

# Parbold Parish Council

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## MINUTES

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Friday 2nd June 2023 in Parbold Village Hall, The Common, WN8 7DL**

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Gill (Vice Chairman), Cllr Blake, Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Butts.

1 member of the public in attendance.

### **1. To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Holland, Cllr Stopford and Cllr Long.

### **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.**

A member of the public queried whether the road surface on Chapel Lane was to be widened, whilst works were ongoing to automate the level crossing. There was a question regarding The Heys, as although it had been sprayed for weeds there appears to be a growth of mare's tail. This is not ideal when the judges for the Best Kept Village competition are due to arrive.

The Councillors were informed of several occasions of youths congregating in the village hall play area, around 9 to 10pm. They dispersed on sight of the member of the public but it may be prudent to monitor the CCTV in case of potential anti-social behaviour.

The village hall car park is apparently becoming used once again for long term parking. This particularly causes problems when events are held at the hall and there is insufficient parking due to drivers parking there all day. Inevitably this means that event-goers and patients at the doctor's surgery have to park on the road or in nearby streets.

Cllr Bailey arrived to give his apologies which were accepted by the Council. He then left the meeting.

#### **4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

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

#### **5. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented**

150523	Vision Link	D/D	£24.00
160523	Yates playground inspection	BACS	£69.60
190523	O2 CCTV	D/D	£26.76
240523	Zurich – insurance renewal	BACS	£2250.92
280523	B Joule – undeclared use of home for office	BACS	£25.00
280523	B Joule – salary	S/O	£803.16
310523	Laurence Davis ground works	BACS	£883.50

Signatories – please note that following authorisation at this meeting the requests for BACS payment will mirror this list.

#### **6. To note Planning and Planning Applications**

Application Number: 2023/0090/FUL

Proposal: To replace existing windows with a different window pattern. The property is in the Mill Lane Conservation Area for which permitted development has been suspended through an Article 4 Direction, hence the requirement for planning permission. The property is two stories and was built in 1884. The new window pattern is intended to closer reflect the property's

original pattern by using sash windows consistent with the period. The proposal relates to the front window on the ground floor and on the first floor only. The existing windows are double-glazed and of timber construction. The intention would be to either replace using timber or quality UPVC, subject to cost and availability. The first floor window pattern is currently top-hung outward opening, upper 50% sash: lower 50% fixed. The proposal is that the pattern be retained but with a double-hung sash opening vertically. Sash horns will be a feature as they are on the current window. The ground floor currently has one large window with two fanlight top-hung outward openings. This window will be replaced by two double-hung sash windows within the same window unit, so will have a matching divider supporting the outside linings in the space between the two windows. Sash horns will also be a feature on these two windows.

Location: 18 Station Road, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NU

Comments: No objection, although the Parish Council would prefer timber frames to be installed.

## 7. Village issues

- **To discuss the Village Hall heating maintenance plan**

Moved to the end of the meeting

- **To discuss the offer to host a Community Skip day**

It was resolved not to take part in the community skip day this year, mainly due to the cost of the skip hire and the fact that Parbold has the benefit of local council refuse sites. However, it was resolved to place 2 recycling bins in the village – one by the noticeboard outside Morrison's on The Common and one on the Bramble Way car park.

- **To consider the Parbold, Newburgh and District Garden Society grant request**

Moved to the end of the meeting

- **To discuss the quotes for repairs to playground equipment**

Following on from the recent inspection of Burnside and the Village Hall play areas a number of recommendations were made to replace or maintain certain pieces of play equipment. It was resolved to instruct the inspectors to undertake the work to ensure that the equipment is fully functional and safe.

- **To discuss the invitation to join LANPAC**

The Lancashire Partnership against Crime programme have invited parish councils to join the initiative, where for a small annual subscription there is access to advice and support from the organisation. Where prolonged anti-social behaviour or crime patterns such as domestic burglaries are identified LANPAC can provide support with tackling the issues. It was resolved to join the initiative for 12 months and monitor its usefulness to the village.

## **8. Alder Lane**

- **To receive an update on Parbold Village show**

The Chairman gave an update on a meeting with representatives from Parbold Village show and confirmed that the electrical power point at the entrance to Alder Lane playing fields had been tested and repaired. This power point is intended for light use only and it had been agreed during the meeting with the show representatives that any commercial or heavy power users would need to provide their own power.

- **To discuss the proposal to replace the fence around the leachate pit**

Further discussions with WLBC confirm that the fence will be replaced with the preferred hooped metal railings in green. Although the Parish Council would prefer a horizontal top bar to the fence it was explained that the hooped top lessened the opportunity to climb over the fence. It was resolved not to contribute to the new fence as the Parish Council had recently upgraded the existing wooden fence.

## **9. Update on Councillor raised issues:**

- **The grant application for a heritage sign for the Parbold Bottle**

It is still the intention to apply for a grant from the Lancashire Environmental Fund (LEF), the next round being in July.

## **10. Clerk's Report**

The report was duly noted.

## 11. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

- The house adjoining Parbold station still has orange plastic protective fencing along the front of the railings, despite numerous requests by the Parish Council over the last 18 months to remove it. This is particularly frustrating as the Best Kept Village judges are due this month. There will be a final plea to the company owning the property to sort this out prior to judging.
- It has also been noted that grass verges have not recently been mowed by the Borough Council, nor have the gutters been cleaned. It was requested that contact is made to WLBC to see if this can be done as soon as possible, and an update given at the next meeting.
- It was requested that a discussion about the village hall lease be on the upcoming Agenda, as due to the moderate number of years left on the lease it can inhibit grant funding applications.
- The condition of the dry dock area was raised and a request to establish whether volunteers still help the Canal and River Trust to clear this area.
- An update on the planning application at Our Lady and All Saints Convent was requested.
- It was noted that due to pot hole filling on Mill lane some of the double yellow lines have been obscured. This will need reporting to Highways at LCC.

**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.**

- **To discuss the Village Hall heating maintenance plan**

Just prior to the meeting Members of the Parish Council met with the heating maintenance contractor to gain a better understanding of what is involved in the annual inspection and maintenance process. It was established that the annual inspection is essential, both for the care and longevity of the machinery and for the safety of the village hall users. It was resolved in this meeting to

continue with the maintenance programme, but to combine the two hall systems into one annual inspection.

- **To consider the Parbold, Newburgh and District Garden Society grant request**

The request to grant this Society the sum of £250 towards the cost of guest speakers, trips out and other costs was carefully considered but it was resolved in this instance not to support the request.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 2035hrs.

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Chairman

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

