

# Parbold Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA  
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## Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Friday 2nd July 2021 in Parbold Village Hall, The Common, WN8 7DL

Present: Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Butts, Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Gill, Cllr Holland, Cllr Long, Cllr Stopford.

In attendance: County Councillor Rob Bailey

Cllr Bithell chaired the meeting.

### 1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Arnold, Cllr Blake, Cllr Schaffel.

### 2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

### 3. 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.**

County Councillor Rob Bailey attended. He explained that his remit is quite busy covering nine parishes. In Parbold, there were concerns about the number of people exercising dogs off lead on Alder Lane Playing Fields, noting that the signs reminding people that there is a Dog Control Order under which they may be fined if they have dogs off-lead here, have been removed, possibly by disgruntled dog owners. Secondly, there is an increasing trend for home owners to install roadside rocks to dissuade parking or driving along the grass outside their homes. No matter how good their intentions, these rocks form an obstruction and are not legal. Perhaps this matter could be highlighted in the next newsletter. Finally, there are again problems with overhanging trees along the footway going up Parbold Hill, so can home owners be encouraged to cut back hedges that encroach onto the route pedestrians take.

### 4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 4th June 2021

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

### 5. Update from Environment Agency about Parbold Hill Quarry

The meeting noted the Environment Agency report, recording that, at this stage no application for an Environmental Permit had been received by them.

The Clerk was asked to record in these Minutes that the Report documents the fact that there is no pollution of the canal or the river. The Clerk was asked to contact the Environment Agency and as that they confirm this in writing.

The Chairman closed the meeting briefly to allow comment from County Councillor Bailey, who informed the meeting that the applicant has now submitted a planning application for East Quarry, Appley Bridge. East Quarry was most recently in the local press showing it to be a site teenagers use for rock diving and swimming and that the applicant had been asked to secure the site to prevent trespassing. However, the application has been presented as a solution to this issue and the proposals would see 11,000 ton of inert rubble dumped there to form a pathway so that emergency services can access the water more quickly. With the concerns that this would have an impact increasing lorry traffic in the Parbold area, the Clerk was asked to object to this planning application.

The following response will be submitted to the Environment Agency.

1. 'The Update is very much appreciated and we hope that the EA will continue to update the Parish Council at regular and frequent intervals. This will enable us to answer queries from residents of Parbold and surrounding areas.
2. The Parish Council considers that it is very important to establish as firmly as possible that monitoring has shown, to date, that there has been no pollution/contamination, by leachate from Parbold Quarry landfill, of waters either in the Leeds & Liverpool Canal or in the River Douglas. The EA Update does not include this information. We consider that the EA should confirm the absence of such pollution as a form of 'baseline statement' early in its sequence of updates. This is especially important as there has been much apparent confusion, even on the part of officers and elected members of LCC, on this crucial matter. We would therefore be grateful if EA would include, in its next Update, a statement confirming the absence of pollution to date on the basis of clear evidence. This will be helpful in informing the general public.
3. We are aware that only Parbold Quarry and West Quarry fall within the Parbold parish. East Quarry (currently under water) lies in the parish of Wrightington. However, some of the development currently occurring and proposed at East Quarry has implications for future proposals at Parbold Quarry. This is particularly so in the case of proposed importation of waste material, in large quantities, to form a new access and approach road to East Quarry. We would therefore ask the EA to include, in its updates to Parbold PC, information on the subject of progress in matters relating to East Quarry also'.

#### **6. To hear Fairhurst Drive residents concerns about parking/speeding problems**

A Fairhurst Drive resident raised concerns that parked vehicles along the bend of the Drive obscure driver visibility and are the cause of a number of near misses. They pointed out that a particular SUV car in their opinion inconsiderately parked and requested consideration of double yellow lines to prevent parking here. Secondly, The Common is a 20mph road but this is not adhered to so could the installation of speed humps be considered.

The Clerk had responded, explaining that these issues are the responsibility of LCC Highways and a parish council cannot effect the changes she requests.

#### **7. To note action taken regarding pavements at Greenfield Avenue**

The dangerously uneven pavement at Greenfield Avenue had been reported to LCC Highways, with photographs supplied by residents and given the reference number W607819

#### **8. Village Hall Matters**

- **Report from meeting with PCA members**

This meeting is deferred until later in the summer.

The PCA have been told that the Parish Council agreed in principle to meeting up to half the costs of obtaining plans for an extension into the rear courtyard. The PCA are still assessing what the recommendations are following the Covid crisis.

