

Parbold Parish Council

*Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA
1 Pinewood, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, WN8 6UZ
e-mail: parboldpc.clerk@yahoo.com*

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 4th October 2019 in Parbold WI Hall.

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Blake, Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Quirk.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Butts, Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Gill, Cllr Holland, Cllr Stopford.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 6th September 2019

The minutes were 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.

Residents of Greenfield Avenue whose property backs onto the village hall play area attended to explain the issues they were having with antisocial behaviour in the play area. They thanked the Parish Council for taking their concerns seriously and viewing the cctv and added thanks also to PC Gordon Davies, who had visited them. They will continue to log events with the parish council and will contact police if they feel it necessary to do so. It was suggested that PC Gordon Davies view the cctv footage and be asked if any further action ought to be taken.

5. Update on engagement problems with Hoscar Sewage Works (Wigan Waste Water Treatment Centre)

The proposed meeting with UU at Hoscar was cancelled at their request. The new date is Tuesday 29th October at 9am-10am. Cllr Stopford and Cllr Holland have expressed a willingness to attend. Cllr Arnold and Cllr Quirk will attend.

6. To reiterate the rules covering donations under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and update Standing Orders if required

- **For information:** *A Parish Council, in accordance with its powers under section 137 Local Government Act 1972, may incur expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure*
- *Section 137A, Financial assistance to be conditional on provision of information...the organisation, body or fund.... furnish the authority a statement in writing of the use to which that amount has been put.*

The legislation adds [at Section 137A.(4)] *It shall be a sufficient compliance with a requirement imposed that there is furnished to the local authority concerned an annual report or accounts which contain the information required to be in the stated. And at Section (5) A statement (or any report or accounts) provided to a local authority in pursuance of such a requirement shall be deposited with the proper officer of the authority.*

To comply with the above, [and for Parbold Parish Council (as the local authority concerned) to prove that such enquiries have been made before the issue of public money to any cause], the Clerk (as proper officer of the authority) must receive the request in writing with a list of residents supporting the issue and accounts for that organisation in order for the request to be put to the Parish Council.

7. Update on Application LCC/2019/0028 - Parbold Hill and consider request for funding from Stop Parbold Hill Landfill group

The meeting noted the email from a member of Stop Parbold Hill Landfill group, explaining that the next stage may require more funding to seek expert opinion but that at this stage the Environment Agency had halted the planning application, by requiring that a permit application be submitted. The Clerk was asked to reply to the email offering support should a formal application be submitted.

8. Problem of flooding of railway subway beneath the Station Road

Responses from Network Rail suggest the problem is due to development that a resident has done which has blocked the drain. Network Rail claim they are not able to access the property and the matter is with their solicitors. Rosie Cooper MP had responded that she had directed questions to Mr Stephen Young, Executive Director of Growth, Environment & Transport at Lancashire County Council.

It was resolved to write to Health & Safety Executive to seek an opinion, as the flooding of this subway is endangering life. Complaints have been received over the last four years and the situation has worsened over this period. The station is very busy with trains every twenty minutes during the day and a more than average pedestrian crossing rate, because it cuts the village and amenities in half, with businesses on either side. People are tempted to run across the lines whilst the barriers are down because the subway is knee-high in water. It is high enough that a small child could drown. We have witnessed rail passengers running across the railway line to reach their train as it is in the station. We feel there is a serious risk to life.

On Tuesday 24th September 2019 the road, railway line and subway were flooded due to heavy rain. The incident was captured on film by a resident and is available as a You Tube video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXY1Q4-h-ec&fbclid=IwAR3I2nBHSyaoQ3OYNH0O48REfWxQHIHNioRZBtEvSjgKTaVlrK-m5-vADmU>

On Friday 27th September 2019 to Network Rail Telemetry device triggered a rapid rise warning and the Environment Agency alerted that the River Douglas water level was high.

It was resolved to continue enquiries with all agencies and pursue lobbying those responsible for this area.

9. Consider WLBC consultation on public telephone boxes and a resident's suggestion for a red telephone box with defibrillator or book-exchange within

There were no comments on the proposals to remove the low-use public phone boxes on the list. It was resolved to use the address on the consultation to find out if any red telephone boxes were available for purchase.

10. To confirm arrangements for Remembrance Sunday, the purchase of two wreaths with an additional donation to The Poppy Appeal

It was resolved to pay £100 to the Royal British Legion - comprising £32 for the purchase of two wreaths and £68 donation to the Poppy Appeal. Cllr May Blake will present one at Our Lady & All Saints RC Church and Cllr Brian Arnold will present one at Christ Church, Parbold-in-Douglas.

11. To consider a donation to Parbold Unlimited for Christmas street lighting

No application was received.

12. To consider a contribution towards the costs of Parbold WI to assist with costs of lighting the Christmas Tree

It was resolved to pay £50 to the Parbold Women's Institution to contribute towards their higher electricity costs over the Christmas period, due to lighting the village Christmas Tree.

13. To consider a donation to Community Carol Group for Christmas service

This Item was deferred to a later meeting, awaiting letter of application.

14. Village Hall Issues:-

- **Consider issue of external lighting at the Village Hall**

The Chairman had met with the electrician who claimed the lights were being triggered by movement and not at fault. Although reports from PCA were that one light had water ingress, short-circuiting the lights. Bunting has been left up at the hall following the street festival and movement of the bunting will trigger the lights to come on.

