

# WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 18 December 2017 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs J Burton (Chairman), Mr F Hodgkinson, Mr C House.

## 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.)

No public present – Nothing to discuss.

86. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mr Johnson (illness), and Councillor Mr Clinch (unable to attend due to the adverse weather conditions). Councillors remain aware that Councillor Gartside is staying with his son and that his health is not good.
87. **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 one of the Accounts as a relative of one of the payees. No further 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.**
88. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20 November 2017 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.
89. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – Nothing specific to discuss that will not be discussed elsewhere on the Agenda.
90. **CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**  
Items reported to, noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 3 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Notification that the applicant for the vacant Parish Councillors post cannot attend the December Meeting but will attend the January meeting – **The applicant will be asked to attend the January and February Meetings before making a decision to join the Council.**
- b) Response from Andrew Davies to report of yellow water on Broadhurst Lane – **Noted and detailed under Report 2.**
- c) Confirmation from West Lancs. BC that the purchase of the 2 picnic tables for Mossy Lea Play Area can be made from CIL money received – **Resolved – The Council will arrange for the purchase of 2 picnic tables for this site. It was suggested that, if West Lancs. BC will install on the same basis at the playing fields at Appley Lane South, then 2 further tables will also be purchased for the site in Appley Bridge.**
- d) Confirmation that Steve Kent will pass on your comments regarding the terms of the lease and rebuilding the wall at Appley Bridge Village Hall to the Estates Manager for her response – **The Parish Council have already incurred expenses £150 making the area safe and removing the stone from the footpath adjacent to the wall. The Council will await a response from the estates manager.**
- e) Request for a donation from the Open Spaces Society towards the Lost Commons: The Rescue Begins – campaign – **Resolved – No donation at this time.**
- f) Responses to reports made over previous month from Phil Steed, District Lead Officer at LCC & the VIP Mail Team (See list, details and Parish Council response at Report 2 – pages 3-4)
- g) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – i) Notification of temporary road closure Courage Low Lane and Toogood Lane from 29 January – 23 March 2018, or until utility work is completed – **Noted. The Council will suggest that this may be a good time to erect the new fencing adjacent to Courage Low Lane to prevent road users from leaving the carriageway and falling into the ditch adjacent.** ii) Notification

that applications to West Lancs. BC Capital Bids should be submitted by 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – **Suggestions will be brought to the January Meeting.** iii) Invitation to the Chairman to attend the Lancashire County Civic Carol Service on 4 February 2018 – **Councillor Mrs Burton will check with her husband and report back at the January Meeting.**

#### 91. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- It was reported that the homeowners who placed stones on the highway verge in front of their home on Tunley Lane have now removed them but have planted a hedge, leaving an area of land between the hedge and their fence. The Council will enquire about ownership of this strip of land at LCC.
- There is a lot of water running down Appley Lane North which appears to be coming from fields at The Mount and also from Skull House Lane. The junction of Skull House Lane/Appley Lane North is now extremely wet and could prove dangerous during frosty weather. The Council will request a grit bin at this junction.
- The Chairman will ask Mr Proe for a price to refurbish the Notice Board at Appley Bridge Village Hall. This could possibly be the subject of a Capital Bid.
- Councillors again expressed disappointment in the new street lighting which gives poor illumination. In some places, where street lights are few and far between, the light is so poor it may as well not be there and is often made worse by overgrown vegetation.
- Councillors once again expressed their disappointment that the Heron's Wharf/Mill Lane junction cannot be improved. Complaints about exiting at this junction are frequent. The Parish Council will ask LCC to reconsider their decision and will suggest that traffic lights be put at the junction or, that motorists should only be allowed to turn left out of Heron's Wharf.

92. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES** – Nothing to report. However, it was confirmed that Councillors Mrs Burton and Mr Hodgkinson will be attending the Local Plan Review Meeting in January 2018 to discuss sites which have been submitted as potential development or industrial sites in the Parish. It was confirmed, the Councillors attending will stress that the Parish Council are not in favour of any development on Green Belt land and will not support any suggestion of re-designation of any land which is currently Green Belt.

#### 93. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Christmas Craft & Gift Fair £30. Yoga £160. Reiki £20. Craft Classes £70. Request from E.on to discuss a new fixed price electricity contract as the current one ends on 23/3/18 – Councillor Johnson will be asked to look into this for the best deal at both village halls. The Clerk reported that the Boot Camp classes on Monday evenings will cease with effect from tonight as the class has grown too big for the village hall in the winter months. As the Boot Camp classes have finished it was agreed that the next Mossy Lea Village Hall Committee Meeting will take place in February, prior to the Parish Council Meeting, at Mossy Lea Village Hall. In view of the large water bill received, Paul Cornwell will be asked to quote to replace the urinals in the gents' toilets with a second toilet cubicle. Further thought will be given to protection for the chairs or the wall in the hall to prevent further damage to the painting.

