

Parbold Parish Council

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MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Friday 1st December 2023 in Parbold Village Hall, The Common, WN8 7DN

Present: Cllr Gill (Vice Chairman), Cllr Blake, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Long

3 members of the public in attendance.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Butts, Cllr Arnold, Cllr Holland and Cllr Stopford.

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 representative from the PCA notified members of a fault with the heating system in the village hall. A contractor had been contacted and will attend as soon as possible to rectify the problem.
- A representative from Stop Parbold Landfill gave an update to members on the current situation with Parbold and Appley Bridge quarries. It appears that the LCC requirement that the applicant obtains a permit variation for Parbold Hill from the Environment Agency has not

happened. It is believed that the applicant is unable to provide the required data to support the permit variation as the necessary apparatus has been removed. The group are requesting that the Parish Council support the proposal to request that LCC either refuse the application for lack of a supporting permit variation or request the applicant to withdraw it as an alternative to such a refusal.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 3rd November 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 or already paid

081123	Amazon – wire rope for Christmas tree	BACS	£39.99
081123	Festive Lights – Christmas tree lights	BACS	£278.91
151123	Vision Link	D/D	£24.00
171123	PlaySafety – routine playground checklists	BACS	£72.00
191123	O2 CCTV	D/D	£26.76
221123	Yates Playgrounds – 3 month inspection	BACS	£69.60
281123	B Joule – salary	S/O	£868.34

Noted at the meeting:

231123	Paul Scott - clearing gutters	BACS	£80.00
281123	Wrightington Windows	BACS	£20.00
281123	B Joule - salary raise not added	BACS	£52.68

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: 2023/1007/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of an existing conservatory and construction of a single storey rear extension, construction of a single storey side extension, construction a 1.5 storey front extension, alterations to existing elevational and roof materials, and alterations to windows.

Location: 2 Tan House Close, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HH.

Comments: The Parish Council resolved to offer no objection to this application.

7. Village issues

- **To consider how to allocate the Public Rights of Way (PROW) grant**

The Parish Council was successful in the application for a PROW grant of £500 toward the improvement of public rights of way, plus £300 toward bird/bat boxes. The original intention of the grant was to put the monies toward signage for the Bottle, from the A5209. Initial estimates for oak signs were deemed too costly and it was resolved to make further enquiries to source a suitable less expensive sign.

- **To discuss the Parish Renumeration Report response**

The Parish Renumeration Panel has asked for views from the Parish Council on the amount of Parish Basic Allowance payable to members. It was resolved to support the recommendation that an allowance amount of £200 be available annually to the Chairman.

- **To discuss the UK Shared Prosperity Grant proposition**

Through the above grant WLBC allocated £4.5 million to:

Reduce inequalities

- a) Support residents in the cost of living crisis
- b) Make communities more resilient and secure

For 2023-24 there is £283,270.00 available in grants. There is a minimum application figure of £10,000.00. Two possible areas of interest for Parbold could be:

- Local sports facilities to bring people together
- Reduce the cost of living, via energy efficiency, combat fuel poverty or combat climate change

The closing date for this year's application round is 13th December, giving very little time to identify a suitable proposition and prepare an application. Therefore, it was resolved to wait for the next round of grants and give consideration to potential projects.

- **To consider a complaint of limited access on the pavement on Chorley Road between Parbold and Hilldale**

An email was received from a resident concerning the narrowness of the pavement that runs from the top of The Common through to Hilldale. Although the width of this pavement is mostly governed by private land boundaries there is a section that has a wide grass verge. The Parish Council were asked whether this section of pavement could be widened. It was resolved to contact LCC to see how feasible this would be.

8. Alder Lane issues

- **To consider the renewal of the Shevington Sharks Rugby club licence**

It was resolved to renew the licence for Shevington Sharks to make use of the Alder Lane field for rugby training and matches.

- **To discuss the proposal from Shevington Sharks to apply for the football pitch improvement grant**

A representative of Shevington Sharks has made the Parish Council aware that is a grant available for improvement to sporting facilities of which Shevington Sharks would like to take advantage. The grant runs over 6 years on a decreasing balance scale and is only granted following a successful pitch assessment by a rugby league official. The maximum grant is £4000.00 and a maintenance plan would need to be agreed and followed. Members were supportive in principal but need more detail

before making a decision on whether to take part as the owner of the grounds in question.

- **To consider a request from a resident to install a memorial bench on Chapel Meadow**

A request has been received from a Parbold resident regarding placing a memorial bench on the Chapel Meadow, in a place that was very special to the resident. The Parish Council has a policy regarding memorial items on their property, as a number of requests are received and cannot all be accommodated. In this instance it was suggested that an alternative to a bench could be more appropriate and the Clerk was instructed to make further enquiries with the resident.

9. Update on Councillor raised issues:

- **To receive an update on the development application for the Convent site on Lancaster lane**

It is understood that, following a site visit and representation from the Parish Council at the planning committee meeting, permission has now been granted.

10. To consider the installation of EV charging points within the village, with a particular request from a local business to buy dedicated parking spaces for the purpose of EV charging

Members considered the possibility of installing electric vehicle charging points within the village. It was agreed that it is not a consideration for the time being but may be possible to scope out for a future UKSPF grant.

11. Clerk's Report

The report was duly noted.

12. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

- It was requested to remind dog owners about dogs fouling the pavements in the village, particularly around the parade of shops. This seems to be worse during the winter months as the evenings grow darker.
- The Chairman wished to give thanks to Cllr Holland and Cllr Stopford who have recently worked hard to plant the area of land next to The Heys with over 400 bulbs and shrubs, following a kind donation of money from a resident. This area will look lovely in spring when the bulbs come through.

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.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 2050hrs.

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Chairman

1st December 2023