

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 21 December 2015 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mr F Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mr F Johnson, Mrs J Burton and Mr P Gartside. Also present PC Lodge.

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.)

PC Lodge – Reported that she has collected the posters for the Poster Competition from the schools and is anticipating that judging will take place in the New Year. Crime statistics from Dec 2013 - Dec 2014 show 354 calls with 102 of those being crimes. Figures from Dec 2014- Dec 2015 show 373 calls with 74 of those being crimes. Calls cover all reports received but it must be noted that some are for information purposes only. Councillor Mrs Burton enquired whether the Police had any information about the car which is frequently seen parked on Moss Lane with the occupants asleep in it and parked fully on the pavement. PC Lodge confirmed that blocking the pavement is not acceptable and confirmed that she will make further enquiries. Councillor Johnson asked how the Police deal with residents reports when they are instructed to dial 101 if the fault they are reporting to LCC is considered an emergency eg: some incidences of flooding, a leaning street light or the fact the metal plate is off the front of a street light. PC Lodge explained that they may close a flooded road if it is considered a danger however, with regard to other matters they are likely to be reported to the relevant department for action.

Public Present – Reported that street light No.191 on Mossy Lea Road needs the metal plate reaffixing.

87. **APOLOGIES** - Were received and accepted from Councillor Mr Clinch (holidays).
88. **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.
89. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 16 November 2015 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
90. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** - Nothing specific to report that will not be dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

91. 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) Response from West Lancs. BC to further reports re: parking at Mossfields – **The Council cannot understand why the tenant of No.12, continues to be obstructive and is reluctant to conform to the agreement to use the parking space corresponding with the flat number she lives in. The tenant is not disabled and does not have mobility problems and is able to walk from the allocated parking space to her home. The Council remain firm in their belief that the tenant of No.12 has entered into an implied agreement with the Borough Council, and an obligation, to abide by the parking protocol associated with her tenancy of No.12 Mossfields. These facts should be clearly stated to the tenant of No.12 along with the statement that, by not complying with the agreement to park on her own numbered parking space she is causing considerable distress to the elderly resident, and her neighbour, at No.11 Mossfields.**
- b) Draft recommendations for Electoral Review of Lancashire, for comment/information – **Noted**
- c) Request for Donation from Open Spaces Society – **Resolved: No donation at this time.**

