

Parbold Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Friday 4th February 2022 in Parbold Village Hall, Parbold Village Hall, 2 The Green, Parbold, Wigan WN8 7DN

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Bithell (Vice Chairman), Cllr Butts, Cllr Schaffel, Cllr Gill, Cllr Stopford, Cllr Holland

4 members of the public in attendance.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Blake and Cllr Long

2. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Arnold declared an interest in the retrospective planning application relating to Radiant Living, Station Road, Parbold.

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.

There was a discussion with 4 attending members of public regarding plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend (2nd to 5th June). There are several local groups and organisations looking to run events over that weekend, including the Parbold Community Association and Thirdway. It was discussed how best to link all these events together and avoid clashes. The Parbold Festival is traditionally run on the first Saturday of July and concerns were raised as to whether any event run on Alder lane field during the Jubilee weekend may adversely impact upon attendance at the Festival. It was suggested that the Festival is brought forward to be the centre point of any Jubilee celebrations but this was declined, due to commitments and investment that the Festival Committee have already made. It was agreed that liaison between the PCA and Thirdway may be necessary to organise the weekend.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 7th January 2022

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

5. To discuss any project for WLBC Capital Grant application

This grant is available for Parish Councils to undertake capital schemes. The Parish Council generally apply each year for such a grant and it was agreed to apply this year for funding to improve the paths on Chapel Meadow. These paths were installed in 2010 and the surface has sunk in places, becoming muddy and waterlogged, making it difficult for wheelchair and mobility aid users. An application will be submitted by the closing date of Friday 11th February.

6. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

211221	RBS	Bank charges	d.d.	£8.75
291221	HMRC	Tax/National Insurance	d.d.	£453.96
120122	LCC	Festive lighting	3056	£570.00
190122	O2	CCTV Bramble Way	d.d.	£21.90
280122	E Joule	Salary	d.d.	£720.29
010222	WI Room	hire	3058	£32.00
020222	Wrightington Windows	– Village Hall	3061	£20.00
030222	C J Lyon	– Village Hall drains	3059	£90.00
040222	PCA Room	hire	3060	£34.00

7. To conclude budget for Financial Year 2022/23

The proposed budget for 2022-23 was discussed and agreed. Consideration was given as to whether to maintain the Precept at the current level or introduce an increase in the coming financial year.

Parbold Parish Council resolved to request £34,097.00. Although this amount is slightly higher than last year (£33,638.00) this is because the Council tax base for Parbold has increased slightly, which means that the cost to the householder remains at the same level as last year.

8. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Ref. Number: 2021/1463/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of an approved dwelling (for the use incidental to the approved development 2020/0463/FUL) to a function room, and relocation of kitchen from the ground floor to the first floor of the approved development 2020/0463/FUL.

Location: Scarisbrick House, 4 The Common, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7DA .
Closing date 15/02/22

Comment:

Parbold Parish Council objects strongly to this planning application to introduce a first floor function room with kitchen and bar (to replace the residential first-floor flat previously approved). The proposed use would inevitably cause noise and disturbance to neighbouring residents in Station Road, and beyond in Fairhurst Drive and Brandreth Drive. The noise would be particularly intrusive in the late evening and at night, when private parties (for example, adult birthday parties and after-wedding, or engagement parties) would be held. There are 3 opening windows in the front elevation which, whether opened or closed would allow noise and vibration to escape and to reflect off existing buildings. It would be unreasonable to impose a condition requiring a closing time at or earlier than midnight, or to limit the use of music: such conditions might therefore be able legally to be removed on appeal, leaving a thoroughly unneighbourly use.

The proposed function room would also be likely to generate far more parking demand than could be met by the available space on site. Cars would therefore be parked in various other places in the centre of the village, potentially causing congestion. Drivers and passengers would be likely to disturb residents on leaving the application premises at late hours. Such problems would not be caused by the originally approved residential flat. It should be remembered that the centre of the village is largely residential, and that the majority of the non-residential uses do not continue late into the evening, and of their nature do not generate noise incompatible with residential amenity. We therefore ask that this application be refused.

Ref. 2022/0043/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of existing outbuildings to the rear of the property. Two storey rear extension, with external raised patio area, single storey side porch extension. Replacement of all windows and doors with new to match existing. Removal and alterations to the existing first floor windows on the side elevations. New roof tiles to be provided to match existing defective roof tiles. New garden wall and access gates to the front elevation, with new car access, new car parking and roadway areas.

Location: 74 The Common, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7E

Comment: No objection

Application Number: 2021/1483/FUL

Proposal: The erection of a single storey outbuilding for the use of a staff/storage facility further to the demolition of a single garage with associative works (retrospective).

Location: Radiant Living, 12 - 14 Station Road, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7NU

Comment: No objection in principle. However, the Council will wish to ensure that activities within the building do not have any materially adverse impact upon the residential neighbours of the adjoining property at no.10 Station Road through noise and disturbance

9. Update on Councillor raised issues:-

- **Plans for the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebration**
The Parish Council resolved to liaise with groups and organisations involved in running Jubilee events to provide assistance where agreed. The Clerk will be the Council's point of contact with the groups and other parish councils.
- **Overuse of carparks at the Common parade and Bramble Way**
This item will be deferred to a later meeting.
- **The Local Plan status in relation to Parbold**
Cllr Blake sent an update to the Council on this subject. In the current adopted Local Plan for the area (the West Lancashire Local Plan 2012-2027), there are no sites allocated in Parbold Ward for housing (nor for other uses such as employment). The recent "Call for Sites" exercise will feed into the next Local Plan.
- **Parish Council litter Pick**
It was agreed to undertake the Parish Council litter pick on Saturday 26th March, there will be details of this in the upcoming Newsletter.

10. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

- It was raised that during the Vegan fest at the Village Hall, cars were parking along Greenfield Avenue, causing issues of obstruction to the residents and blocking pathways. Advice has previously given to the organisers but the Clerk will make contact to ask that cones be placed on one side of the road to limit obstruction.
- It was noticed that the footpath leading to the Bottle on Parbold Hill was closed. This is apparently a temporary measure in order to locate an electrical cable that needs to be replaced.

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.

11. To appoint an Internal Auditor for accounts

In recent years the Council have asked the Newburgh Parish Clerk to undertake the internal audit of accounts due after 31st March 2022. It was resolved to do the same this year.

12. To discuss Rural Electric Vehicle “Car Clubs”

The LCC Community Energy Investment lead officer has requested that a survey be completed that will determine interest in creating rural electric car clubs that could help communities to tackle the decline in public transport and reduce their carbon footprint. There is some thought that rural villages may be left behind in the transition to electric transport because of the costly charging infrastructure it requires. The accrued data from the survey may help to create access to funding to develop car clubs which in turn may help with the transition to electric vehicles. It was agreed that this has little relevance to the community of Parbold.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 2100hrs.

Cllr Brian Arnold
Chairman

7th January 2022