

Parbold Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm on Friday 7th February 2020 in Parbold WI Hall.

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Blake, Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Gill, Cllr Holland, Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Stopford, and six members of the public.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Quirk. An extended leave of absence due to illness was agreed for Cllr Butts

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 10th January 2020

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.

Representatives of Stop Parbold Hill Landfill attended to explain their campaign.

Bramble Way residents attended to highlight the problem of anti-social behaviour on the car park for Alder lane Playing Fields.

5. To hear application for funding support from Parbold Hill Stop Landfill community group

Following presentation from the group, this item was moved to end of agenda for decision.

6. To decide where WLBC should place the new public bins

Parbold Parish Council complained to WLBC about the removal of the bin at the top of Tan House Lane, because it was a well used (often overflowing) bin and the metal pole it had been attached to was left behind in a dangerous fashion. Following liaison through Cllr Blake in her capacity as Borough Councillor, the issue had been addressed. Paul Clements of WLBC agreed to reinstate the bin and add a second one at the other end of Tan House Lane. However, parish councillors expressed concern that this was not the right place for a second

bin because it is too close to bins already serving The Common row of village shops. WLBC has assessed the area and a larger bins are not possible due to the narrow pavements along Tan House Lane, so two post mounted bins will be installed. Therefore, Parish Councillors will take a look at the road again and consider exactly where they would like the second bin to be positioned and inform the clerk administratively so that there is no delay in asking WLBC to consider it.

It was resolved to have a community Litterpick on Saturday 28th March 2020 meeting at the Village Hall at 10 am Village Hall. Cllr Bithell requested his email address be advertised for volunteers to contact him.

7. Village Hall Issues:-

- **To note issues of antisocial behaviour at the play area**

The cctv had been checked to confirm the complaint and it was also noted that an adult was walking their two dogs off leash around the play area. The police had been asked to include the play area in patrols. The Chairman will liaise with the home owner and try some initiatives to reduce the risk of recurrence.

- **Any update on Main Hall Heating scheme**

An update on progress of the project had been received from the PCA and was distributed. The project is nearing completion.

8. Alder Lane Issues:

- **To determine gate & cctv proposals**

The Chairman agreed to meet with residents to discuss this further. A capital grant application to support cctv costs had been submitted with a decision expected in April 2020.

9. Financial Matters:

- **To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented**

20012020	RBS	Bank charges	d.d.	£12.95
28012020	E A Broad	salary January 2020	s.o.	£818.63
28012020	NEST	Pension (£27.89 from parish, rest is employee contribution) £94.83		
07022020	E A Broad	Key cutting	2894	£4.99
07022020	Wrightington Windows	Cleaning at village hall	2895	£25.00
07022020	Parbold WI	Room hire 7th and 10th January	2896	£37.50
07022020	JW Moore & Co	Village Hall Heating Project	2897	£64,651.63*

07022020	E A Broad	Stamps	2898	£15.72
07022020	Stop Parbold Hill Landfill	Donation to campaign	2899	£500.00
07022020	Barry Rawsthorne	Grass cutting	2900	£34.00

*contains VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

- **To confirm request for refund of VAT paid**

The list of VAT paid was distributed. The application will be submitted online to HMRC for refund.

10. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2020/0009/FUL

Proposal: Proposed rear extension to existing detached dwelling, internal and external alterations including roof lights, windows and doors.

Location: Brandreth Barn, Chorley Road, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7AN

Parish Council Response: No comment on this proposal.

Application Number: 2020/0040/FUL

Proposal: Remove existing detached garage. Construct side and rear extensions, first floor rear extension, car parking arrangements

Location: 2 Scarisbrick Avenue, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HE

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2020/0059/FUL

Proposal: Variation of Condition No. 3 of planning permission 2019/0418/FUL to vary the approved plans and allow for significant improvements to the thermal efficiency of the dwelling.

Location: 2 Wood Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7TH

Parish Council Response: No comment on this proposal.

Application Number: 2019/1153/FUL

Proposal: Replacements of windows

Location: Friars Wood, Lancaster Lane

Parish Council Response: No comment on this proposal.

Application Number: 2020/0014/FUL

Proposal: 2 story side extension and single storey extension to front and rear

Location: 26 Greenfield Avenue

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal so long as it doesn't obstruct light for neighbouring properties.

Application Number: 2019/1265/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of rear porch. Conversion of former bank to A3 and A4 use, including side extension. Conversion of first floor to a 2 bed apartment. Side extension and glazed link to form 2 No. retail units (A1 and A2 use) and 1 No. 2 bed apartment at first floor. Associated external works, including extended parking area.

Location: Scarisbrick House, 4 The Common, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7DB

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council objects to this planning application. The Parish Council does wish to see the old Bank, which is a listed building that must retain its character, brought into use but the ambitious proposals set out do not, in this Council's opinion, meet the need of current residents.

The proposal, by virtue of its siting and scale, constitutes an overbearing form of development in the centre of the village, duplicating many of the facilities that the village already has and is struggling to sustain. Creating new retail facilities whilst a number of retail units are already vacant doesn't promote business growth. Similarly, licensed premises and cafes are in abundance in Parbold, and some such establishments have closed recently due to lack of trade. Directly opposite this site is one of The Old Posthouse, an award-winning cafe that was refused late night licence and closed shortly after opening. We need more sustainable development. Late licence hours are undesirable at this site due to close proximity of homes, and in particular Beacon Crossing, a supported housing development for the elderly who cannot be expected to cope with their quiet, rural village location being transformed into a life in the midst of a night-time economy.

The exit/entrance will be dangerous as it will form an off-set cross-roads at the top of a supported-housing for the elderly estate and it meets the main road, where rows of cars are often backed up waiting for the trains to pass through the railway level crossing. Whilst this is not a new exit, it will have considerably more traffic generated than the small village bank used to have.

