

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 28 January 2013 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs Burton (Chairman), Mr F Hodgkinson, Mr F Johnson, Mr I McRae, Mr J Clinch 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.)

To include discussions on proposals for a 90m wind turbine at Hesketh House Farm, Toogood Lane and, proposals to relocate Wigan Athletic Training facilities on land adjacent to Wrightington Country Club.

The Chairman confirmed her interest in both items for discussion at this point in the Meeting however, whilst taking part in the discussions having declared her interest she will not take part in any future voting on either issue at this or any future meetings.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Karen Collins, founder of the WRAT pack, opened discussions on the proposals for a 90m wind turbine at Hesketh House Farm, Toogood Lane, explaining that following a request to West Lancs BC from the applicant for a Screening Opinion, West Lancs. BC has deemed that no Environmental Impact Assessment is required for the proposed turbine. No application has been received yet and once an application is received there is a 21 day response time during which a public meeting will be arranged and details of valid planning objections will be provided. The Clerk read aloud an email from Stratus Environmental Ltd informing of a public consultation in February – details of which will be circulated once known. This wind turbine will have a huge impact in the Parish, balloons and microlites use fields adjacent, the flicker effect, the noise and vibration, ice forming on the blades can be flicked off when moving, a detrimental impact on wildlife (including bats, buzzards and geese) and on horses using the track on the farm (which was constructed approx. 9 years ago with a grant). Access to the site will impact on everyone as will the clean-up exercise afterwards. Also there is major concern as the site has a mining history with mineshafts underground therefore, a huge amount of concrete will need to be imported to the site to make the area safe. Electric cables also run underground in this area. The WRAT pack requested that all observations and objections, already used and new ones, be sent to the website, all data collected will be collated and shared with anyone who needs advice and information to object to the proposals. There is no mention of any sinking fund/restoration fund/decommissioning statements to remove them once their lifespan has come to an end. It was reported, but not yet confirmed, that St James's Church Hall has been booked by Stratus Environmental Ltd from 12 noon on Monday 25 February for a consultation event. Residents were advised to object on all points, not just to the height of the turbine.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Kierstan Boylan, a concerned resident, was asked to outline the proposals to relocate Wigan Athletic Training facilities on land adjacent to, and to the rear of, Wrightington Country Club, Moss Lane, on Green Belt land. The facilities are a requirement of the Football Association and the impact will affect residents on Moss Lane, Toogood Lane, Tunley Lane, and Mossy Lea Road as well as further afield. As many residents as possible are being contacted and a list of contact details is being compiled to ensure that everyone concerned is kept informed. The Clerk read aloud details of a consultation evening at Wrightington Hotel on Wednesday 30 January between 6pm and 8pm which residents can attend to obtain further information on the proposals. It was confirmed that loss of green belt, trees and view are serious concerns together with topographical impact, noise, nuisance, litter, the impact of floodlights, a significant increase in the volume of traffic (both cars and coaches) to the area and spectators/visitors (which could be up to 500 at some sessions) to the facilities will be permanently present for all to see. Drainage will also prove difficult as this has caused problems over previous years, ultimately affecting residents in Appley Bridge. West Lancs. BC planning have had 1-2 meetings with the Club regarding the proposals and a pre-planning application has been submitted to the Council however, information from this is not yet publicly available. A leaflet, detailing all the concerns raised to date, is available to take away however, these details are by no means exhaustive and anyone with any further information, expertise or advice which could prove useful in fighting these

proposals is urged to provide this once the consultee list and a Community Action Team has been established to assist everyone in objecting to the proposals. The positive and negative effects/impact of the proposals must be assessed. County Councillor Evans also confirmed that the residents not only have the support of the Parish Council but also of herself as County and Borough Councillor and also of Borough Councillor Baybutt. It was confirmed that once further details have been received another meeting will be arranged to formulate a planned approach to objecting to the proposals. A number of members present confirmed that training is likely to take place every day, that spectator numbers and vehicle numbers will have a huge impact on the Parish, that some re-shaping to the topography of the land will be required and, details of screening proposals are necessary. It was also stressed that if the facility is to be used by elite players this is more than just a leisure and recreation facility but a commercial venture involving complex planning policies. There is a huge perceived difference between a change of use of land for local recreational use and a change of use for extremely lucrative commercial recreational purposes. It was reported that surveyors have been on the land for the past couple of weeks but details have not been available until now. The landowners have been approached by the applicant however it is uncertain whether the land has been sold/secured for this purpose yet. It was confirmed that there is also a barn owl in the area and that the Church are concerned about the impact on the Church and graveyard. It is hoped that anyone with any expertise or skills which may be helpful will come forward to assist in compiling both community and personal objections to the proposals submitted by Wigan Athletics planning experts, using valid planning objections on the grounds of noise, nuisance, traffic, highway safety, light emissions, loss of green belt, loss of amenity, detrimental impact to wildlife and quality of life together with any other valid objections raised.

