

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 20th January 2020 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mr F Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs J Burton, Mr F Johnson, Mrs K Jukes, and Mrs R Critchley. Also present were 8 members of the public.

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.)

A representative of the Millbank Flood Group asked why they had not received a copy of the Agenda prior to the Meeting as agreed previously. The Clerk confirmed this was her mistake and an oversight on her part for which she sincerely apologised. The Clerk reported she is currently working with the Parish Council website coordinator on speedier updates to the Parish Council website. The Clerk reported that she will be attending a course on Website Accessibility on the 28th January 2020 to assist in creating the Councils website accessibility statement and to ensure that the website will be compliant by the required date in September 2020. It was suggested that it may be necessary to employ a company to manage the website. Reported graffiti on Mill Lane, Appley Bridge, will be reported to the Borough Council or LCC for removal as required. Residents asked for an update from County Councillor Fillis regarding activity at East Quarry as promised at the Parish Council Meeting he attended in 2019, the Clerk will request this.

99. APOLOGIES - Were received and accepted from Councillor House (personal reasons).

100. 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 an item for discussion at Village Halls. 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.**

101. MINUTES – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 16th December 2019 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and were accepted as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

102. UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING – It was confirmed that litter picking and street cleaning requests from last month have been completed.

103. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

Items reported to, & noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 5 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Confirmation that LCC have started work to clear blocked gullies on Appley Lane North, with further work needed to establish flow to some of them – **It was reported that a new pipe has been installed to alleviate water run-off from the fields at the Skull House Lane junction. LCC will be taking action to unblock the drain near 50-52 Appley Lane North – Noted.**
- b) Notification requests for additional lighting on Hall Lane are not being considered at this time – **The Council will ask that this be re-considered as it is extremely dangerous at this location and, in the dark and rain it is impossible to differentiate between the carriageway and the footway.**
- c) Confirmations that improvements at Appley Lane South play area are planned for 2021/22 – **The Council do not feel this is acceptable. Children cannot play on the play area as it is too dangerous. The Council will raise awareness of the health and safety implications for the Borough Council of the poor state of repair of the equipment and bench.**

Members of the public present joined in with these discussions. The Chairman pointed out that taking comments after Open Forum has closed is contrary to Parish Council policy and not strictly allowed. 2 members of Millbank Flood Group left the meeting at this point following the Chairman's comments because they could not speak.

The Parish Council will ask the Borough Councillors to support their reports and the request for attention to the play area and, will remind them that they are invited to attend Parish Council Meetings each month.

- d) Response from the Chief Constable in relation to Remembrance Day policing – **The Council will continue to pursue this matter, requesting support from the MP. Lancashire Volunteer Partnership will be contacted to see what services or help they can provide.**
- e) Response and update from West Lancs. BC to questions raised re: The Local Plan – **Members of the public joined in discussions once the response from West Lancs. BC had been read aloud. Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to take part in discussions as they were told this matter would be dealt with at this point in the Meeting. The public present would like to have an early input in work to review the Local Plan and would like to be pre-emptive rather than reactive to an already formulated Local Plan. They would like to suggest areas in Appley Bridge which could possibly be re-categorised for example from industrial use to housing use or to recreational use or as conservation areas. As the Borough Council has declined to arrange and attend a Meeting to discuss this, should the residents be looking to arrange a meeting to formulate what they would like to see for Appley Bridge so that the Parish Council can carry forward the residents' wishes. They would like to be pro-active very early in Local Plan discussions. It was confirmed that there is a timetable of what to do and when an input can be provided. It was stressed that it is important that residents have an input as individuals too as a response from the Parish Council is only seen as 1 response. It was confirmed that the Parish Council did not agree to arrange a meeting, they agreed to ask the Borough Council to arrange a meeting with Local Plan officers, which they have declined to do. The residents are asking for a meeting to pre-empt what goes in the Local Plan for Wrightington before the draft Local Plan is presented without any consultation. The Chairman urged those present to contact the Borough Councillors to say they are unhappy with the Borough Councils response. The Parish Council was asked to initiate a consultation process, at a local level, to see what the residents want. It was stressed that the Parish Council must represent the views of everyone in the Parish, not just of the residents present at this meeting. Councillor Critchley explained that she has considerable experience with Local Plan involvement and that it is possible to say how you would like the village to look in the future and feed that in to the Local Plan, including highlighting areas for development, however, there is a strict process that the Borough Council must follow. Those present believe that if there is no engagement with the residents they will not know about the proposals. They are trying to engage the community to get together to highlight the areas, the wishes, and the aspirations for the village. It is perceived that the biggest issue for discussion over the next 5 years will be the Local Plan. The residents are trying to reverse the process which unfolded in the previous consultation. It was suggested that the Borough Councillors be asked to arrange a meeting. The Chairman confirmed that the residents could use Appley Bridge Village Hall free of charge for a public meeting, the Clerk agreed to put Notices in the Notice Boards and on the Parish Council website to advertise the Meeting, to find out what the residents want and report the responses back to the Parish Council. It was confirmed that the Parish Council fought hard and submitted a very strong letter of objection to the proposals for Appley Bridge in the previous Local Plan consultation. In the meantime, the Parish Council will ask how any ideas, wishes or aspirations that come from a public meeting can be fed in to the evidence gathering process described by the Borough Council taking place between now and the September consultation.**

The meeting was re-convened and discussions on the agenda continued.

