

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 17 June 2013 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs J Burton (Chairman), Mr F Hodgkinson, Mr F Johnson, Mr P Gartside, Mr I McRae and Mr J Clinch.

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.)

21. **APOLOGIES** – All current serving Parish Councillors present.
22. **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. Councillor Mrs Burton declared in interest in planning application 2013/0506/LDP.
23. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20 May 2013 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
24. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Minute 11(e) – It was confirmed that the wind turbine application will be going to the July Planning Committee Meeting for consideration.
Minutes 16 - Councillors Hodgkinson and McRae were thanked for removing rubbish from Appley Bridge Village Hall.
25. **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) Update with regard to parking problems at Mossfields – THE CLERK REPORTED THE CURRENT RESPONSE FROM WEST LANCS. BC OFFICERS WHO ARE CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE INCREASING PARKING AT MOSSFIELDS BUT, WHO DO NOT BELIEVE ANYTHING WILL BE GAINED BY A PUBLIC MEETING. THE PARISH COUNCIL REMAIN UNHAPPY WITH THE RESPONSE AND WILL MAKE A FURTHER REQUEST FOR A PUBLIC MEETING TO ALLOW FOR A FULL AND FRANK DISCUSSION. PARKING REMAINS AN ISSUE, AND ACCESS IS SEVERELY RESTRICTED FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES, IN THE CUL-DE-SAC.
- b) Notification proposals for alterations to parking/yellow lines on Mossy Lea Road are now on hold due to mixed responses received from the public consultation – NOTED.
- c) Notification from planning consultant for Wigan Athletic that they are currently in a holding pattern, waiting for WAFC to submit an application – NOTED.
- d) Request for renewal of membership to OPSTA - £10 – RESOLVED: RENEW NEXT MONTH.
- e) Confirmation that numerous highway matters reported to LCC are currently under investigation – THE CHAIRMAN MET WITH LCC OFFICER, ANDREW DAVIES, TO DISCUSS FLOODING ISSUES IN THE PARISH AND WHITELINING AT SKULL HOUSE LANE WHICH HAS NOW BEEN REINSTATED. A NEW LARGER CONCRETE DRAIN WILL BE INSTALLED ACROSS MOSSY LEA ROAD WHICH WILL PREVENT TREE ROOTS FROM GROWING IN THE DRAIN. LCC WILL ALSO BE ATTENDING TO THE END OF THE DRIVEWAY AT RABY FOLD FARM. MORE INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE FLOODING PROBLEMS AT THIS LOCATION WILL BE UNDERTAKEN. THE FIELD DRAIN WILL BE LOCATED AND ASSESSED ON APLEY LANE NORTH.
- f) Notification of problems experienced by residents on Church Lane caused by parked cars and blocked pavements – INSPIRE CHIDLRENS SERVICES WILL BE INFORMED.