Police – Sgt Appleton and PC Beverley Lodge, together with PCSO Benson (off duty) attended. They confirmed that it is possible to be informed by email or text of crime alerts. Sgt Appleton reported crime statistics for Parbold, Wrightington and Appley Bridge, comparing the 2011 and 2012 figures. All crime is down 26 in Wrightington and Appley Bridge but up 9 in Parbold. Sgt Appleton read aloud the good work undertaken in the Parishes by PCSO Benson and detailed the commendation he has recently received for this work. Eg: funding for smart water and establishing the email database of 300 + contacts for crime alerts. Members present asked why speed detecting vehicles only operate during daytime when problems begin at night. It was confirmed that 24/7 traffic cover is available and officers will take action. Sgt Appleton advised that if residents see a crime being committed dial 999 but for any non-emergency calls dial the new 101 number.

Members of the Public – Reported that visitors to the recruitment agency are parking on Mossfields car park. There is a pot-hole at the entrance to the cul-de-sac and water is holding near the drop kerb. There is a car parking across the drop kerb obstructing site-lines for motorists exiting the cul-de-sac.

104. APOLOGIES – All currently serving Parish Councillors were present.

105. 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 the following items under discussion in Open Forum, the wind turbine and Wigan Athletic Training facilities, she will take part in discussions as members of the public are allowed to take part but confirmed she will not be taking part in any voting at any time on either of these matters. All Councillors present declared in interest in the Agenda Item to set the Precept however, Following a written request from all Parish Councillors present it was **RESOLVED: AS THE PROPER OFFICER OF THE PARISH COUNCIL THE CLERK GRANTED A DISPENSATION THEREBY ALLOWING ALL SERVING PARISH COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST IN THE PARISH PRECEPT TO ATTEND THE MEETING AND VOTE IN SETTING THE PRECEPT. THIS DISPENSATION WILL BE IN FORCE FOR 4 YEARS AND IS AS FOLLOWS: SUBJECT TO YOU DISCLOSING THE INTEREST AT THE MEETING, COUNCILLORS MAY ATTEND A MEETING AND VOTE ON A MATTER WHERE THEY HAVE A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST THAT RELATES TO THE FUNCTIONS OF WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF SETTING COUNCIL TAX OR A PRECEPT UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1972.**

- 106. MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 19 November 2012 and the Notes of the Discussions of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17 December 2012, circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as correct records and signed by the Chairman.
- 107. UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING**–Accepted
- 108. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**
 Items reported to, and noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 5 – ACCEPTED.
 Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:
- a) Request for a Donation from the Chairman/Keeper of the Hinds Head Bowling Club – RESOLVED: THAT A DONATION OF £100 BE MADE TO THE BOWLING CLUB.
 - b) Notification that applications for funding from the West Lancs. BC Parish Capital Schemes 2013/14 should be submitted by 8 February 2013 – RESOLVED: IF THE QUOTATION FOR NEW RADIATORS IN MAIN HALL AT APPLEY BRIDGE IS ACCEPTABLE AND AFFORDABLE, A CAPITAL BID WILL BE SUBMITTED WITH A 30% CONTRIBUTION FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL.
 - c) Confirmation that there has been no request for an election for the recent vacancy – NOTICES WILL BE PLACED IN THE NOTICE BOARDS FOR BOTH WARD VACANCIES THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS BEING THE END OF MARCH.
 - d) Meeting notes for the November West Lancs. 3Tier Forum Meeting and a request for future Agenda Items – NOTED.
 - e) Written request for financial assistance towards the purchase of a dedicated Neighbourhood vehicle for the Northern Parishes – REQUEST WITHDRAWN.
 - f) Request for observations on West Lancs. policy for removal of wreaths from War Memorials – RESOLVED: THE PARISH COUNCIL CANNOT SEE ANY REAL REASON TO REMOVE THIS MARK OF RESPECT TO THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES UNLESS THEY BECOME UNTIDY.
 - g) Notification from LCC of an informal consultation for waiting restrictions on Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington – IT WAS SUGGESTED THE CONSULTATION IS INVALID AS THE PLAN IS INCORRECT. THE COUNCIL WILL SUGGEST A NEW CONSULTATION WITH DETAILS ON AN UP-TO-DATE PLAN.
 - h) Notification of public rights of way Parish/Local delivery update meeting – 6 February, 11am - 1pm – COUNCILLORS MRS BURTON AND MR HODGKINSON WILL ATTEND.
 - i) Notification from LCC of Consultation on the Draft Central Lancashire Highways & Transport Master Plan – NOTED.
 - j) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations
 - i) Info/consultation on Parish Allowance Schemes – RESOLVED: NOTED AS THE COUNCIL DO NOT HAVE AN ALLOWANCE SCHEME.
 - ii) Request to complete the West Lancs. BC Stakeholder Survey – COUNCILLORS TO COMPLETE ON LINE.
 - iii) Info. on West Lancs. BC Community Infrastructure Levy – NOTED AS ANOTHER TAX ON BUILDERS WHICH COULD DETER DEVELOPERS.
 - iv) Notification of changes to Council Tax discounts and exemptions on empty property- NOTED.
 - v) Consultation on Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Supplementary Planning Documents – NEXT AGENDA FOR COMMENT IF APPROPRIATE.
 - vi) Copy slide presentation made at LALC Area Committee Meeting on LCC Winter Service Delivery and working with Parish Councils – NOTED.
- 109. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS** – Nothing specific which has not already been reported.
- 110. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES** – Nothing to report.
- 111. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES** – Advertised as discussed above.
- 112. PRECEPT** - Taking account of protocol required to discuss and set the Precept and the granting of a Dispensation to allow Parish Councillors to take part in these discussions and setting the Precept detailed earlier in the Meeting. RESOLVED: FOLLOWING DETAILED

