

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 2nd December 2016
in Parbold Women's Institute Hall, The Common, Parbold, WN8 7HA**

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Bailey, Cllr Blake, Cllr Butts, Cllr Holland, Cllr Shaffel, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Wess.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Carruthers.

2. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in Item 8 as a member of the group.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 4th November 2016

The Minutes were amended, then accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation:

The meeting will be adjourned for an appropriate time (four minutes maximum per speech) for members of the public to raise matters of concern or interest as notified to the Chairman.

5. To notify Parish Council of proposals for creating a Parbold Heritage Group

The Chairman reported that there was strong interest in the Dry Dock area at Mill Leat and a small group of volunteers has been in touch with Wigan Heritage and Burscough Heritage and the Canal & River Trust. Burscough has a similar area of concern so formed a Heritage Group and this group are now looking to do the same and form Parbold Heritage Group. The objective is to clean up the dry dock area and make a feature of it and the group intend to apply for funding to do this. The Parish Council agreed general support for the venture and will meet the volunteers at the January 2017 Parish Council meeting. In the meantime a power-point presentation provided by the group will be distributed.

6. Update on odour problem from Hoscarr Sewage Works

The meeting heard that the Chairman and Paul Quirk will shortly be attending a site visit.

7. To hear update from Flood Action Group

A change of policy at the Environment Agency means that an "alert" is issued when the gage reads 2.93 metres instead of the previous 1.70 metres. There is a worry that this is too late. An "alert" is different from a "warning" which means evacuate flooding imminent. Some residents are really angry that this has been decided and Rosie Cooper is being asked if she can get them to do something about it.

This meeting understood that to maintain credibility the EA alert shouldn't be so frequent that people stop acting on it if the alert comes but flooding doesn't follow. So, to a degree the Environment Agencies action is understood.

Cllr Wess reported many of the grids that are blocked to the County Council.

County Councillor Westley had arranged for one on The Common near the library to be cleared.

Alder Lane and Bramble Way had 22 grids, which were reported to LCC six weeks ago and have not been done. Recent resurfacing work has left debris on the roads adding to the problem of blocked gutters.

Cllr Bithell - difficult weather in the last few weeks - did anyone come close to being flooded, so we can measure to say if these aren't clear.

Cllr Wess - yes.

so is reporting the other gullies missing the focus about the ones that really matter?

Private contractor ask Andrew Burrows for a price to how many gullies are that they clean, and what is the cost to get them done. If less than £1k.

It was resolved to write to Lancashire County Council to request that all gullies in the flood risk area be cleaned and the grids flushed through. The Parish Council want to know how much it costs to do this work so that they have an idea of what cost-saving there is to the county council by not doing it.

It was resolved to delegate authority to the Chairman and Clerk to spend money up to a budget of £1,000 to get something done to reduce the flooding risk to housing.

It was agreed to ask C J Lyons a price for general cleaning of the road grids/gullies throughout the village.

The Flood Action Group thank everyone that delivered leaflets on their behalf.

Concerns raised about the waterlogged play area at Burnside were discussed and it was decided that no action could be taken to reduce flood risk from that area.

8. To consider a request for funding by Luncheon Club meeting fortnightly at the Farmers Arms, Bispham

The application for funding was accompanied by a list of Parbold residents who attend this Luncheon Club and an explanation that there are no accounts as it is an informal group brought together originally by Age Concern funding but this has since ceased.

It was resolved to issue a £50 cheque to the Farmers Arms as a contribution towards providing the Christmas Dinner for the group.

9. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

021216	E A Broad	Clerk's salary	2624	£741.83
021216	Argus Security	Village Hall checks	2625	£120.00*
021216	Parbold WI	Room hire for 2nd Dec 2016	2626	£ 30.00
021216	E A Broad	Reimburse for new printer	2627	£ 65.99*
021216	Inland Revenue	Three months national insurance	2628	£48.78
021216	PCA	Loss incurred due to heating failure	2629	£264.00
021216	Parbold WI	Contribution towards lights	2630	£50.00
021216	Farmers Arms	Contribution towards Christmas Luncheon Group	2631	£50.00

*contain VAT

These accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

The PCA claim for £240.00 was not agreed. The Clerk was instructed to respond that as the Parish Council was given no opportunity to determine whether the user-group fees were waived, this decision was taken by the PCA alone and so should accept that loss. Groups providing room hire can insure against inconsequential, business interruption loss but the Parish Council is not providing the service and not in a position to have such insurance cover.

10. To change bank accounts due to introduction of bank charges and complete new bank mandate

Following a letter from RBS declaring that "the period of free banking for your business account will cease in February 2017", the Parish Council resolved to change the bank account to a Clubs & Societies Treasurer's account which currently does not attract bank charges. A new bank mandate was drawn up to add signatories to this new and all accounts. Once the new account is up and running the old business accounts will be closed with the funds transferred across.

11. Alder Lane Issues:-

- **Update on sports groups using the playing fields**

The meeting heard that the repairs to the field following damage from the Village Show had not been done.