- g) Notification Lancs. Police & Crime Commissioner Community Action Fund is now open for applications – NOTED. DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE ON POLICING AT PARADES AND WALKING DAYS.
- h) Request for financial assistance from Open Spaces Society towards latest project – ON FILE.
- I) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations i) LCC response to Parish Council objections to the proposed diversion of part of public footpath No.5 – RESOLVED: THE PARISH COUNCIL ARE NOT PREPARED TO WITHDRAW THEIR OBJECTIONS. THE POND WAS A FEATURE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE IN THIS AREA, OPEN AND AVAILABLE TO VIEW, TO EVERYONE WHO USED THE PUBIC RIGHT OF WAY AND IS NOT A FEATURE OF THE APPLICANTS HOME. THERE IS NOW A HEDGE AND A VERY LARGE FENCE ALONG THE RIGHT OF WAY WHICH NOT ONLY DETRACTS FROM THE ROUTE BUT CONSTITUTES A LOSS OF AMENITY TO FOOTPATH USERS. THE COUNCIL DO NOT THINK LOWERING THE FENCE WOULD COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF AMENITY WHICH WOULD RESULT FROM THE DIVERSION OF THIS ROUTE. THE POND REMAINS IN AGRICULTURAL LAND AND IS NOT IN THE GARDEN CURTILAGE OF THE APPLICANTS HOME, IT IS NOT A GARDEN FEATURE BUT SOMETHING WHICH HAS BEEN, AND SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE, ENJOYED BY EVERYONE. FURTHERMORE, THE PROPOSED EXIT OF THE FOOTPATH IS SO CLOSE TO THE CARRIAGEWAY ON ROBIN HOOD LANE AS TO BE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS FOR RIGHT OF WAY USERS. FOOTPATH USERS WITH DOGS OR SMALL CHILDREN WILL NEED TO BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL COMING OFF THE PROPOSED DIVERSIONARY ROUTE WHEREAS THE CURRENT ROUTE EXITS FURTHER UP THE DRIVE AND IS FAR SAFER AND MORE BENEFICIAL TO USERS. ii) Notification of the Committee Date from Wigan Council for the proposed further development at Herons Wharf – NOTED.

26. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- Japanese knotweed on Mossy Lea Road, between Tunley Lane and Derby House, needs treating and removing.
- Bushes opposite the car park of St Joseph's Church, which are the responsibility of West Lancs. BC, require cutting back as they are significantly overgrowing the footway.
- The Clerk will ask if grass verges on Mossy Lea Road have been cut this season and will request details of future scheduled cuts. The footways need spading back on the approach to BP Crow Orchard Garage.
- Road markings on Mossy Lea Road are non-existent in places and need replacing. The legal implications of missing road markings should an accident occur will be raised.
- Hedges from land belonging to United Utilities, leased to a resident of Mossy Lea Road, need cutting back and the broken down shed on the land is an eyesore.
- A list of landowners adjacent to public footpath 21, Moss Lane to Mossy Lea Road, will be requested together with evidence forms to support a request for a footpath modification.
- Hedges on the bend on Robin Hood Lane need cutting back. LCC have land ownership details.
- The Chairman reported an incident which was very dangerous when a motorist reversed out of the car park at St Josephs' School and into the road at speed. This was dangerous for pedestrians, children and other road users.

27. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Nothing to Report.

28. ANNUAL NEWSLETTER – For possible amendment and agreement to go to print. It was agreed that some editorial will be removed and replaced with more detailed information on Village Hall hire and activities and classes which are currently held in both halls together with information about the Coffee Mornings held regularly at Mossy Lea Village Hall following which it will go to print.

29. LEASE MOSSY LEA VILLAGE HALL – THE CLERK REPORTED THAT THIS LEASE IS MORE IN LINE WITH PARISH COUNCIL EXPECTATIONS HOWEVER THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CLAUSES WHICH REQUIRE ALTERATION OR REMOVAL. COUNCILLOR HODGKINSON AGREED TO LOOK AT THE DRAFT LEASE AND REPORT HIS VIEWS ON THE CONTENTS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL AT THE JULY MEETING.

30. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Cheques received for Zumba classes, £120 – classes will now cease due to falling numbers. £10 received for Craft Class. Suggestion, a craft day for mums and children will be held on Friday 16 August, learning together. Confirmation Puppy & Dog Training classes will commence on Saturday 31 August 2013. Confirmation a Hot Pot Supper and Sing-a-Long will be held on Friday 28 June, 7-10 pm. Further investigation into computer classes will be made.

APPLEY BRIDGE – Result of Village Hall Committee Meeting. All Councillors attended along with the Dancing Teacher who confirmed that she had booked the hall for the past 2 years for 15 hours per week. Payment has only been received for the hours she claimed to have used the hall and she did not think to inform the booking secretary when the hall was not used due to illness or holidays. This has resulted in a financial loss to the Village Hall Committee/Parish Council of approx. £2000.00 per annum for the past 2 years from dancing classes when the hall was booked but not paid for. The hall could have been re-booked by another user had the booking secretary been made aware it was not in use. Future village hall users will be told to inform someone if they are not using the hall. The storage room has not yet been emptied.

