

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 16 March 2015 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mr F Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs J Burton, Mr G Horrobin, Mr F Johnson, Mr P Gartside, Mrs A Kay and Mr J Clinch. Also present PCSO Benson.

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.)

PCSO Benson – Reported the crime statistics for the last month – 4 crimes and 4 incidents - which is a decrease in crimes from the same period last year. There have been a total of 19 crimes in the first quarter of this year with quite a few thefts from vehicles at Wrightington Country Club. PCSO Benson went on to explain the benefits of the new “In the Know” – an IT system which circulates email or text message alerts of incidents locally. It is proving a quick and simple way for the Police to get information and alerts out to the public who have signed up to receive them. He reported there are active incidents in Parbold at the moment and there are plain clothes Police in plain cars, working in our Policing area because of an increase in crimes recently. Thieves are stealing high value vehicles, with trackers in them, parking them for a couple of days and if they are not tracked and retrieved, the thieves go back and collect them. When asked who should be contacted if there is mud on the road or footways PCSO Benson advised that LCC highways would be the first point of contact however, if there was a sufficient amount of mud to be considered dangerous, the Police can get involved, particularly if calls are out of hours at LCC. The road gutters are still full of mud but the footways are now better than they were. If there is any concern residents are advised to contact LCC first and, if it is a dangerous amount of mud or out of LCC hours, dial the Police 101 non-emergency line.

Public Present – Reported that the white van is still parking on the block-paved area where the recruitment office was in Mossy Lea. Some officers do appear to have been inspecting the trees at Mossfields. It was also reported that the numbered parking spaces is not working as efficiently as expected with some residents parking on other tenants numbered spaces without permission. This has been reported to the Borough Council however, it has been stated that this is not their problem now. The 2 unnumbered spaces, left for visitors to use, are being used by homeowners rather than tenants. The residents from flats 9-12 would like barriers on the edge of the grass to prevent vehicles from parking on the grass. Residents were present who own land adjacent to the land in the Planning Application 2015/0250/COU - Change of use of land from agricultural use to equestrian use (exercising and grazing). Fairfield Stocks Farm, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. He reported that the description of the fence as post and rail is in-correct, it is actually post and barbed wire and was erected by the landowner present. He is concerned that should an incident occur with the horses and the barbed wire fence, liability may fall to him. There is concern that the land is too close to the motorway to be a safe site for children on horses. The access road to the field in question is used by farm machinery and could also pose a danger to both horse and rider. It was also reported that the applicant breeds the horses and therefore a change of use would not be required.

127. **APOLOGIES** – No Councillor apologies were required.
128. **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. No declarations were made at this point in the Meeting however, should a Councillor feel he/she has any interest in later matters he/she will declare it at that point.
129. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of Parish Council held on Monday 16 February 2015 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.
130. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** - Nothing to report which will not be dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

131. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

Items reported to, and noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 page 3 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Response to complaints about the 113 Bus Service from Stagecoach – **Noted.**
- b) Negative response from Holmeswood Coaches to a request to alter the route of the 3A service – **Noted.**
- c) Briefing note from County Councillor Fillis on changes to bus services from April + Response from Transport for Greater Manchester to objections to removal of 638/639 service – **Noted.**
- d) Info. from NALC on the launch of its Star Councils 2015 awards – **Noted.**
- e) Info. on the National Plant Monitoring Scheme – **Noted.**
- f) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations.

132. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The overflowing bin in the play area opposite the shops in Shevington will be reported.
- The Council will again request a green bin for use by the Hinds Head Bowling Club.
- It was reported that the new LCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan is now open for consultation – it includes details on roadside verges and multi-purpose routes. The Parish Council will confirm the importance of the removal of stones/boulders/obstructions on highway verges and the fact that having such obstructions removed should not be so difficult.
- The Parish Council will enquire whether it is possible to obtain A2 sized maps of the public footpaths in the Parish, for display and reference at key locations in the Parish.
- There are trees on the left hand side of Skull House Lane which have been cut down by the residents of the large house behind the wall but the branches have been left on the verge.

133. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES** – Nothing to Report.

134. **ACTION REQUIRED TO SATISFY AUDIT REQUIREMENTS - 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 2014 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.

135. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Reminder - Breast Cancer Awareness Day on Sunday 22 March 2015 – **Noted.**

APPLEY BRIDGE – It was reported that there is a parking issue on the car park. When one of the pensioners approached the owner of a vehicle he became rather abusive. PCSO agreed to see if he could assist with this matter.

The Clerk reported receipt of the non-domestic rate bills for both village halls for 2015/16 – Nil. The Clerk reported that bids had been submitted to the Parish Champion by the Parish Council for £450 and to the Local County Councillor by each village hall committee for a contribution of £450 for each village hall towards the purchase of 2 x defibrillators, 2 x lockable cases to house the defibrillators and 2 x break glass boxes to access the key. 1 x defibrillator will be located in each village hall. **Resolved: If the funding bids are successful the Clerk must go ahead and purchase them before the end of the financial year to receive the grants. Invoices will be paid in the 2014/15 financial year but will appear on the April 2015 Agenda.**

136. **PLANNING** To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2014/1402/FUL Amended Description – Single storey rear extension including link garage. (Case 1688681) Conversion and reconstruction of garage to living accommodation. 4A High Moor Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 2) 2015/0250/COU Change of use of land from agricultural use to equestrian use (exercising and

(Case 1688685) grazing). Fairfield Stocks Farm, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **Resolved:** The Parish Council Object to these proposals. It is understood that the applicant breeds the horses in question which would constitute an agricultural use therefore making the application for change of use unnecessary. The description of the fence around the field as post and rail is incorrect. The fence is post and barbed-wire, erected by the adjacent landowner who is concerned about liability should a horse or child be injured when using the field. The site is considered too far away from the farm and too close to the motorway to be safe for both horses and riders. There is also an air vent for the now closed Chisnall Colliery which would prove problematic.

3) 2014/0927/FUL Notification of Amendment to application – the application has been amended to include a pitched roof to replace the flat roof on the existing single storey extension. Proposal – two storey side and rear extension. Pitched roof to replace flat roof on existing single storey extension and internal alterations. 11 Millbank, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**

137. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Nothing to Report. Councillors Mrs Burton and Mr Hodgkinson, as the LALC representatives on the Area Committee, reported that the Area Committee now seems to be working as a body and, rather than just talking about things they do seem to be more proactive than in recent years.

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

For Payment:

LALC	Annual Subscriptions (£486.66)		£551.56
E.on	Electricity use at ABVH		£141.95
British Gas	Gas use at MLVH		£214.86
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse Internet Charges 2014- 2015 (50%)	£60.00	
	Mobile Tel. Charges for past 12 months (50%)	£126.00	£186.00
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse Mileage Expenses 2014 – 2015		£198.90
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net		£618.72
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax due by Clerk		£4.20

Receipts:

HM Rev. & Customs	VAT refund		£382.01
-------------------	------------	--	---------

Resolved: Payment and Receipt of the above accounts is approved.

139. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 20 April 2015 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 127 to 139 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 20 April 2015.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 8:40 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- Notification that an appeal has been made against the West Lancs. BC decision to refuse planning permission for one pair of two-storey semi-detached houses. Land adjoining 51 Skull House Lane.
- Notification of a temporary road closure on Skull House Lane, from outside No.81 to outside Osprey House, from 8am-3.30pm on Sunday 17 May 2015, to replace 3 x Banging Frame and Cover.
- Electronic copy of OPSTA Newsletter.
- Copy Healthy Streets posters, displayed in Notice Boards.