

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 15 February 2016 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.

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 – Mr House asked the Parish Council for any information regarding the ownership of the neglected piece of land on Mill Lane. The Council did not have any details of ownership but agreed to contact the Police to determine whether they have had any involvement with the land owner. Councillor Hodgkinson agreed to check for land ownership details on the Land Registry. The Clerk reported programmed road closures on Appley Lane North, Appley Lane South, and through to Upholland to enable carriageway repairs to be undertaken. The tenant of No.11 Mossfields reported a visit relating to “Community Transport Services” including buses and dial a bus, however, the provision does not include going into Wigan. It was reported that Greater Manchester passengers can take the option of tokens instead of a bus pass which can then be used in taxis. It was suggested that in some cases it is likely to be cheaper for several residents to arrange to shop all together, using a taxi to do so.

112. **APOLOGIES** - Were received from PC Lodge.

113. **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.

114. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18 January 2016 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

115. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – Ice Sign – Carr House Lane, is still on the floor. Action to improve highway safety on Carr House Lane has still not been taken.

War Memorial – No further information as regards ownership, however, the land on which it is located is believed to be owned by Mainsprint.

Computers – Councillor Johnson reported telephone correspondence with Age UK. A representative will be visiting the hall to discuss this matter in more detail.

School Road Safety Poster Competition – The Chairman and Vice-Chairman have chosen 3 winners from each school. Book Tokens will be purchased and presented to the winners.

116. 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) Views sought on a Combined Authority for Lancashire – if you wish to submit them – **Resolved - The Council are concerned the introduction of a combined authority will result in another tier being created which will duplicate much of what goes on already in existing tiers of local government. The current 3 tier structure of local government in Lancashire, Parish Councils, Borough Councils, and the County Council, should already be working together to secure a prosperous, connected, skilled, Lancashire which provides better homes and better joint working arrangements. The 3 tiers should already be doing their best to achieve this in Lancashire. The existing authorities should already be working in the best interests of local communities. The Parish Council would like to know what effect the proposal to have a combined authority in Lancashire would have on Parish Councils. The Council are concerned the proposals may simply result in**

a further tier of local government which, may serve to replace a failing Lancashire County Council and, could result in the dilution of the functions and grass roots knowledge held by Parish Councils in Lancashire.

- b) Response to parking problems at Mossfields reported last month – **It was confirmed that a Housing Officer has visited the tenants of No.11 & No.12 Mossfields. This will be monitored and discussed again at the March Parish Council Meeting.**
- c) Response from LCC as to the status of the cul-de-sac at Mossfields – Mossfields is not a highway and is therefore the responsibility of West Lancs. BC and not LCC as the highways authority. **Resolved – West Lancs. BC will be asked to erect signs indicating that this is a private road, is a cul-de-sac, that turning is not allowed and which property numbers can be accessed from this private road.**
- d) Email from a rep. of ABCAGE re: issues relating to IKO next to West Quarry – **Noted.**
- e) Enquiry from Mr House re: neglected/overgrown piece of land on Mill Lane, Appley Bridge – **The Council will ask the Police for any information they may have with regard to ownership and Councillor Hodgkinson will check at the Land Registry.**
- f) Invitation from PS Andy Bramhall for a representative from each of the West Lancs. Remembrance Sunday events to attend a Meeting at Skelmersdale Police Station at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17 February to look at ways for these events to continue but in a way less reliant on police resources – **Resolved - The Clerk will submit apologies from the Parish Council and ask to be kept up to date with any information resulting from the Meeting.**
- g) Notification and invitation to attend, Villages in Partnership AGM, Tuesday 22 March 2016 at 7pm at the Bateman Hall, Ecclestone – **Resolved – Councillor Johnson will attend.**
- h) Invitation to attend the Lancashire Local Action Group Annual Meeting on Wednesday 16 March, 12pm-2pm, at the NFU offices in Skelmersdale - **Resolved - The Clerk will submit apologies from the Parish Council and ask to be kept up to date with any information resulting from the Meeting.**
- i) Copy of the 5 Parish Community Bus Service Proposal from Upholland Parish Councillor Mr Aaron Body to retain the 3A bus service as a community bus service – **It was reported that LCC have had their Budget Meeting and bus service providers have been told subsidies will cease on 2/4/16. Having examined the documentation provided by Mr Body it was Resolved – the Council think this is a good idea but would be too onerous to operate.**
- j) Request for views on how the Borough Council should consult people on planning matters – **Resolved – the Parish Council believe that provided all avenues of communication on planning matters remain in place to ensure the continual roll out of information to isolated areas, residents and groups exist, this would be ideal.**
- k) Request for views on West Lancs. BC Stakeholder Survey 2016 – **The Council completed the questionnaire to the best of their ability for submission.**
- l) Invitation to a free Planning Training Event on Tuesday 15 March at County Hall, Preston, arranged by CPRE – **No-one is available to attend.**
- m) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – Nothing to report.

117. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The new lamp post erected outside the former post office needs a bus-stop sign attaching.
- LCC vehicles are still parking in rural areas for considerable periods of time.
- Cut branches, litter and the makeshift stile still need removing from footpath 21.
- A litter pick is required on Mossy Lea Road, opposite Boundary Lane.
- A litter pick is required on the old road at the rear of the BP garage where brambles, overhanging branches and hedges also need cutting back.
- Gullies remain blocked at the bottom of Broadhurst Lane whilst work associated with flooding will take place in March.
- Councillor Johnson has discussed cutting back of overgrown hedges with a number of landowners in the Parish, hopefully this work will be undertaken before March.
- There is a large pot-hole in the carriageway in front of St Joseph's Church.
- The 2 road gullies either side of the gates of St Joseph's Church car park are blocked.
- Tyres have been fly-tipped in the gateway just past the depot on Moss Lane.
- Two black bin bags have been fly-tipped opposite the nursery on Tunley Lane.