Feedback from Eccleston Football Club explained their reason for not using the fields this year.

It was still unknown if groups were using the fields without notifying the council and without a pitch licence. A certain amount of informal use is expected but organised groups must pay for regular field use.

The Clerk was instructed to inform the groundsman not to mark out the football pitch as it is not currently in use.

The recent visit by Wigan Anglers created carpark chaos again and the Clerk was asked to write to the Anglers group and request that they inform the Parish Council in advance of their intention to meet at Bramble Way car park.

- **Respond to consultation on Dog Order at Alder Lane Playing Fields**

It was resolved to delegate forming a response to the Clerk. The response to be in support of a dogs on lead order for Alder Lane Playing Fields, and accompanied by the evidence obtained in the form of members of the public complaints and veterinary surgeons/doctors opinion.

12. Village Hall Issues:-

- **Update following failure of the heating system to the main large hall**

Following the PCA Liaison meeting there is to be an application to the Lancashire Environment Fund for support in providing a new heating system for the entire hall. In the meantime the Parish Council are still working with the heating engineer to repair the current system and are paying for the portable heaters for the interim.

The meeting took the opportunity to thank Cllr Arnold for all his hard work in running up and down to the hall and assisting.

- **Follow up after liaison meeting with PCA**

Minutes prepared by the Clerk and notes provided by Cllr Wess were distributed by e-mail.

13. To determine suitable sign to accompany Peter Lathom Stone

The Clerk was instructed to respond to the Clerk to the Trustees, to request funding to cover the provision of the plaque. Three quotations were obtained and the Parish Council agreed the lowest quote supplied by Wigan Borough Council.

14. To confirm date for a budget meeting

It was resolved to meet to discuss the budget on Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7.30pm

15. Parbold Library update

The meeting recorded thanks to Jimmy Kelly for assisting to transfer the rolls of honour and lectern back to Parbold. The Rolls of Honour are currently stored in Our Lady's Church and the parish map will be installed in the scout hut.

There will be a meeting with the Asset Transfer Team from LCC in Parbold Village Hall on Monday 5th December 2016 at 1pm. The Parish Council has grave concerns about taking on the financial liabilities of the library building but is supportive if a voluntary community group is able to do so.

16. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Clarke Telecommunications plans for a mast at Tan House Lane.

The pre-application material provided clearly was not prepared with the knowledge that the land around the Common shops is parish owned and the Jubilee Garden is on long lease to the Parish Council. The Clerk was instructed to inform Clarke Telecommunications that this is the case. The planning application is awaited but will be responded to in due course.

Ref. No: 2016/1189/FUL
79 Brandreth Drive Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7HD
Part two storey/part single storey rear extension.

Parish Council response: There is no objection to this proposal.

Ref. No: 2016/1185/FUL
Proposed 2 No. 4 bed detached dwellings including associated external works on existing car park to the railway hotel (public house), and alterations to vehicle/pedestrian access
Railway Hotel 1 Station Road Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7NU

Parish Council response: Parbold Parish Council objects to this proposal.

The car park supports an active busy public house and is required to provide parking for patrons of this. Car parking space in Parbold is at a premium and to remove such a facility is not in the public interest. The land owner currently offers this car park for use by railway commuters at a cost. This provision would also be removed under this proposal.

The area is at risk of flooding and major flooding to the Burnside housing estate adjacent to this car park was noted as recently as July 2016. On Boxing Day 2015, this car park was flooded to a height of almost 3 metres, until the fencing panels were removed to relieve the flood water, which then flowed into the neighbouring properties.

The site is at the edge of a housing estate and more homes at this location would result in entrance/exit problems at the busy junction exacerbated by the close proximity to the railway crossing.

Ref. No: 2016/1117/FUL
6 Greenfield Avenue Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7DH
First floor extension at rear and single storey extension at rear.

Parish Council Response: There is no objection to this proposal but adequate flood resilience measures may be required at this location.

Ref No: 2016/1098/FUL
First floor side extension
34 Burnside Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7PD

Cllr Wess - declared an interest as a neighbour to this property.

Parish Council Response: There is no objection to this proposal.

Ref. No: 2016/1096/FUL

Brierley House 19C Tan House Lane Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7HG

Two storey rear extension and front dormer.

Parish Council Response: There is no objection to this proposal.

Allegation Breach of Planning Conditions - 9-15 Tan House Lane, Parbold (Our reference E/2016/0326/BC and E/2016/0338/BC)

It was resolved to send a letter of support for neighbouring properties to Planning Enforcement to require that they pursue the breaches of planning conditions at 9-15 Tan House Lane.

17. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Bithell: Lengths-man, policy on donations,

Cllr Butts: 3 Greenfield Avenue - overhanging trees from play area.

Cllr Holland left the meeting at 9.30pm.

18. Resolution: Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (terms & conditions of employment), the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.

Resolved.

19. To decide which quotation to accept for pothole repairs on The Common car park

It was decided to ask LCC if their quotation was based on the same criteria as the other and if so to chose the lowest quotation.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.

6th January 2017

Vice Chairman - Cllr Charles Bithell