#### **9. Alder Lane Issues**

- **Update on reported trip-hazard: WLBC methane testing point**

The trip-hazard between the pitches was reported to WLBC as the land owner here. The following response was received:

This asset is a gas monitoring point and does relate to the equipment for the methane monitoring operation at this location, these monitoring points were installed as part of the original closed landfill equipment . A contractor was asked to attend last week as a matter of urgency to ensure the area is made safe. I am sorry that you feel that communication has reduced since Colin Brady retired from the Council in March 2020. The new contact to report any future issues to is Suzanne Hill, Senior Engineering Officer

[suzanne.hill@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.hill@westlancs.gov.uk).

Alternatively, you can contact Customer Services on 01695 577177.

Therefore, future issues will be emailed to Suanne Hill.

- **Consider seating at the playing fields**

It was agreed to defer a decision on this matter until Cllr Blake is in attendance and to ask the rugby and football clubs their opinion as ot style and location of seating.

- **Consider use of pesticides on the pathway at Chapel Meadow**

It was resolved to ask the Wildlife Group what product could be used to keep the pathway clear as the pathway needs to be free of obstruction for both pedestrians and wheelchair/pushchair users.

**10. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented**

210621	RBS	Bank charges	d.d.	£1.05
210621	O2	Contract for cctv Bramble Way	d.d.	£21.90*
270621	E A Broad	salary	s.o.	£893.44
280621	NEST	Pension (£30.17 from parish, rest is employee contribution)		£99.36
280621	HMRC	Tax and Ni for three months	d.d.	£167.31
020721	OPSTA	Annual Subscription	2997	£10.00
	Ormskirk, Preston Southport Travellers Association			
020721	Wrightington Windows	Village Hall cleaning	2998	£20.00
020721	Fire Equipment Services	Annual extinguishers check	2999	£102.65*
020721	Laurence Davis	Groundwork contract	3000	£1,767.00
020721	PCA	Room hire 020721	3000	£34.00
020721	Host4U Ltd	Website hosting service	d.d.	£179.98*

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

**11. To note Planning and Planning Applications**

Ref. No: 2021/0631/COU

Proposed change of use from Class E (clothing retail) to hot food takeaway.  
3 Station Road Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7NU

Parish Council Response: Parbold Parish Council objects to this application on amenity grounds.

The application site directly faces 2-storey houses at Nos 16 and 18 Station Road, and closely faces similar houses at Nos 10, 20/22, and 24 - 30. Residents of all these houses would experience noise and disturbance from traffic movements to and from the proposed takeaway, and from people arriving and departing. Such disturbance is likely to occur at unsocial hours. Any roadside parking immediately outside these houses would obstruct their driveways and intensify disturbance.

Emissions from extractor equipment would be likely disturb residents of Burnside, to the rear of the site, as well as residents of Station Road, both through noise of the equipment and through smells.

In this stretch of Station Road, development is primarily residential, and any existing shops are uses which do not cause disturbance at any time, particularly in the evening.

As part of the planning application 2021/0631/COU there is a very useful site location plan. This shows the extent of land in the same ownership/control - it includes Nos.3 and 3A Station Rd (the 2 shops), the vacant former car sales site, the large buildings and access/car park forming Coffee Etc; and also shows an extension at the back of No.3 which is presumably the space used by the Parbold Dog Groomers. It also shows the point at which Dock Brook emerges from its culvert under the road. That point lies within the 'other owned/controlled' land outlined in blue (site is in red).

Parbold Parish Council has previously requested WLBC advice as to whether the dog groomers requires/has planning permission at this site after local residents concerns that the waste water was being discharged into Dock Brook. The response was that there were issues with the address and ownership so our query was not answered.

Ref. No: 2021/0670/FUL  
2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension.  
23 Lindley Drive Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7ED

Parish Council Response: No objection to this development.

Ref. No: 2021/0775/FUL  
Proposed new single storey garage with hobby room in roof space  
West View Lancaster Lane Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7AA

Parish Council Response: No objection to this development

It was reported that a large Hydrant sign has been installed on the wide grass verge at Lancaster Lane and the Clerk was asked to write to United Utilities to request if this sign is temporary, or can it be removed. An estate agent has also put a sale notice on this grass toug the property for sale is in Croasdale Drive.

Ref. No: 2021/0786/FUL  
Variation of Condition No. 2 imposed on planning permission 2020/1029/FUL to vary the approved plans.  
29 Brandreth Drive Parbold Wigan Lancashire WN8 7HB

Parish Council Comment: No objection to the proposals but the plans appear to have confused the orientation with some annotations ie 'looking North' is actually looking South.

## **12. To respond to WLBC Electoral Review to feed back to the Local Government Boundary Commission.**

**<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>**

Parbold Parish Council supports West Lancashire Borough Council proposals that will see a reduction in the number of Borough Councillors from 54 to 45 to help ensure that the residents across the Borough are equally represented. However, the proposal that three Councillors per Ward with 15 Wards creates over large wards, where it is easy to lose contact with your 'local' Councillor. Where each Ward has three Councillors, residents may struggle to find which one can assist their particular issue. Parbold Parish Council would prefer to see 45 Wards with one single Councillor per Ward.