- **Consider action over the area to the rear of the hall**

At the last meeting the decision was taken for all parties to meet. However, the Chairman had been examining all the Parish Council land documents and leases and was required to ask the PCA as leasee of the land first. He agreed to ask their view on this area of land at the upcoming meeting about the village hall heating.

15. To select nominee to WLBC Standards Board

Cllr Justin Stopford offered to stand as Parbold Parish Council nominated candidate.

16. To acknowledge receipt of External Audit Report (AGAR)

The External Audit Report was returned with no areas of concern raised. The meeting thanked Cllr Quirk for updating the website with the addition of the AGAR forms.

17. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

280919	E A Broad	salary Sept 2019	s.o.	£818.63
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280919	NEST Pension (£27.89 from parish, rest is employee contribution)	£94.83		
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Cheque number 2865 - cancelled - wrong amount written in error

041019	Parbold WI	Room hire	2866	£32.50
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041019	Wrightington Windows Cleaning	windows at village hall	2867	£25.00
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041019	B Rawsthorne	Grass cutting	2868	£935.00
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041019	T Wade	Chapel Meadow grass cutting	2869	£240.00*
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041019	E A Broad	travel expenses and stamps	2870	£59.40
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Attended	120919	Garstang SLCC meeting	72 miles	
	041019	WLBC Offices	12 miles, plus £2 parking	

52pence per mile = £43.68 Plus Stamps = £15.72 TOTAL = £59.40

041019	PKF Littlejohn	External Audit Report	2871	£360.00*
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041019	RBL Poppy Appeal	Donation, plus £32 costs	2872	£100.00
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041019	Parbold WI	Contribution to electricity costs increased by Christmas tree lights	2873	£50.00
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*contain VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

18. Notification of projected value of grants from WLBC in financial year 2020

It was resolved to apply for a capital grant of £1,500 to support the clearance and replacement of the old garage/shed at the rear of the village hall.

19. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2019/0921/COU
Change of use of garden room to mixed use beauty salon
11 Bramble Way Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7HZ

Parish Council Response: No objection.

Application Number: 2019/0794/WL3 Proposal: External refurbishment including new render finish to all elevations, replacement windows and doors, recovering of roofs and replacement entrance canopy. Location: 17 Beech Avenue, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NS

Parish Council Response: No objection.

Application Number: 2019/0796/WL3 Proposal: External refurbishment including new render finish to all elevations, replacement windows and doors, recovering of roofs and replacement entrance canopy. Location: 40 Beech Avenue, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NS

Parish Council Response: No objection.

Application Number: 2019/0797/WL3 Proposal: External refurbishment including replacement of timber cladding with insulated render, replacement windows and doors, recovering of roofs and replacement porch canopies. Location: 13 Beech Avenue, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NS

Parish Council Response: No objection.

Application Number: 2019/0798/WL3 Proposal: External refurbishment including replacement of timber cladding with insulated render, replacement windows and doors, recovering of roofs and replacement porch canopies. Location: 11 Beech Avenue, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NS

Parish Council Response: No objection.

Application Number: 2019/0917/FUL
Erection of private stable block for two horses, including tack room.
Plot 4 Chapel Lane Parbold Lancashire

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council strongly object to this proposal. Councillors wish to express their continued displeasure at the short term decisions being taken with regard to these moorings. They are interested to know what the long term strategy is here, is there any cap to these permissions to retain and uphold the Local Plan greenfield status of this land? Aware that the 'keeping of horses' as oppose to the 'grazing of horses' is attributed to brownfield, sites will a decision in favour of the applicant open the door to housing development? Parbold Parish Council was told that these were temporary moorings

not to be inhabited all year round, however we now see these 'addresses' appearing on our electoral list.

20. To consider items raised at last meeting:-

- How a request to LCC for yellow lines on the little road off the Common might be expedited, and to consider how shop advertising signs might be replaced with more considerately placed signage at the same location (Cllr Blake)

Cllr Blake reported that LCC Highways are aware of the request and that County Councillor Paul Greenall had been contacted but not responded.

- Ways to reduce speed of traffic through the village(Cllr Gill)

Item deferred in absence of Cllr Gill.

- To review drainage for Parbold School (Cllr Stopford)

The meeting noted the update

- To consider the street festival and Parbulele

Cllr Quirk offered to attend the Parbold Village Festival AGM to liaise and report back. There were some reports about Parbulele, from Mill Leat that chairs are still stacked up there. There are also chairs stacked up around the Bramble Way Car Park.

21. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Quirk: Can we write to the Canal & River Trust about the towpath to Apply Bridge because it is messy, muddy, flooded and rutted, on the bend at Parbold. C&RT have filled a depression there in the past, so maybe could do the same again.

It was remarked upon that eight police cars attended the school, where there was a report of a suspected unexploded bomb, but it turned out to be a 2 litre Coca Cola bottle.

Members were reminded that a LALC meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 17th October in WLBC Offices.

Members were informed that the Parbold Wildlife Group will be meeting Councillors at 7.30pm on Tuesday 29th October 2019

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

Cllr Brian Arnold
Chairman

1st November 2019