- d) Review and Update of West Lancs. BC list of locally important buildings – **The Parish Council were pleased to note that Appley Bridge Village Hall, Old Harrock Mill, Lathom’s Charity Farm, Lake House and Appley Bridge War Memorial have all been added to the list of locally important buildings.**
- e) Response from West Lancs. BC to request for info. on the War Memorial at Appley Bridge – **It was noted that West Lancs. BC does not believe they own the War Memorial, nor do the Parish Council. Further enquiries will be made with the War Memorial Trust.**
- f) Request for applications for Parish Capital Grants from West Lancs. BC – **Councillors are asked to consider suitable projects for discussion at the January or February Meeting following which an application will be submitted to West Lancs. BC.**
- g) Request for your views on LCC proposed budget options – **The Parish Council believe that if local government went back to basics, instead of being governed by new protocol which results in false economy eg: pot-holes which require continual repairs, or promises to take action eg: on Carr House Lane where there is a significant danger for motorists as the edge of the carriageway is falling away. Markers were promised several months ago. The Parish Council believe that local authorities should be working more with Parish Councils, at grass roots level. Councillor Johnson reported that it was 27 weeks since the last road sweep on Mossy Lea Road, when he raised the issue it took a further week before a machine was sent to Wrightington. When roads are not swept in autumn this results in blocked gullies, which causes flooding problems during heavy rainfall. It was reported that when a leaf sweep has been undertaken the operative then has to go to Skelmersdale, to empty it. Not a very cost effective exercise when there is an LCC depot on Moss Lane. The Clerk will re-send the email to Councillors and a response will be formulated at the January Meeting if necessary.**
- h) Notification from LCC of withdrawal of subsidies for local bus services - **Councillors believe the withdrawal of subsidies will leave rural areas with little or no means of accessing services, amenities and facilities outside the Parishes. The loss of, and lack of, even the most basic amenities in rural areas eg: shops, doctors, chemists, libraries and supermarkets, means that residents in rural areas are forced to travel outside of the Parishes and in to larger towns and villages to access these. The removal of subsidies will lead to the withdrawal of bus services in rural areas which will ultimately lead to social exclusion and social isolation for many residents in rural Parishes. Residents will be seriously disadvantaged by these cuts which will leave vulnerable residents such as the low paid, elderly and infirm, stranded in their homes and villages with little or no social interaction which will have a significant detrimental impact on their health & wellbeing. The Parish Council would urge Lancashire County Council to support bus service providers in every way possible to ensure that residents of rural Parishes are not disadvantaged by the County Councils budget cut proposals.**
- i) LCC response to letter of complaint re: HGV’s, Skull House Lane, Appley Bridge – **Noted.**
- j) Info. from LCC concerning the action proposed by the applicant requesting the diversion of footpath 5, Boars Den, in response to Parish Council observations. Plus, a request that the Parish Council withdraw their objections based on the action proposed by the applicant – **Following detailed discussions it was Resolved: That a compacted Hoggin stone surface on the footpath is acceptable to the Parish Council however, due to non-compliance with conditions on previous diversion applications at this location, the Parish Council would like to be given the opportunity to inspect the diverted route to ensure that all the conditions agreed have been complied with and, to ensure that the route is to an acceptable standard, before Lancashire County Council agree to stop-up the old route. If the applicant, and LCC, will agree to this inspection, the Parish Council agree to withdraw their objections to the proposed diversion of footpath 5, Wrightington.**
- k) Invitation to Chairman to attend the Lancs Civic County Carol Service at Blackburn Cathedral on Sunday 31 January 2016 at 6:30pm – **Councillor Mr Gartside will attend if possible.**
- l) Consultation by West Lancs. BC on 3 Local Development Orders of land at Findon, Former Digmaor Sports Centre and Delf Clough – **Noted.**
- m) West Lancs. BC options & preferred options on the provision for Traveller Sites – **Noted.**

- n) Request by Rosie Cooper for observations on how LCC can ensure that vital public transport services continue to be delivered and what you feel are key transport issues in our area - **The Council are concerned that recent confirmation of the withdrawal of subsidised bus services will lead to huge problems of social isolation in rural areas like Wrightington. The Council also believe that the proposals will impact most severely on the elderly, infirm and low paid residents, who cannot afford to use taxis and rely on public transport to access essential services. With regard to recent correspondence on the possibility of a Parish Based Bus Scheme. The Parish Council are of the opinion that this is a good idea but, the cost, insurance, training and public liability implications of setting up, and running, a Parish Based Bus Scheme make the idea prohibitive.**
- o) Additional Info. to support an application to fill the Parish Council Vacancy – **Resolved: The Council will invite the applicant to attend the first 3 Parish Council Meetings of 2016 - It is hoped that by attending the Meetings the applicant will get a feel for what is involved in being a Parish Councillor and, will have a clearer understanding of what is considered Parish Council business. The Council will then ask if he is still interested in becoming an Appley Bridge Ward, Wrightington Parish Councillor, and progress from there.**
- p) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – i) An email enquiring whether the Parish Council has any information on a possible solar panel project on West Quarry – **The Council have no knowledge of this.** ii) A report that the bus shelter on Wood Lane, opposite the Corner House, needs cleaning – **Councillor Mr Hodgkinson will check this and report back to the Clerk.**

92. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The ice warning sign at the bottom of Carr House Lane is flat on the grass verge.
- Cut branches and the makeshift stile still remain on footpath 5, Moss Lane to Mossy Lea Road
- Hedges along Crow Orchard Road, opposite the BP Garage and from Back Lane to Wrightington Fish Ponds are overgrown and need cutting back.
- Hedges and verges from 100 Mossy Lea Road to the BP Garage need cutting back along with hedges near Mossy Lea Farm, and opposite, on Mossy Lea Road and hedges on Tunley Lane.
- Flooding has been a problem recently near 9/11 Mossy Lea Road. When Councillor Johnson went on the LCC website to report it he was instructed that if the water is more than 50% across the road ring 101 and report it to the Police.
- The road surface is rough and pot holes remain near Tunley Hall on Tunley Lane.
- Litter picks are required on Moss Lane, Courage Low Lane and Smithy Brow.
- Fly tipping already reported on Moss Lane has not been removed. The 3 bags of rubbish fly tipped on Courage Low Lane have also not been removed.
- Flooding on Church Lane has been particularly bad recently, the farmer has cleaned out the ditch at the Borough Councils request, however, the Council believe that a culvert under the road is blocked on the first bend when approaching from the direction of the Church.