APPLEY BRIDGE – Request from E.on to discuss a new fixed price electricity contract as the current one ends on 23/3/18 – Councillor Johnson will be asked to look into this for the best deal. Mr Cornwell will be asked to quote to repair the large arched window in the front of the hall. Parking remains an issue on the car park and the Police have suggested installing a barrier which can be locked, with village hall users having a key. Mr Ashcroft will be asked for a price for this work. It was confirmed that painting in the village hall is likely to take place towards the end of February 2018.

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

- 1) 2017/0843/FUL Demolition of Block 31 (former 2 storey male nurses home) and provide car parking expansion for patients and visitors. This will result in the creation of 92 parking spaces but a loss of 6 giving a net gain of 86 parking spaces for the site. Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Wrightington - **Resolved – No Objections.**

95. **LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** – Notification of a finance workshop, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 7-9pm, Howick House – **Noted.**

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

**For Payment:**

JA Prescott Plant Hire Ltd – Work on the wall at ABVH		£150.00
Standish Print	Copying & Stationery	£22.08
Matrix FSE Ltd	Repair work to Defibrillator Mill Lane	£54.00
SLCC	Annual Membership £165 (50% with CRPC)	£82.50
Mrs J Rogers	Reimburse refreshments, Remembrance Day	£16.08
Joseph Noblett	Christmas Tree for ABVH	£30.00
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse cost of reflectors for gateposts ABVH (£8.99 )	
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse cost of solar lights for ABVH (£43.18 )	£52.17
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£724.93
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£33.40
	NI due by Parish Council	£10.81
		£44.21
Dale Burton	Clearing leaves and grass cutting ABVH	£255.00
D/D British Gas	Gas use - ABVH (estimated 2/11/17-2/12/17)	£235.46

**Resolved:** Payment and of the above accounts was approved.

**Following discussion on the importance of the Budget Meeting and setting the Precept it was**

**Resolved** – that a separate Budget Meeting will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm.

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

**Resolved:** The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 15 January 2018 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 86 to 97 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 15 January 2018.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 8.40 pm

Chairman:

Date:

**REPORT 1**

- a) Notification permission granted to rebuild derelict structure in rear garden (retrospective). 10 Ashfield Terrace, Appley Bridge.
- b) Notification of a temporary road closure on Courage Low Lane and Toogood Lane on 29/1/18 until 23/3/18 to enable utility works to take place.
- c) Confirmation your litter pick request for Rookery Close has been forwarded to Street Scene Dept.
- d) Notification from LCC of improvements to LCC supported bus routes across Lancs. with new and improved weekday services operating on Monday 11 December and more to start in the New Year as a result of an extra £1m being made available to support bus services. (No changes in Wrightington/Appley Bridge to services as they exist at the moment).
- e) Details of West Lancs. BC Christmas and New Year 2017/2018 service availability.
- f) Confirmation that the newly appointed external auditor for the 2017/2018 financial year (for a 5 year period) is PKF Littlejohn LLP.
- g) Copy CPRE Fieldwork – Winter 2017
- h) Copy CPRE Countryside Voice – Winter 2017

**REPORT 2**

- 1) Confirmation from the VIP Mail Team, that your enquiry requesting that LCC look at the flooding problems in the vicinity of 15 Mossy Lea Road as a matter of urgency has been passed to Highway Services – **The Council pointed out that the drainage system has not stopped working completely as the flooding does go down over time. This is not a recent problem and has been an issue for some considerable time. The homeowners at this location are subjected to this inconvenience and the threat of flooding to their homes every time at rains. This cannot be easy for any of them, particularly at Christmas time. The Council will try to escalate this issue by copying in the MP, County Councillor Fillis and the Chief Executive at LCC into this report.**

- 2) Confirmation from the VIP Mail Team, that your email regarding yellow water and clear water flowing down Broadhurst Lane will be investigated by highways officers + a response from Andrew Davies stating that LCC have completed a considerable amount of drainage work to try and resolve the problem. He has noticed the issue reappear and LCC intend to return and add an additional gulley and subsurface drainage to try and intercept the groundwater before it reaches the surface. The orange coloured residue and oil film are indicative of de-oxygenated groundwater (that contains soluble ferrous iron) reaching a source of oxygen. It is unsightly but will not contaminate the stream – **Noted.**
- 3) Notification from the District Lead Officer of the up-to-date position with regard to boulders on Hall Lane – **The Parish Council still believe that the illegal actions of the homeowner are causing problems and he/she should be forced to remove them even if they are protecting the headwall. LCC should install barriers to do this job rather than allow this resident to set a precedent by being allowed to leave the boulders as an obstruction on the highway. The Council will highlight the legal liability for LCC if an accident/incident occurs.**