

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Parish Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 18 April 2011 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mr F Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs J Burton and Mr F Johnson. Also present County Councillor Ms Evans and Borough Councillor Gartside.

OPEN FORUM

(At this point in the Meeting members of the public present can report, ask questions, raise issues and make observations on parish matters or items appearing on the Agenda. Reports will also be received from the Police, District and County Councillors if attending – Once open forum is closed the Chairman will only suspend standing orders to allow public participation in extreme circumstances.)

Public Present - Residents of Chisnall Avenue are currently suffering severe problems with rats. This infestation could be a result of house-building work in Hinds Head Avenue or at Lathom's Charity Farm on Mossy Lea Road. When they reported this to West Lancs. BC they requested £40.38 per household to treat the problem. The residents of Chisnall Avenue are West Lancs. BC tenants, paying rent and rates. As this is a health and safety issue and West Lancs. BC have a duty of care to their tenants, it is believed that West Lancs. BC they should pay any costs involved. The Parish Council, Borough Councillor Gartside and County Councillor Ms Evans all agreed to pursue this matter. There is a large pot-hole in the footway on Mossy Lea Road near the junction with Chisnall Avenue. The carriageway on the motorway roundabout requires urgent remedial work to address pot-holes, long grass and weeds.

County Councillor Ms Evans – Reported a forthcoming meeting with Andrew Burrows, Public Realms Officer, LCC, to go around the roads in the area to assess and address highways issues eg: 20mph speed limits in the vicinity of schools, a zebra crossing on Mossy Lea Road and Appley Lane North, more signage in the Parish. An anti-skid road surface was requested on Mossy Lea Road to prevent further accidents in icy weather conditions. Councillor Ms Evans also reported on meetings underway to discuss the future of Wrightington Hospital – there are 3 options being assessed however, the belief is that there is no valid reason or justification for its closure. It was reported that Councillor Ms Evans and Borough Councillor Tattersall had met with the lady who has purchased land opposite the Dicconson Arms and off Appley Lane North, behind the school. She has suggested the building of a leisure centre and doctors surgery amongst other things, in exchange for permission to build houses at Fairy Glen. This land is Green Belt and would not be allowed to be developed. It is understood that plans are about to be submitted. The Parish Council will await any developments on this matter and discussions will take place if and when plans are received.

136. APOLOGIES - Were received from Councillors McRae (holidays) and Clinch (holidays).

137. 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.

138. MINUTES – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21 March 2011 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. .

139. UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Nothing specific which is not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

140. 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) Notification of insurance for the coming year for review prior to renewal – RESOLVED: INSURANCE COVER REVIEWED AND ADEQUATE FOR FORTHCOMING YEAR.
- b) Notification the Annual Audit of the Parish Council Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2011 will take place on 22 July 2011 – NOTED.
- c) Notification of uncontested Parish Council Elections and details of candidates for the Borough Council Election – NOTED. Following detailed discussions relating to the retention of Mr C

Taylor as the Parish Councils web co-ordinator, despite his not continuing as a Parish Councillor, it was RESOLVED: THAT MR TAYLOR BE PAID AN ANNUAL HONORARIUM OF £240 TO CONTINUE HIS VALUABLE WORK ON THE WEBSITE.