- f) Correspondence from Mr Julian Chambers re: joining the Parish Council – **Resolved – This matter will be discussed in private at the end of the Meeting.**
- g) Confirmation from Old Hall Brass Band that they would be happy to do something in partnership with the Parish Council to celebrate VE day in May and at Christmas 2020 – **The Council agreed on Sunday 10th of May for VE Day celebrations to include cream teas and a brass band concert at Appley Bridge Village Hall after 3.30pm, times to be**

confirmed. It was reported that Tunley URC usually do something on their fields on the Sunday as part of the Scarecrow Festival therefore, timing of the band concert will take account of this. The Council also agreed that Monday 14th December is the most appropriate date for the Christmas Carol concert. These dates will be booked with Old Hall Brass Band.

- h) Invitation to Chairman to attend the Lancashire County Civic Carol Service – 2 Feb 2020 – **Resolved – Councillor Jukes will attend on behalf of Wrightington Parish Council.**
- i) Invitation to attend the LCC Parish & Town Council Conference, Sat 8th Feb 2020 at Howick House, Penwortham - **Resolved – Councillor Jukes will attend the conference.**
- j) Notification - consultation from Liverpool John Lennon Airport on proposed airspace changes – **The Council agreed to leave this to CPRE and the professional officers.**
- k) Request for Parish Precepts for 2020/21 & details of Tax Base (for Budget Meeting) – **Noted.**
- l) Telephone response and update on request for litter bins in Mossy Lea and Appley Bridge – **The Clerk confirmed that replacement litter bins requested in Mossy Lea will be forthcoming in due course. Following discussion on suitable locations for free standing litter bins in Appley Bridge, Councillor Jukes agreed to check suitable footway widths are present, and where, on Skull House Lane. The other suggested locations are near the Community Centre, near the Village Hall and on Stonegate Lane near Fairy Glen.**
- m) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations i) Update from West Lancs. CVS – **Now emailed and forwarded to Parish Councillors.** ii) Confirmation from West Lancs. BC that investigations into ownership of the walking footpath to the left hand side of Appley Bridge Village Hall suggest it remains in the ownership of the heirs to the original Ainscoughs who owned the land on which the hall is built, with a suggestion that if residents advise that the footpath is in their ownership they are directed to register such with the Land Registry. Also confirmation from West Lancs. BC Arboricultural Officer that both mature trees as the side of the village hall appear sound and healthy with no visible defects. However, both have high canopies and are close to the building therefore, there is scope to remove selective branches to reduce encroachment – **Noted.** iii) Notification of temporary road closure on Mill Lane, from Herons Wharf for a distance of 40m in an easterly direction, operative from 9am until 5pm on Monday 16th March 2020 to allow sewer lining works to be carried out on behalf of United Utilities – **Noted.**

104. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The debris scraped off the top of the old road adjacent to BP garage still needs removing.
- The bollards have been completed but the portable cones are still in place.
- The area on the road where the septic tank leaked has now been stoned up.
- The footway on Crow Orchard Road between the BP Garage and the Church is significantly narrowed by overgrowth from the grass verges and overgrown hedges.
- The carriageway surface at the Boundary Lane/Mossy Lea junction is in a poor state of repair.
- Flooding is still a problem near 15 Mossy Lea Road, near Mossy Lea Village Hall and on Church Lane.
- Mossy Lea Road has been swept from BP Garage to the Heskin boundary as requested.
- All the gullies on Broadhurst Lane are blocked and the culvert under the road at the bottom of the lane is damaged under the road. A road sweep of the whole lane is required.
- Additional signage is required on Appley Lane South to indicate that this route leading to Bank Brow is unsuitable for HGV's.
- Councillor Jukes pointed out that the Parish Council website does not have a copy of the Data Protection Policy on it and, asked the purpose of the public recording their names in the book at the start of the meeting?, where is the information kept? and, what is done with the information? The Clerk confirmed it is a record of who has attended, the information remains only in the book, which is kept in the Clerk's office and is used for no other purposes.
- It was reported that there are a lot of potholes on Tunley Lane whilst someone has put some tarmac in the lay-by on Tunley Lane and rolled it smooth whilst leaving the potholes.
- It was reported that the surface of the carriageway on Graham Avenue, Appley Bridge, is in a very poor state of repair and requires attention.

105. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Peter Lathom Charity – Councillor Critchley confirmed that cheques had been sent to both Appley Bridge and Mossy Lea Pensioners Associations. It has been suggested however that Appley Bridge Pensioners Association may be disbanding in the summer. Councillor Critchley has informed them that if there is anything left from the money they have received when/if the group disbands that they contact the Peter Lathom Charity for advice. LALC Area Committee Meeting – Councillor Burton confirmed that the Police and Crime Commissioner attended and discussions were very interesting and that a presentation was made on One West Lancashire.

106. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Children’s party £30. Yoga Tuesdays £180. Use of village hall for Elections in December £150. Start of Zumba Classes on Wednesdays. A request to use the village hall as a Polling Station on Thursday 7th May – **agreed**. Councillor Johnson reported water usage at the hall seems a little high recently. He will continue to monitor this. There is a faulty plug socket in the porch – **the Clerk will ask the electrician to repair this when he is repairing/replacing the outside lighting.**

APPLEY BRIDGE – Barrier update – The Clerk and Councillor Burton (as Chairman of the village hall committee) met the supplier and fabricator of the barrier on site recently to confirm final measurements and requirements. The barrier will be sufficient for the purposes required without the need for an additional small gate adjacent, which could prove problematic for disabled village hall users. It was suggested that signage associated with the barrier should indicate a release fee sufficient to deter non-village hall users from parking on the car park. A release fee of £100 was agreed. **It was agreed that a sign on the gate, a sign on the end wall of the toilets facing entrance and additional wording added to the existing large sign on the village hall wall will suffice.** The signs will be erected prior to the barrier to give non-village hall users advance notice to relocate their parked vehicles.

Quotation for planting of the baskets at both village halls, 3 times per year, 7 baskets was received. It was agreed that further quotations be obtained before proceeding. Quotations for tree works suggested by West Lancs. BC will also be obtained.

107. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2019/1277/LDP Certificate of Lawfulness – Proposed new gravel driveway and turning area including removal of 4.5m of frontage hedge. 1 Tunley Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved – No Objections.**
- 2) Amended proposals: 2019/0993/FUL – 2 storey side extension and single storey front and rear extensions. 24 Millbank, Appley Bridge. **Resolved – Parish Council objections remain the same as previously submitted as the issues of drainage and water run-off affecting the neighbouring property remain the same. Also, party wall agreement should be adhered to as per Compliance Act 1996.**

108. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Area Committee Meeting Thursday 16th January 2020, 7.30pm, Derby Street, Ormskirk – **Noted**. Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2020 – **Resolved – The Chairman and his wife will be nominated to attend.**

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

For Payment:

Standish Cards	Copying & Stationery for Remembrance Day and Carol Concert	£42.00
Mr F Johnson	Reimburse window cleaning – MLVH	£15.00
The Wiper Co	Toilet Rolls/Paper Towels – MLVH	£44.40
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse - Dyson belt, fluorescent tubes - MLVH	£21.68
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk’s Salary – Net	£799.60
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£26.44
	NI due by Parish Council	£14.77
		£41.21
D/D BT	Telephone line charges MLVH	£181.47
D/D British Gas	Gas use – MLVH	£234.78
D/D British Gas	Gas use – ABVH	£468.95
D/D E.on	Electricity use – ABVH	£55.15

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts, together with the Bank Reconciliation Statement up to 30 September 2019, is approved.

It was suggested that a cheaper internet provider be found for service provision to Mossy Lea Village Hall. The Clerk will investigate this, possibly with sky or plusnet.

110. CORRESPONDENCE ITEM f) – Correspondence from Mr Julian Chambers regarding his application to join the Parish Council – It was reported that since his initial application and invitation to attend the July, September and October Meetings, Mr Chambers has attended 2 meetings. The majority of Councillors feel the process should start again with an invitation to attend 3 consecutive meetings, February, March and April, with a view to joining the Parish Council with effect from the May Meeting. In a change to this it was suggested that the Parish Council interview Mr Chambers for the post. It was felt that this would change the current application procedure and set a precedent for future applications to join the Council. It was proposed and seconded to start the process again as outlined above. On a majority vote it was **Resolved** – **That Mr Chambers be invited to attend the next 3 consecutive meetings with a view to joining the Parish Council, if he still wishes to do so, with effect from the May 2020 Parish Council Meeting.**

111. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 17th February 2020 at Mossy Lea Village Hall, 6.30pm Budget Meeting and 7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting.

Minutes 99 to 111 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 17th February 2020.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9.55 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) permitted, for formation of a new access, crossing and dropped kerb. 1 Tunley Lane. (Now amended see planning above).
- b) Notification permission granted for erection of 1 dwellinghouse and garage. 1 Tunley Lane.
- c) Notification permission refused for proposed commercial pods (Use classes A1, A2, A3, A4, A5 and B1) and additional car parking spaces. Derby House Ltd, Wrightington Equestrian Centre, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington.
- d) Notification permission granted for replacement of existing dwelling with annexe accommodation. Tunley Lane Farm, Tunley Lane.
- e) Notification permission granted for Creation of a larger patio area, retaining wall to the garden and a sunken circular patio set into the sloped garden accessed via a linear path from the enlarged patio. South Tunley Farm, Tunley Lane.
- f) Notification permission granted for Installation of electric charging machines and relocation of underground tank vent pipes. BP, Crow Orchard Service Station, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington.
- g) Notification of temporary daily road closure on Jacksons Lane, Wrightington, between 8.00am and 5.00pm on Monday 6th April 2020 to Friday 17th April 2020, to allow maintenance works on the BT Openreach network.
- h) Request for a donation from Open Spaces Society.