

# WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 17 March 2014 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 pm the following were present:

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

## 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.)

Mrs Hooley, Secretary Appley Bridge WI – was present to discuss placing a planter/s at Appley Bridge VH to assist Appley Bridge in Bloom. They would like a round concrete planter, supplied and paid for by the Parish Council, possibly under the Notice Board. The Chairman suggested long narrow planters, made from reclaimed railway sleepers, on the edge of the grassed area with a two-fold purpose – to make the car park and grassed areas more attractive and to prevent cars being parked on the grass. It was stated that the WI do not want to be responsible for policing parking on the car park/grass. This is not the Parish Councils intention and felt that there would be not need for such policing if the planters prevented vehicle access on to the grass. It was stressed that the Pensioners use the grass for their garden parties therefore planter/s could not obstruct this use. The fear is that anything less weighty than a concrete planter would be stolen. It was suggested that a small concrete planter which the WI already have could be placed under the Notice Board initially with a view to improving this in the future.

WW1 Anniversary Discussions – The Chairman met at the war memorial however, it was confirmed that this land does not belong to the Parish Council but to Mainsprint and therefore, any requests to undertake work should be made to the landowner. Some work is required to a tall poplar tree at this site which is in a dangerous state. Appley Bridge in Bloom will contact the Community Centre and the landowner to discuss progress. Some work is also required to the fence around the war memorial. It was reported that work is continuing with the schools to try to trace soldiers who are named on the war memorial in Shevington, this may be something which could work cross border, looking for commonalities in the names on the Shevington and Appley Bridge memorials.

It was reported that work has commenced on further development at Herons Wharf and Shevington PC are pursuing this. It was confirmed that planning consent has been given to replace the play equipment on the existing site however it is likely to be 2-3 years before this is completed. The previous play area site was never adopted by Wigan Councils Leisure Services and remained the responsibility of Morris Homes.

- 128. APOLOGIES** - Were received and accepted from Councillors Mr J Clinch (holidays) and Mr F Johnson (illness).
- 129. 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 an interest in the Planning Application on the Chorley Council weekly planning list: 14/00201/TEL – Proposed upgrade to base station installation comprising removal of 3 no. TEF antennas and replacement with 6 no. proposed antennas at same height on 17m high lattice tower. Proposed 3 no. RRU's to be mounted to lower legs and proposed 3 no. 0.3m dishes to be mounted to lower legs. Telecommunications Mast, Chisnall Hall Farm, Chisnall Avenue, Wrightington.
- 130. MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Budget Meeting and the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17 February 2014 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 131. UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING**  
Page 1 – It was pointed out that the Minutes cannot reflect the actual pitch of the meeting which, it was felt, was heightened by the presence and conduct of the Borough Councillors. Parish Councillors were disappointed by the way the elected members conducted themselves and at the criticism lodged against the Parish Council and some individual Councillors which was both uncalled for and unfounded. The Chairman hoped that the Parish Council behaved admirably under this pressure, rising above the situation and, dealing with the matter calmly and professionally and felt that those present left the Meeting with a different attitude to that with which they came. It was

confirmed that the Minutes are an accurate record of the discussions and that the Parish Council will not be taking this matter any further.