### 13. To note progress of WLBC Local Plan: Call for Sites Stage

Whilst the current adopted Local Plan for West Lancashire is the Local Plan 2012-2027, national policy requires WLBC to regularly appraise the Plan, and where necessary update it.

In 2016, work commenced on the Local Plan Review (to 2050) which was intended to guide development for 38 years, from 2012 to 2050. However, this plan was effectively 'withdrawn' in September 2019. The current stage is forming a list of sites that may be considered for inclusion in development. The Parbold sites were summarised as follows:-

These are sites that anyone (maybe the land owner but maybe not) can propose for development. They are not necessarily going to be developed.

TEP Map Ref	SHELAA Ref	Place	Area ha	Net area ha	Density dw/ha	No of houses Approx	
1	PB028	Newburgh	16.74	16	30	480	Land at Strawberry Farm Course Lane
2	SE02	Newburgh	5.75	3.31	30	99	Land west of Tears Lane
3	SE03	Newburgh	4.53	3.6	30	108	Land to the north east of Lawrenson's Farm
4	PB013	Newburgh	0.76	0.76	30	22	off Cobbs Brow Lane
		<b>Newburgh totals</b>	<b>27.78</b>	<b>23.67</b>		<b>709</b>	
5	PB023	Parbold	2.3	0.71	30	21	off Alder Lane. Opp Wayfarer. Flood risk
6	PB029	Parbold	5.93	2	30	60	off Wood Lane. Biological Heritage site
7	PB027	Parbold	0.18	0.018	20	1	Land on the corner of Alder Lane and Lancaster Lane
8	PB012	Parbold	20.95	5	30	150	Land to the north-west of The Common and Greenfield Avenue
	PB043	Parbold					Land north of CofE school. Not yet included
		<b>Parbold totals</b>	<b>29.36</b>	<b>7.73</b>		<b>232</b>	

**Ref: PB.043**

The site is potentially a very valuable one to the community of Parbold. It would enable a solution to the otherwise intractable problem of parent parking along Lancaster Lane, which for long periods of time, twice a day, causes difficult and dangerous highway conditions on Lancaster Lane. For years now, the Parish Council and the School have tried to solve this problem: they have communicated with parents; involved the police and traffic officers; and engaged with Lancashire County Council as Highway Authority. Nothing has worked, and the daily problems are as bad as ever.

The only solution to the mayhem is to get parents' cars off the road and into a dedicated school car park as close to the school buildings as possible, with a single (or in-and-out) point of access to Lancaster Lane.

This would be possible if the land to the rear of the school could become a housing site, enabling the development of a car park on part of the site.

Development would also solve the problem of drainage. Despite extensive and costly drainage works within the school grounds, water continues to accumulate and to flood out onto Lancaster Lane, damaging the pavements. The removal of the 'reservoir' in the field above, and the organisation of a proper drainage system which would come with a housing development, would solve this problem also.

PB.012 (NW of The Common), is a huge site and would be a very significant incursion into the Green Belt as well as having flooding issues. This is also prime agricultural land.

WLBC say all Green Belt sites have been 'parked' and all Parbold sites are in the green belt.

#### **14. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings**

Cllr Stopford - development at the RBS building. He has spoken with the Consulting Engineer who is developing the site and has noted the water courses. This is a great opportunity to solve a long-standing problem of flooding in this area.

CCTV - problems with the Bramble Way car park site again.

Wigan Council's proposals for canal towpath improvements were noted.

Cllr Carruthers - Railway Crossing house and steps are in disrepair. The Clerk was asked to write to the current owners, The Arch Company.

Cllr Holland - wishes to revisit the residents parking scheme at Mill Lane, where approximately 17 homes are affected.

It was noted that Parbold Dog Groomers address is now given as 3 Station Road. Burnside residents continue to complain that the site has no planning permission for this use and that the waste water is being discharged directly into Dock Brook. The Clerk was instructed to inform WLBC Planning Enforcement (who previously could not investigate as the site had no address) and the Environment Agency.

**15. 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, the public and the press, leave the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.**

Resolved.

**16. To consider quotations for white lining at the village hall car park**

*Chairman: .....*

It was resolved to ask Ken Darlington to re-mark the white lining at Parbold Village Hall car park as the quotation is cheaper than the others received.

**17. Further consideration of gate at Bramble Way Car Park**

The quotation of £3,969 plus VAT for a car barrier was considered too expensive for a gate that would only occasionally be locked.

The Clerk requested more time to obtain quotations for a simpler farm gate, similar to the one at the other end of Chapel Meadow, next to the railway crossing.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9 pm.

*Cllr Brian Arnold*  
*Chairman*

*3rd September 2021*