- d) Notification of a consultation on the future of local public audit (Details emailed for perusal prior to the meeting) – THE PARISH COUNCIL ARE HAPPY WITH THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDING AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT AND PEACE OF MIND.
- e) Notification that LCC have offered to devolve highway verge and tree management services to West Lancs. BC and that previous amenity grass cutting agreements may now be with WLBC – RESOLVED: THE COUNCIL WILL ENQUIRE WHEN THE FIRST CUT WILL BE DONE AS DURING ALL THESE DISCUSSIONS THE GRASS IS STILL GROWING.
- f) Notification that Chief Inspector Dean Holden is transferring and his successor will be Chief Inspector Geoff Hurst – NOTED.
- g) Info. on Armed Forces Day – RESOLVED: INVESTIGATE COSTS OF PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF FLAGS AND FLAG POLES FOR THE VILLAGE HALLS.
- h) Notification and invitation to CPRE AGM, 7 May, 10:30am, County Hall, Preston – NOTED.
- i) Notification of application for increased authorisation for 15 vehicles, 0 trailers at the LCC Depot, Moss Lane, Wrightington – NOTED.
- J) Details, for your information, of an application in an adjoining authority – L/2011/0244/AAA – Change of use of barn to use for holding 12 licensed events per year with a temporary car park and erection of a temporary marquee from May-Sept. Swifts House Farm, Bentley Lane – RESOLVED: THE COUNCIL STRONGLY OBJECT TO THESE PROPOSALS ON THE GROUNDS OF HIGHWAY SAFETY, THE INCREASE IN VEHICULAR MOVEMENTS IN THE PARISH OF WRIGHTINGTON RESULTING FROM THIS DEVELOPMENT, THE NOISE NUISANCE WHICH WILL BE GENERATED BY THE PROPOSED USE LATE AT NIGHT, THE POOR SITE LINES ON THE DOUBLE BEND AT THE LOCATION OF THE SITE, AND THE FACT THAT THIS IS ALSO A WORKING FARM AND THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY CANNOT POSSIBLY BE GOOD POLICY FOR THE WELFARE OF THE LIVESTOCK. THE COUNCIL ARE ALSO AWARE OF THE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AND ACTIVITY OPPOSITE THE SITE AND FEEL THE PROPOSED USE WILL ADD TO, AND INCREASE, THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE INDUSTRIAL USE.
- k) Info. & details on West Lancs. BC proposals to introduce planning charges – raised last month, for perusal and possible comment at this meeting – RESOLVED: THE COUNCIL ARE OF THE OPINION THAT IT IS FAIR TO CHARGE PROFESSIONALS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS HOWEVER, ORDINARY RESIDENTS WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OR EXPERTISE IN THIS FIELD SHOULD NOT BE CHARGED.
- l) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – i) Notification of appeal decision, 8 Broadhurst Lane – NOTED. ii) Notices for display in Notice Boards of properties available on the Choice Based Lettings register – RESOLVED: THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS NEITHER THE TIME NOR MANPOWER TO POST THESE NOTICES, ON A WEEKLY BASIS, ON THE NOTICE BOARDS HOWEVER, OFFICERS ARE WELCOME TO USE THE PUBLIC PART OF THE NOTICE BOARDS FOR THIS PURPOSE. Iii) Info. from LCC re: Review of Community Transport – RESOLVED: THE PARISH COUNCIL BELIEVE A SCHEDULED SERVICE, AT A NOMINAL FARE, WOULD ACHIEVE BETTER RESULTS. REGARDING CONCESSIONARY FARES IT MAY BE MORE COST EFFECTIVE TO PROVIDE BUS PASSES BUT ALLOW TRAVEL ANY-TIME, ANY-DAY, FOR A NOMINAL FARE, THUS GENERATING INCOME.

141. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The Council will again request details of the road sweeping and gully emptying schedule.
- It was noted that there will be maintenance costs involved for the Parish Council if the transfer of Coalgate Depot, Hall Lane, goes ahead.
- Children were recently seen climbing the fence around the playing field adjacent to Mossy Lea Village Hall, to access the equipment.
- The fencing around the watercourse at Mossy Lea Village Hall playing field is damaged and lying on the floor. Access to the watercourse is now a health and safety issue and could prove fatal as the water level is quite deep during heavy rainfall.

- A resident of Mossy Lea Road has raised concern about the possible increase in numbers of young people attracted to the play area once work is complete. Councillors noted that this site has always been a play area and such facilities are required in rural areas.
- There is a very deep pot-hole on Carr House Lane which requires attention.
- It was reported that the SPID is once again present on Hall Lane.
- There is litter and fly-tipping on Tunley Lane.
- A Parish Councillor has received a request to place a memorial bench/stone on land at Coalgate Depot if it is transferred to the Council. The Council would have no objections to this request.
- Boulders at the top of Whittle Lane near the quarry, probably placed there by the new quarry owners, need completely removing as moving them back away from the road would obstruct access to the bridleway at this location.
- It was reported that the planning proposals at Hesketh House Farm, discussed last month, will sit on the line of the public footpath. Mr Cheetham, from the ramblers association also expressed concern about the state of this footpath and will be pursuing this matter. It is understood that new plans have been submitted.

142. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Nothing to report.

143. ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN FOR FORTHCOMING YEAR AND REVIEW DOCUMENTATION IN PARISH COUNCILLORS INFORMATION PACK RESOLVED: THE PARISH COUNCIL ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND ACCEPT THE ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR. DOCUMENTS IN THE PARISH COUNCILLORS INFORMATION PACK WERE REVIEWED AND AMENDMENTS APPROVED DURING THE COURSE OF THIS YEAR WERE NOTED. ALL DOCUMENTATION WILL BE RE-ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN MAY 2011.

144. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – The Clerk reported that progress is being made with work comprised in the successful bid/project from LAG, Rural Development Programme for England. Electrical work associated with last years successful Capital Bid to West Lancs. BC has also commenced to prevent damage to painting work to be undertaken shortly. It was agreed that the Clerk will invoice for yoga classes held on Monday evenings and obtain payment, whilst Councillor Hodgkinson will address payment and arrears due from yoga classes held in the hall on Tuesdays.

APPLEY BRIDGE – Nothing specific to discuss as the Council await the outcome of the application for a Capital Bid to West Lancs. BC for 2011/12 for upgrading the entrance to the village hall.

145. STANDING ORDERS - RESOLVED: In Accordance with Standing Order No 19, Standing Order No 18 was suspended to allow the remaining items of business to be conducted.

146. PLANNING The following applications were discussed and observations as detailed:

Applications received for discussion:

- 1) 2011/0283/FUL Erection of timber stable block comprising 4 Stables and midden. Land opposite 6 Carr House Lane, Wrightington. NO OBJECTIONS. (Case 873650)
- 2) 2011/0312/COU Change of use from hairdressers to dental laboratory. 308 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. THE COUNCIL HAVE NO OBJECTIONS HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT THERE ARE ALREADY 2 DENTAL LABS. IN THE PARISH. (This application was subsequently WITHDRAWN).
- 3) 2011/0326/FUL Extension to existing dropped kerb and retention of hardstanding. 2 Mossfields, Wrightington. THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECT TO THIS TYPE OF 'PIECEMEAL' DEVELOPMENT BUT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE TO AN APPLICATION FOR A BLANKET SCHEME TO PROVIDE INCREASED AND ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR RESIDENTS OF MOSSFIELDS IN-FRONT OF ALL THE FLATS AT MOSSFIELDS. (Case 873656)
- 4) 2011/0301/NMA Non-material amendments to planning permission 2008/0389/FUL – 15 Broadhurst Lane, Wrightington. NO OBJECTIONS.

147. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Notification next Area Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday 28 April, 7:30 pm, Derby Street and that County Councillor Otter will attend to discuss the Three Tier Forums – Draft Minutes of the last Area Committee Meeting – NOTED.

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

For Payment this month:

Mrs J Rogers	Honorarium – Booking Secretary ABVH	£200.00
Mrs E Armstrong	Honorarium – Treasurer ABVH	£200.00
Mrs C Hodgkinson	Honorarium – Booking Secretary/Treasurer MLVH	£400.00
LALC	Annual Subscriptions	£463.86
Aon Ltd	Annual Insurance Premium	£1587.13
Fire Eqpmt Services	Servicing Extinguishers MLVH	£48.54
Colway Services Ltd	Balance of invoice for Electrical repairs ABVH	£15.00
British Gas	Gas supplied ABVH	£505.16
Petty Cash		£25.00
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse 1 month web-hosting costs	£6.00
Mr C Taylor	Reimburse 3 months web-hosting costs	£18.00
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£585.03
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£2.20
D/D E.on	Electricity supplied MLVH	£124.67
D/D United Utils.	Water charges MLVH	£13.97

Receipts:

Lancs. CC	Library Rent – ABVH	£100.00
BACS Transfer –	West Lancs. BC – Precept	£6600.00

RESOLVED: That payment and receipt of the above Accounts be approved.

149. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 16 May 2011 at Mossy Lea Village Hall, ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7.00 PM, followed by the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 136 to 149 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 16 May 2011.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 10:35 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification of following planning decisions:
 - 2011/0055/FUL – permission granted for replacement stable block, Harrock Lodge, Jacksons Lane.
 - 2011/0135/FUL – permission granted to form opening in existing front wall to provide new vehicular access. 91 Mossy Lea Road.
 - 2011/0323/CMA - no objections to erection of vehicle/maintenance storage facility. LCC storage depot, Moss Lane.
- b) Details of permitted use of register of electors supplied with election papers.
- c) Copy of County Councillors Evans' March Newsletter as Champion for Disabled People.
- d) Notification of West Lancs. Homefinder roadshows – posters in Notice Boards.
- e) Police info. including March Newsletter and details of Rural Watch going mobile.
- f) Confirmation Census support will take place on Monday 4 April, 10am-2pm, Mossy Lea Village Hall
- g) Insurance details from Came & Company.
- h) Notification of Wigan Central Area Action Plan – Issues Paper Consultation.