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

94. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – £40 for use of hall for Christmas Craft & Gift Fair – Craft classes £25 – Additional £20 for use of village hall for christening which over-ran - £20 for Christmas Party. The Clerk thanked the Parish Council for their continued support with her fundraising for Cancer Research UK and confirmed that the total amount raised is just over £55,000 since October 2010. It was reported that there are one or two cars parking on the car park for considerable periods of time. This will be monitored.

APPLEY BRIDGE – Confirmation Old Hall Brass will begin to use the hall on Monday and Thursday evenings with effect from Monday 4 January 2016.

95. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2015/1202/FUL Garage conversion and two storey extension with rear dormer. 1 Skull House (Case 1850544) Mews, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 2) 2015/1198/FUL Installation of kitchen extractor system (retrospective). Pesto, 206 Appley Lane (Case 1850546) North, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 3) 2015/1200/FUL Alterations to garden/boundary wall to southern side of site adjacent to access road.

- (Case 1850548) 10 Spring Bank, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 4) 2015/1275/LBC Listed Building Consent – Alterations to garden/boundary wall to southern side of site adjacent to access road. 10 Spring Bank, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**

96. **LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** – Newsletter Dec 2015 – Info. on Tesco Community Grants – Next Area Committee Meeting 21 January 2016. **Noted.**

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

For Payment:

SLCC	Annual Membership 50% (£149- shared with CRPC)	£74.50
Chubb Fire	Servicing and Replacing Fire Extinguishers at ABVH – <i>The Clerk is in discussions with Chubb Fire over the recent service and will report back in due course.</i>	
FG Welch	Service & Repairs to Central Heating Boiler MLVH	£360.00
E.on	Electricity use at ABVH	£113.19
British Gas	Gas use at MLVH	£194.92
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£618.92
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£4.00
Mr Keith Platts	Plumbing work MLVH (first part of payment)	£150.00

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts be approved.

98. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 18 January 2016 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 87 to 98 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 18 January 2016.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9:50 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification permission refused for variation of condition 2 imposed on planning permission 2013/1158/FUL to vary the approved plans. Acrefield House, 17a Broadhurst Lane, Wrightington.
- b) Notification permission refused for one pair of semi-detached houses (two storey) (resubmission of 2014/0666/FUL). Land adjacent to 51 Skull House Lane, Appley Bridge.
- c) Notification permission granted to build a garage in replacement of the large dutch barn (part retrospective). The Old Coach House, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington.
- d) Notification permission refused for two storey building incorporating showroom, training pool, plant room, change facilities, office accommodation at first floor level. Roof lift over part of existing to create full two storey area. 12m deep test tank facility and alterations to existing car park. Demolition of existing lean to to north elevation. Northern Divers Building, East Quarry, Appley Bridge.
- e) Notification permission granted for 1st floor extension over single storey. 11 South Dr, Appley Bridge.
- f) Notification West Lancs. BC objections to application for low temperature pyrolysis plant to convert low worth waste plastic into diesel & gasoline. Facility includes a fuel reception hall, conveyors, chemical treatment, fractionation columns, fuel storage tanks, a generator set & offices. Facility uses non-condensable gases & some product gasoline as fuel to meet the plants heat/power requirements. Appley Biomass to Energy Ltd Depot, West Quarry Railway Pad, Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge.
- g) Notification of a temporary road closure on Lees Lane to allow carriageway resurfacing, from 8am on Monday 4 January until 5pm on Friday 8 January 2016.
- h) Press release from West Lancs. BC who are recruiting tenant members for the Council's Landlord Services Committee and the Tenants Scrutiny Group.
- i) Notification that an appeal has been made against the West Lancs. BC decision to refuse permission to convert stable block to one bedroom single storey bungalow. Tunley Moss Stables, Tunley Moss.
- j) Copy CPRE Fieldwork
- k) Copy CPRE Countryside Voice.