### 132. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Report 1 a) – The Parish Council remain concerned about the safety of the fencing bordering the footway adjacent to the Northern Diver building/excavations. West Lancs. Planning will be asked for an update on the current planning situation and a request for a Health & Safety check will be requested.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Request from Parbold, Newburgh and District U3A to display posters and info. about their group – **Posters will be displayed in the Village Halls.**
- b) Details of play equipment suppliers for further consideration following the request for additional young people’s play facilities adjacent to MLVH, from s106 funding – **It was suggested that improvements to the play facility at Appley Lane South are difficult due to the amount of Football which takes place on the playing field and the fact that the land does not actually belong to West Lancs. BC makes proposals more difficult. The Chairman reported on a recent productive Meeting with a West Lancs. BC representative to discuss adding a piece of play equipment at the site adjacent to Mossy Lea Village Hall, for use by young teenagers. This would result in a totally inclusive play facility for all age ranges from young children through to adults. The Chairman will continue to pursue this matter.**
- c) Current position re: West Lancs. Community Covenant – **Noted. Councillor Mrs Kay will attend any future Meetings, if it is deemed necessary.**
- d) Suggestion that the local schools take advantage of local rural amenities for educational purposes – **The Clerk will forward this suggestion to the two Primary Schools in Mossy Lea. A request that remedial work be undertaken to the route from Broadhurst Lane, which is in a very poor state and obstructed in places, will be made to LCC. Councillor Hodgkinson will meet with LCC footpaths Officers on site to walk the route, and discuss improvements. Councillor Mrs Burton reported that in Coppull they are considering the inclusion of new accesses to the public rights of way for horses, cyclists and walkers.**
- e) Request for info. relating to work to the culvert at “The Slacks”, Appley Bridge – **It was confirmed that work was undertaken at this site however, flooding occurred once more and further work was completed. It was also reported that the land may now actually have been transferred to Wigan Council to make organisation of the work less complicated. Improvements remain unfinished.**
- f) Copy of allocated funding and schemes to be completed in West Lancs. for 2014/15 following a request for info. to County Councillor Fillis – **Noted.**
- g) Further info. in relation to the request from Appley Bridge WI to extend planting for Appley Bridge in Bloom to Appley Bridge VH with the addition of planters at the hall to be planted and maintained by ABWI – **Following discussions earlier in the Meeting, the Parish Council confirmed their agreement to the placing of a round planter under the Notice Board to be planted and maintained by ABWI. Councillor Mrs Burton will investigate the potential cost of reclaimed railway sleepers to create planters on the edge of the grass.**
- h) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations i) Request from West Lancs. BC for acceptance of concurrent grant funding – **The Clerk will confirm acceptance.**

### 133. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- Parking is a problem on Skull House Lane and The Vale on Saturdays, with cars double parking on the grass banking as well as on the road.
- There are some large dead branches overhanging the carriageway on Appley Lane North, opposite the Community Centre, which need removing.
- The bus shelter opposite the Dicconson Arms needs cleaning.

134. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES** – The Chairman confirmed the fact she had met with a representative of West Lancs. BC to discuss additional play equipment on

the playing field adjacent to Mossy Lea Village Hall. The Chairman confirmed a Meeting with Councillor Horridge, Shevington PC, to discuss the war memorial at Appley Bridge.

- 135. ACTION REQUIRED TO SATISFY AUDIT REQUIREMENTS & REVIEW INSURANCE - Resolved: The Parish Council confirmed the following action has been taken throughout the year to satisfy audit requirements:** i) The Risk Assessment/Management Plan/Register – were reviewed and adopted at the May 2013 Parish Council Meeting. ii) The effectiveness of the Internal Audit was confirmed – the Internal Auditor is both competent and independent, has no relationship with the Clerk or Councillors. The Audit trail is detailed, planned and the broad scope of the internal audit covers all aspects of the Councils business including financial, administrative, practical and procedural matters. Any issues arising from both the internal and external auditors are reported to the Parish Council at the earliest opportunity and the appropriate action taken. The Parish Council confirmed the continued appointment of Mrs MacDonald as the Parish Councils Internal Auditor.
- Resolved: The Council confirmed cover is up-to-date and adequate for renewal in 2014/15.**

### **136. VILLAGE HALLS**

MOSSY LEA – Notification bid to VIP Community Grants Winter Programme for £500 towards purchase of a new Notice Board, was unsuccessful. Notification of changes from E.on – change to name of the tariff and notification of an increase in charges w/e/f/ 11 March 2014. Cheque for £70 for use of the Village Hall for a corporate first aid class and for £40 for dog training classes which have now ceased – **Accepted**. A letter of application has been received from Mr Cross for the post of caretaker at the Village Hall.

Following discussions of the contents it was **Resolved: The contract be awarded to Mr Cross for 3 hours per week, 2 hours cleaning and 1 hour general maintenance/upkeep, at an hourly rate of £7, (£21 per week, totalling £1092 per annum,) to be paid monthly by the Village Hall Committee at £91 per month. To commence immediately.** The Clerk will pursue funding towards the purchase of the Notice Board from the County Councillor. Village Hall Committee Meeting – **To be held prior to the April Council Meeting – Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mossy Lea Ward Councillors to attend.**

APPLEY BRIDGE – Notification of changes from E.on – change to name of the tariff and notification of an increase in charges w/e/f/ 11 March 2014 – **Accepted**. The Clerk will request an updated price for the installation of new lights in the main hall, similar to the kitchen ones. Once updated, funding will be sought. **The Clerk will look into the installation of smart meters for the electricity at both Village Halls and at fixing tariffs for the gas and electric.**