There are concerns that the car park provision is inadequate for the development. The village has a drastic shortage of parking areas and the loss of the one at the bank has already been felt. This proposal may attract more cars than spaces allocated, leading to on street parking problems for residents.

This development also risks parking of vehicles on the path leading to Beacon Crossing. Permission was refused for Lou Ren Café to extend their opening hours because of disturbance to residents at Beacon Crossing by vehicles manoeuvring in front of their bedroom windows. The same problem could arise as the path is almost opposite the Bank and vehicles would use the path for parking.

This development could increase the risk of homes being flooded because it is at the centre of a high flood risk area. The flooding of the local underpass at the front of this property, it is believed, stems from blocked drains and culverts running towards Fairhurst Drive, directly through this site. The Parish Council would ask that special consideration be given to any development at this site so that developers address the problem that already exists and ensure than they do not worsen the issue.

Parbold Car Sales, Station Road

Concern was raised about the vacant car sales site, because signs have been erected indicating that a car washing facility called 'Parbold Prestige Car Wash' may be about to commence. A car washing business operating on this site would require planning permission and the current signage displayed requires advertising consent so WLBC Planning enforcement department are now involved.

11. To confirm article for PCA newsletter

The following wording was agreed:

A Spring Litter Pick is being arranged for Saturday 28th March 2020, meeting at 10am on the car park to the Village Hall. If you wish to join in please drop an email to Cllr Bithell (cbithell@btinternet.com) to let him know.

Thank you for your help and patience during the heating renovation work at the village hall. The project is nearing completion and hopefully will enhance experience for hall users.

If you have any posters to go on the parish council notice board outside McColls, please give them to the staff behind the counter of the DIY shop and they will be picked up on a fortnightly basis. Please give lot of time if advertising a village event and if it is a short deadline please email the clerk to let her know that there is a poster needing to be put up. The notice board is large but there is not always room for everything, so preference is given for council notices first, then local village events, those further afield and commercial advertisements are only included where there is room.

We continue to have issues with inconsiderate parking around the schools, particularly on Lancaster Lane and request as many as possible walk or park a little further from the school and walk the last bit to reduce risks around the school.

12. To agree process for ensuring website compliance in terms of accessibility for all and consider employing IT support for the website

It was agreed to add the following information to the website to encourage users to make full use of the plug ins to assist navigating through the website and to encourage users to inform the parish council if they are unable to access any part of it easily.

"To assist using this website the following Plugins may be useful

Plugins can extend reading support for people with disabilities - or those who just want more comfortable ways of interacting with web content.

Changing the way a page is displayed:

Alternative ways of getting **magnification** include using speed reading plug-in like Speed for Google Chrome or using page de-clutter tools like Reader for FireFox or Reader View for Chrome. These allow control on both text size and background colours.

You can **change colours** instantly using HighContrast for Chrome or NoSquint for FireFox.

Read more effectively

Skim read a page via headings - [HeadingsMap \(FireFox\)](#) and [HeadingsMap \(Chrome\)](#) extract all the headings and subheadings into a navigable list - an excellent way of seeing how the content of the whole page fits together.

Listen to content

Listen to a page using a plugin like the excellent [Google Selection Reader](#) "

It was agreed to seek quotations for a company to organise and update the parish council website so that all legislative compliance can be guaranteed.

13. To consider new equipment for Burnside Play Area, and possible application for grant funding to support this

It was resolved to obtain quotations to replace the swings at Burnside as these items are the most used. When a price is obtained, further funding might be sought.

14. To discuss issue of inconsiderate parking around the schools

The problem is certainly concentrated around Parbold Douglas Academy as the Roman Catholic school parents park on the church car park.

A map showing the distribution of pupils residences showed around 30% have to travel into school from neighbouring villages. It is clear that these children will be brought into school by car. The ideal solution would be to allocate surrounding land for a car park so that cars don't stop on the highway but the school would be reluctant to devote play area land for car parking. Enforcement of illegal parking works on the days it is available but many drivers ignore the rules unless there is an officer present. Pupil power could be encouraged by the school, whereby children tell their parents to park properly.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Gill for obtaining the data and it was agreed that liaison with the school will continue, with any proposed solutions to this, explored.

15. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

Cllr Gill - where homes are up for sale the estate agent signs are being put some distance away and on public land, often alongside the highway. The Clerk was instructed to ask WLBC Planning Department if this is permitted.

Cllr Schaffel - Parking along Brandreth Drive is increasing still further with parked cars all the way up to the bend in the road. The Clerk was asked to notify LCC Councillors and ask again that this be addressed.

Cllr Stopford - A new Charity Box has been position in the parish council owned car park on The Common/Station Road. The Clerk confirmed that no permission had been sought and the company will be asked to remove it as there is little enough room for cars. Also the footpath at the top of Miry Lane towards the church is submerged and unusable. This will be reported to PROW LCC Report It system.

16. 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 (contracts for services and terms & conditions of employment), the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda

Resolved.

Item 5 was returned to

To hear application for funding support from Parbold Hill Stop Landfill community group

It was resolved to issue a £500 donation to Stop Parbold Hill Landfill to assist with the campaign, under Section 137 Local Government Act 1972.

17. To update Members on sick leave and leave of absence from Council

The Clerk was fully recovered and returned to work. Two Parish Councillors are unfortunately suffering ill health at present. It was agreed that Cllr Butts and Cllr Quirk be excused from meetings until the May AGM when the situation will be reviewed. If they are well enough to attend before May, of course they would be welcomed.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.

*Cllr Brian Arnold
Chairman*

6th March 2020