DISCUSSIONS AT THE PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING THAT A PRECEPT OF £9502.00 BE REQUESTED – CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS – Parish Income Requirement is £10000.00 minus the Grant from Central Govt./West Lancs. of £498.00 therefore, Precept requested of £9502.00.

113. STANDING ORDERS - RESOLVED: In Accordance with Standing Order No 19, Standing Order No 18 was suspended to allow the remaining items of business to be conducted.

114. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Cheque received for Zumba classes, £110. Work to re-establish Computer Classes is on-going. Lancashire College will be approached again to re-start classes.

APPLEY BRIDGE – Confirmation can purchase new cooker, total cost £299 (£200 grant from Parish Champion, balance payable by the Parish Council). Quotation for new floor in the main hall £5727.00. **RESOLVED: CONTRACTOR WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO PROCEED WITH THIS WORK, EXACT TYPE OF FLOORING WILL BE CHOSEN AT THE FEBRUAR MEETING, THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT TO BE SPREAD OVER THE 2012/13 AND 2013/14 FINANCIAL YEARS.** Quotation for new radiators in the hall – on-going – for a possible Capital Bid.

115. PLANNING

To ratify decisions in Report 2 – RESOLVED: PARISH COUNCIL OBSERVATIONS SUBMITTED IN DECEMBER WERE RATIFIED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Discussing the following application/s observations were as detailed:

- 1) 2012/1276/FUL First floor side extension. 27 Millbank, Appley Bridge. NO OBJECTIONS.
- 2) 2012/1277/FUL Erection of forestry equipment store with associated bat roost. The Hermitage, Moss Lane, Wrightington. NO OBJECTIONS.
- 3) 2013/0016/SCR Screening Opinion – Single wind turbine. Land east of Wrights Covert, Toogood Lane, Wrightington. SCREENING OPINION NOTED.

116. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Area Committee Meeting, Thursday 17 January + NALC Policy Consultation on Adapting to Climate Change + Request for nomination to attend Buckingham Palace Garden Party – **CHAIRMAN WILL BE NOMINATED.**

117. ACCOUNTS

To ratify payments made in Report 3 – RESOLVED: PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS PAID IN DECEMBER WERE APPROVED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.

To receive the following list of accounts for Approval:

Payments:

Joseph Noblett	Christmas Tree ABVH	£51.60
Chubb Fire	Servicing Extinguishers and replacing 1 @ ABVH	£117.53
British Gas	Gas supplied at ABVH	£399.42
United Utilities	Water charges ABVH	£51.35
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£586.23
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£1.00
D/D United Utils.	Water Charges MLVH	£42.52

RESOLVED: That payment of the above accounts be approved.

118. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 18 February 2013 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 104 to 118 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 18 February 2013.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9:40 pm

Chairman:

Date:

Minutes – Wrightington Parish Council

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REPORT 1

- a) 1) Permission granted for demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings (residential annexe to remain) and erection of replacement dwelling and revision to residential curtilage. Tunley Lane Farm, Tunley Lane, Wrightington.
- b) Invitation to speak at the Chorley Council planning committee Meeting during discussions relating to the planning application for The Brookhouse, Heskin.
- c) Notification that the Chorley Council Local Plan 2012-2026 (DPD), including all required supporting evidence, was submitted to the Secretary of State on 21 December 2012.

REPORT 2

To ratify the following decisions:

- 1) 2012/1218/FUL Two storey extension to side. 9 North Drive, Appley Bridge, Wrightington – NO (Case 1248596) OBJECTIONS.
- 2) 2012/1241/FUL Erection of three electrical substations. Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, (Case 1248598) Wrightington – NO OBJECTIONS.
- 3) 12/01063/FUL Change of use of former public house to dwelling with side/rear extensions, front porch and erection of detached garage with open store below (resubmission of withdrawn application ref: 12/00802/FUL). The Brook House, Barmskin Lane, Heskin, Chorley – THE COUNCIL CANNOT SEE ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE APPLICATION WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY AMENDING THEIR OBSERVATIONS THEREFORE, THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.

REPORT 3

To ratify the following list of accounts following payment:

For Payment this month:

Standish Print	Stationery	£43.20
Dave Proe	Amenity Cutting(£36), ABVH grass cutting/leaf sweeping(£68)	£104.00
E.on	Electricity supplied ABVH	£125.42
SLCC	50% contribution towards Annual Subscriptions	£72.50
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse cost of electric pest repellents	£9.98
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£586.23
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£1.00
D/D – United Utils.	Water Charges MLVH	£46.05

Receipts:

West Lancs. BC	Grass Cutting	£340.53
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