- Litter on Courage Low Lane is now collecting in the ditch.
- There is a deep trench at the edge of the carriageway on Tunley Lane, there are 2 broken kerb edges and a hole in the carriageway.
- More information will be obtained on the proposed national litter pick to mark the Queen's 90th Birthday. Keep Britain Tidy will be contacted. It was suggested that it may be possible to involve the schools by organising a litter poster competition or encourage them to go out with their parents to do some litter picking.
- There is a significant problem with dog fouling in the Parish. Posters will be obtained.

118. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – LALC Area Committee Meeting – was attended by Councillor Mrs Burton who reported on a good meeting, well attended. County Councillor Fillis spoke about the bus services and the withdrawal of the bus subsidies. Borough Councillor Hodgson spoke about flooding in the Borough. It appears that all tiers of local government are pushing services onto Parish Councils. It was proposed that LALC put money in to fight the Environment Agency to stop them from turning the pumps off. It was reported that central government are restricting Environment Agency spending and therefore they are proposing to turn off the pumps to save money.

119. APPLICATION/S FOR PARISH CAPITAL GRANTS FROM WEST LANCS. BC. – Following earlier discussions at the Budget Meeting it was **Resolved** – **That the Parish Council will not be submitting a Capital Bid for the 2016/17 financial year.**

120. PARISH PRECEPT 2016/17 - Following detailed discussions on the anticipated income and expenditure for 2016/17. The Parish Council must take account of the proposed reductions in Concurrent Contributions and the Council Tax Support Grant. It was reported that these cuts could either be 10% per annum for the next 3 years or, a full 30% cut in 2016/17. The Parish Council must be prepared for these cuts and also for the increase in Parish expenses discussed. Therefore, it was proposed, seconded and **Resolved**: **that the Parish Council must provide for the worst case scenario at this stage and increase the Parish Requirement to £15,000.00 to cover these cuts and the increases in budgeted expenses. £15,000.00 for 2016/17 - £612.00 (the lowest Council Tax Support Grant contribution) = a Parish Precept of £14,388.00.**

121. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – £80 Yoga Classes – Jan 2016. £40.00 Craft Classes. £20 VIP Network Meeting. £40 Children's Party. It was agreed that West Lancs. BC will again use the hall as a Polling Station on 5 May 2016. Councillor Johnson reported speaking to young people playing football against the kitchen wall and told them that this is not allowed.

APPLEY BRIDGE – The Clerk will check the amount of paint left in the village hall with a view to asking Mr Proe to complete the gloss painting in both halls in the new financial year.

The Clerk confirmed that she has secured the services of a St John's Ambulance representative who will provide training in the use of the defibrillators. It is also hoped more general first aid training will also be available at a later date. The Clerk will arrange for the defibrillator boxes and the baby changing stations to be located in both halls. Training will be delivered before the defibrillators are installed in the boxes. Councillor Mrs Burton reported that Borough Councillor Mrs Evans told her she could source another defibrillator for location on the outside of a building for more general use in Mossy Lea. The Clerk will pursue this with Borough Councillor Mrs Evans.

122. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2015/1239/FUL Single storey office extension to rear and gable of existing property. Auto Time (Case 1877977) Systems Ltd Northern, North Quarry House, Skull House Lane, Appley Bridge. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
- 2) 2015/1318/FUL Retention of existing outbuilding/gym. Internal alterations and external wall (Case 1877980) material change to existing garage (Retrospective). 329 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
- 3) 2015/0136/FUL External refurbishment of forecourt shop. BP Connect Crow Orchard Service (Case 1878011) Station Crow Orchard Road, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**

123. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Notification of a free Insurance Workshop on Wed. 6 April 2016 at Howick House, Penwortham – **Noted.**

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

For Payment:

Chubb Fire	Servicing and Replacing Fire Extinguishers at ABVH	£202.44
Mr D Proe	Amenity Cutting £63.00 + Cutting grass and removing leaves ABVH £53.00	£116.00
United Utilities	Water used at ABVH	£55.14
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£618.92
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£4.00
D/D Utd Utilities	Water used at MLVH	£134.49
D/D E.on	Electricity use at MLVH	£144.40
British Gas	Notification that MLVH account is in Credit	

Receipts:

MLVH Committee	Annual Transfer	£1,500.00
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Resolved: Payment and Receipt of the above accounts be approved.

125. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 21 March 2016 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 112 to 125 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 21 March 2016 at 7.30pm.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9.40 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification planning permission granted for alterations to garden/boundary wall to southern side of site adjacent to access road. 10 Spring Bank, Appley Bridge.
- b) Notification planning permission granted for extension to existing house and car parking. 1 Canal Bank, Appley Bridge.
- c) Notification planning permission granted for demolition of existing rear single storey extension. Erection of new two storey rear extension including new single storey lean to element and associated external works. 134 Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge.
- d) Notification of an appeal against refusal of planning permission for first floor side extension, reconfigured fenestration and chimney to north elevation. Lower Broadhurst Farm, Broadhurst Lane.
- e) Notification of an appeal against refusal of planning permission for alterations and extensions to existing bungalow to form two storey house. 2 Mossy Lea Fold, Wrightington.
- f) Notification of temporary road closure of Appley Lane North to College Road, from 8am on Monday 29 February 2016 until 3.30pm on Tuesday 22 March 2016 or until completion of carriageway patching works.
- g) Confirmation from LCC that there are no areas in Wrightington which will be affected by the withdrawal of countryside services discussed last month &, public rights of way will not be affected.