RESOLVED: FOLLOWING DISAPPOINTMENT WITH REGARD TO DANCING CLASSES, AND DISCREPANCIES IN HOURS BOOKED AND HOURS PAID FOR, THE COUNCIL HAS, AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, DECIDED IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE AN AGREEABLE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DANCING TEACHER. THE COUNCIL WILL REQUEST THAT SHE LOOK FOR AN ALTERNATIVE VENUE TO HOLD THURSDAY EVENING CLASSES, EMPTY ALL CUPBOARDS AND THE LOCKED ROOM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, AND RETURN KEYS, ENSURING ALL PAYMENTS DUE ARE MADE AND UP-TO-DATE. Confirmation Yoga classes have commenced on Monday mornings. Confirmation a bid has been submitted to VIP for new lights in the main hall, total cost £913.00 – bid submitted for £500 towards this project. The contractor will be asked to weed spray both village hall car parks and remove ivy growing on the large tree on the left hand side of the village hall.

31. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2013/0611/FUL Extensions and alterations to existing bungalow to form two storey dwelling. (Case 1354020) (Extension of time limit for implementation of planning permission 2010/0495/FUL). | Overdale, Robin Hood Lane, Wrightington – NO OBJECTIONS.
- 2) 2013/0516/LDP Certificate of Lawfulness - Proposed single storey rear extension. The Cottage, 52 Finch Lane, Appley Bridge – NO OBJECTIONS.
- 3) 2013/0506/LDP | Certificate of Lawfulness - Proposed detached double garage with attached workshop/store. 4 Courage Low Lane, Wrightington – NO OBJECTIONS.

32. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Newsletter June 2013 – Request for suggestions, which WLBC officer attends the next Area Committee Meeting in July – Notification of training workshops: Employment & Community Engagement with Case Studies Workshop – Notification of 69th AGM, Sat. 9 November 2013, 1:45pm, County Hall, Preston – Notification information is available to landowners from the Environment Agency on how to reduce flood risk – **THE COUNCIL WILL SUGGEST THAT AN OFFICER FROM THE HOUSING DEPT. AT WEST LANCS BC COULD BE INVITED TO ATTEND. COUNCILLOR GARTSIDE WILL ATTEND THE AGM IN NOVEMBER.**

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

Payments:

AB Pensioners SClub.Donation	£100.00
E.on Electricity supplied at ABVH	£109.45
Petty Cash	£25.00
Heskin Plmbg/Heatg Stop tap and tap repairs MLVH	£130.00
Mrs C A Cross Clerk's Salary – Net	£587.23
HM Rev. & Customs Tax due by Clerk	Nil
D/D – United Utils. Water and Surface Water Charges MLVH	£369.51

RESOLVED: Payment of the above accounts be approved.

34. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 15 July 2013 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 21 to 34 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 15 July 2013.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9:55 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Confirmation no breach of planning control has taken place at rear of 355 Mossy Lea Road.
- b) Invitation to speak at planning committee meeting on 20 June in relation to planning application at Wrightington Hospital – The Parish Council consider observations submitted are sufficient.
- c) Confirmation reported locations for Japanese Knotweed will be investigated and the necessary orders placed for removal will be progressed.
- d) Notification of temporary road closure, A577 Ormskirk Road, Upholland, 13-19 July, 8am- 5pm, to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.
- e) Invitation to attend the 80th Anniversary Picnic and circular guided walk from CPRE, on Sunday 7 July, 1pm at Downham Village Hall, Downham, Lancs.
- f) Press Release, notification that WLBC is making changes to the West Lancs. Local Plan 2012-2027 Development Plan Document following the recommendations of the Government Inspector.