obtain further leaflets from LCC reminding homeowners to cut back their hedges) THE MEETING RESUMED.
3. Roadside signs need cleaning in the Parish.

7. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Councillor Mrs Burton reported on a meeting between herself, Paula Campbell from West Lancs. BC and young people in the Parish, to discuss their wishes for the playing field adjacent to Mossy Lea Village Hall. The meeting was well attended and very fruitful however, a representative from a play equipment supplier was invited to attend by a resident. Ms Campbell has subsequently informed the gentleman that his attendance will prevent him from tendering for the work required at the play area. Questionnaires will be drawn up and delivered, once returned the information will be collated and progress will ensue. (Standing Orders were lifted as members of the public asked questions relating to approval and consultation on the proposed schemes. There were concerns that there should be the right balance of provision across the age groups. The Chairman explained that the final decision as to what is included in the refurbishments/replacements lies with West Lancashire Borough Council, as the owners of the playing field. A questionnaire will be circulated locally and in the schools, to ascertain what the young people and the community would like to see on the playing field, the information will be collected and collated and the final scheme determined. Once a scheme is complete the Borough Council will obtain several quotations following which a consultation will take place, probably at Mossy Lea Village Hall, and the

community will choose which scheme they prefer. The most preferable scheme, the one with the most votes, is likely to be the one which goes ahead). THE MEETING RESUMED.

The Clerk reported on her attendance at a recent Clerk's Liaison Meeting at West Lancashire BC where she raised the fact that the Parish Walking Day will not be going ahead this year due to the strict guidelines issued to the Churches, allowing insufficient time to comply with the necessary rules and regulations to go ahead. Concern was expressed that this could have a long-term impact on Parish activities.

8. **CASUAL VACANCY** – The Clerk reported that in accordance with s85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the failure to attend throughout six consecutive months, any meetings of the council or its committees or sub-committees, has resulted in the automatic cessation of Mrs Loretta Penketh as a Mossy Lea Ward, Wrightington Parish Councillor. Mrs Penketh has been informed of this fact and the Clerk read out a letter of response. Mrs Penketh expressed her disappointment at being dismissed as a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council stressed that Mrs Penketh had not been dismissed and that her cessation of office was an automatic result of her absence from parish Council Meetings/business since late November 2009 when she attended a training course at West Lancs. BC. (The Chairman stated that she would not be responding to the actions of people present indicating their wish to speak at this point in the Meeting. The Chairman stressed that she had already suspended standing orders four times during the course of Parish Council business and that she felt sure that the explanation of procedure to follow would be sufficient explanation of the situation – it was pointed out that Borough and County Councillors normally make their reports during Open Forum when everyone present is given the opportunity to speak and ask questions). The Clerk reported that Notices informing of the casual vacancy will be posted this week and West Lancs. BC will be informed. On the expiration of the 14 day period and, providing there is no request for an election, the Parish Council will co-opt to fill the vacancy.

9. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – The Chairman has obtained a quotation of £480, excluding paint, to sand-down, fill, undercoat, emulsion and gloss paint the interior of the main hall and porch. Councillors will make a decision and choose a colour at the next Parish Council Meeting.

APPLEY BRIDGE – The Chairman reported that the urn is broken. It was suggested prices be obtained for instant hot water heaters at both halls. There may be grants available from the Rural Development Programme for England to remove the false ceiling and improve the village hall facility. An expression of interest form, specifications and quotations will need to be obtained to submit a bid. Councillor McRae will measure the car park and plot out projected numbers of parking spaces on the computer.

10. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2010/0500/FUL Alterations to roof to include gable elevations; dormer extension to south west elevation; roof lights to north east elevation; first floor rear balcony and conversion of garage to living accommodation. Bow Cottage, Robin Hood Lane, Wrightington. NO OBJECTIONS.
- 2) 2010/0472/FUL Replacement two storey dwelling. Alterations to existing vehicular/pedestrian access with gates and pillars. Tauranga, Broadhurst Lane, Wrightington. NO OBJECTIONS.
- 3) 2010/0617/FUL First floor and single storey rear extensions plus pitched roof over existing dormer To front of property. 11A Hinds Head Avenue, Wrightington. NO OBJECTIONS.
- 4) 2010/0622/FUL Erection of detached dwelling. Land south of Ashfield Terrace, Appley Bridge. THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECT ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE PROPOSED BUILDING WOULD BE COMPLETELY OUT OF CHARACTER WITH THE EXISTING STREET SCENE. THE BUILDING DESIGN IS NOT SYMPATHETIC WITH THE EXISTING VICTORIAN/EARLY GEORGIAN STYLE OF STONE BUILT PROPERTY IN THIS AREA AND WOULD NOT BE IN KEEPING WITH THE ASHFIELD TERRACE CONSERVATION AREA.
- 5) 2010/0652/FUL Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 storey replacement dwelling

(Case 711717) including new vehicular/pedestrian access. Inwood, Tunley Lane, Wrightington.
NO OBJECTIONS.

11. **LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** – Info re: AGM, Sat 6 Nov, County Hall, Preston – Workshops on Community Engagement and Chairmanship – reminder about Autumn Conference, Saturday 18 September, Leyland – June 2010 Newsletter – NOTED.

12. **ACCOUNTS** - To receive the following list of accounts for Approval:

For Payment:

Dave Proe	Grass Cutting ABVH x 2	£44.00	
	Amenity Grass Cut x 2	£124.00	
	Weed-spraying ABVH + MLVH	£30.00	
	Bench repairs	£25.00	£223.00
Ainscoughs	Materials for bench repairs		£15.02
Heskin Plumb/Htg	Leak repairs, replace waste pip, clean drains MLVH		£150.00
E.on	Electricity Supply ABVH		£89.74
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net		£552.85
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£15.79)	
HM Rev. & Customs	Employers NI liability	£11.86)	£27.65
D/D – Eon	Electricity Supply MLVH		£95.48
D/D - CPRE	Annual Subscriptions		£29.00

Receipts:

ABVH Committee Quarterly Transfer £2310.00

RESOLVED: That payment and receipt of the above Accounts be approved, and the end of year Receipts and Payments Account for ABVH be accepted.

RESOLVED: That the draft Newsletter be approved and go to print.

13. **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 19 July 2010 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 1 to 13 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 19 July 2010.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9:00 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification appeal against WLBC decision dismissed at Cowlings Farm, 13 Church Lane.
- b) Notification of extension to timescale for Parish Council nominations on Standards Committee.
- c) Police info. – Newsletter, details of email list for crimes etc.
- d) Letter of thanks for donation from 1st Appley Bridge Scout Group (53rd Ormskirk).
- e) Letter of thanks for donation from Open Spaces Society.
- f) Notification highway matters reported by Parish Council are being investigated.
- g) Confirmation reports re: public footpath 23 have been investigated and is safe for public use.
- h) Confirmation Police dealt with dog bit issue.
- i) Posters (displayed in Notice Boards) for Parbold Village Festival – Saturday 10 July 2010.
- j) Copy Open Spaces Society AGM info, Annual Report and Summer 2010 Newsletter.
- k) Hard copies of the Parish & Town Council guide on Community Engagement.