### **137. PLANNING** To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2014/0043/FUL Removal of dormer to rear. Raising roof height to incorporate dormers to front & rear (Case 1500411) creating additional living at first floor level. 4 Tunley Lane, Wrightington. **No objections.**
- 2) 2014/0059/WL3 Change of use from grassed open space to car parking. Laying of kerbs, stone base (Case 1500417) and tarmacadam road surfaces and footpaths as on plans. New road crossings to highway. Land adjacent to 1-4 and 5-8 Mossfields, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **No objections.**
- 3) 2014/0123/FUL Erection of a single storey detached garage. Tunley Lane Farm, Tunley Lane, (Case 1500422) Wrightington. **No objections provided the proposed building is in keeping with the surroundings.**
- 4) 2014/0171/FUL Demolition of existing porch, chimney and utility room. Erection of first floor front extension and single storey rear extension. 4A High Moor Lane, Wrightington. **Withdrawn.**
- 5) 2014/0188/FUL Retrospective application for the erection of 2 security CCTV cameras. Huws Gray, (Case 1500427) Ainscough Business Park, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **No objections.**
- 6) Application which appeared on the Chorley Council weekly planning list: 14/00201/TEL – Proposed upgrade to base station installation comprising removal of 3 no. TEF antennas and replacement with 6 no. proposed antennas at same height on 17m high lattice tower. Proposed 3 no. RRU's to be mounted to lower legs and proposed 3 no. 0.3m dishes to be mounted to lower legs. Telecommunications Mast, Chisnall Hall Farm, Chisnall Avenue, Wrightington. **No Comment.**

Neighbouring Parish Application – 14/00071/OUTMAJ – Outline application for the redevelopment of the former Camelot Theme Park comprising of the erection of up to 420 dwellings (all

matters reserved). Camelot Theme Park, Park Hall Road, Charnock Richard. **The Parish Council object as they feel that the schools, the local roads and infrastructure, and the amenities in the area are inadequate to support the proposals. They are also of the opinion that the only way the additional volume of traffic could be adequately deal with would be by the inclusion of enhanced access to the motorway at this location.**

**138. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – decision required on membership. Resolved: Membership be renewed this year however the general feeling is that Borough Councillors should not have as much authority as they do have. That if a representative is a dual hatted Councillor they should attend the Area Committee Meetings as Parish Council representatives only and should act in the interests of Parish Councils and not Borough Councils. The Area Committee should not just meet to discuss matters but should also pursue matters discussed as a body rather than referring everything back to the Parishes.**

**139. ACCOUNTS -** Receiving the following list of accounts for Approval:

**Payments:**

LALC	Annual Subscriptions (Payment with-held last month)		£486.66
Aon	Annual Insurance Premium (CHEQUE CANCELLED – NOT DUE YET)		£1584.74
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse Internet Charges 2013 - 2014 (50%)	£60.00	
	Mobile Tel. Charges for past 6 months (50%)	£63.00	£123.00
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse Mileage Expenses 2013 – 2014		£223.20
A Whittaker	Floor work and seals on door – ABVH		£150.00
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk’s Salary – Net		£587.23
HM Rev & Customs	Tax due by Clerk		Nil

**Received:**

MLVH Committee	Transfer of funds		£2000.00
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Report: No non-domestic rates payable at the Village Halls – **Noted.**

**Resolved: That payment and receipt of the above accounts be approved.**

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

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 14 April 2014 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 128 to 140 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 14 April 2014.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9:55 pm

Chairman:

Date:

**REPORT 1**

- a) Notification permission REFUSED for three storey building incorporating showroom, training pool, plant room, change facilities at ground floor, with two storey office accommodation above. 12m deep test tank facility and alterations to existing car park layout. Demolition of existing lean to to north elevation. Northern Divers Building, East Quarry, Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge.
- b) Notification permission GRANTED for retention of a softwood timber post and rail fence to the rear of the existing stone wall that forms the boundary of the property with an adjoining timber gate across the driveway. Cowlings Farm, 13 Church Lane, Wrightington.
- c) Confirmation that the landowner at Robin Hood Lane instructed/requested that Mr Riding cut back the hedges on his behalf.
- d) Notification of, and consultation on, the Wigan Community Infrastructure Levy – Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule.
- e) Notification Wigan Council has commenced preparation of an Allocations and Development Management Local Plan.

- f) Reminder to submit your views on the West Lancs. BC 2014 Stakeholder Survey.
- g) Confirmation a full planning application has been submitted for additional parking provision, Mossfields.