

Parbold Parish Council

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MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Friday 2nd September 2022 in Parbold Village Hall, The Common, WN8 7DL

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

County Councillor Rob Bailey and 4 members of the public in attendance.

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Carruthers, Cllr Blake and 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.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 1st July 2022

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

5. To ratify accounts and authorise payment of accounts presented

010722	PCA room hire	BACS	£34.00
040722	Fire Equipment Services Ltd	BACS	£53.22
110722	UKHost4U	BACS	£59.99
120722	Clerk's expenses	BACS	£42.72
130722	Vision Link telemetry flood detection	D/D	£24.00
150722	O2	D/D	£23.60
280722	B Joule salary	BACS	£732.44
290722	Laurence Davis grounds maintenance	BACS	£1767.00
010822	Argus Fire and Security – V. Hall	BACS	£134.40
130822	Vision Link telemetry flood detection	D/D	£24.00
150822	O2	D/D	£23.60
180822	Wrightington Windows	BACS	£20.00
230822	ROSPA Play Safety	BACS	£172.20
250822	Paul Scott repairs	BACS	£94.00
280822	B Joule salary	BACS	£732.44
280822	T & VP Wade – mowing	BACS	£720.00
310822	Laurence Davis grounds maintenance	BACS	£1767.00
020922	PCA room hire	BACS	£25.50

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

6. To note Planning and Planning Applications

Application Number: 2022/0711/FUL

Proposal: Single Extension To Rear

Location: 37 The Common, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7EA

Comments: No objection to this proposal.

Application No: 2022/0808/FUL

Proposal: Timber Porch

Location: 21A Tan House Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8 7HG.

Comments: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2022/0678/FUL

Proposal: Proposed erection of domestic stables block, and small paddock enclosure, together with midden and ranch style enclosure.

Location: Gillibrand House, Wood Lane, Parbold, Wigan, Lancashire, WN8

Comments: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2022/0863/FUL

Proposal: Conventional extensions to a residential dwelling after works had commenced on site for the approved replacement dwelling

Location: Douglas Dale, 23 Bradshaw Lane, Parbold, Lancashire, WN8 7NQ

Parish Council response: This site is in the Green Belt. As the Parish Council understands it, WLBC granted planning permission for a replacement dwelling the size of which was based not only on the original dwelling but also on the additional space included in the separate 'coach house' which stood on the plot. The Council then attempted (quite reasonably) to restrict permitted development rights for extension and outbuildings, but was unable to do so. Since then, the proposal for a detached garage, and also another, for an 'ancillary' building for a swimming pool and gym, have been permitted. Collectively, these are 3 significant concessions which collectively represent a very substantial increase in floorspace/volume of development on the plot, and a corresponding reduction in openness of the Green Belt.

Now it is claimed that the further extensions now proposed constitute a 'reasonable' increase in the size of the 'original' dwelling. But the house that now exists is not the 'original' dwelling, which through its replacement has in effect already been enlarged far beyond its original size. To grant planning permission for these extensions would risk making a mockery of Green Belt policy.

Accordingly, although the Parish Council is concerned about this planning application it will abide by the decision of the Borough Council.

7. To confirm the amendments to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Internal Auditor recommended adopting the NALC Model Standing Orders 2018 (amended 2020). These standing orders are more comprehensive than the current version adopted by the Parish Council, and it is imperative that the mandatory sections are included whilst consideration is given to other relevant sections. A draft version with suggested content will be re-circulated for consideration and discussion at the next meeting

8. To consider whether to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements

Under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, SAAA is responsible for appointing external auditors to all applicable opted-in smaller authorities. During the last 5 year period all smaller authorities were opted in to the central procurement regime but are now given the chance to opt out and appoint their own external auditor.

It was resolved to remain in the central procurement scheme.

9. Village issues

- Parish Councillors met with UU Managers and the Environment Agency on 23rd August to discuss the odour issues that have been affecting the village recently. The meeting was constructive and a separate report was produced and circulated. This report was also posted on the parish council's website and noticeboards. Meetings were arranged for March and October 2023.
- The ROSPA report on the annual playground inspection produced several minor findings, with recommendations to check and renew items where necessary. It was resolved to have these items checked and repaired as advised.

- West Lancashire Area Plan – this includes proposed plans for “no waiting at any time” restrictions on Tan House Lane j/w Brandreth Drive. This was noted and supported by the council.

10. Parbold Village Show

Concern was raised that damage may have been done to the drains under the Alder Lane field due to heavy vehicles being driven onto the field during the Village show. It was agreed to monitor the situation as any damage could result in waterlogged or flooded areas in inclement weather.

11. Alder Lane issues

- 3 trees require felling on Chapel Meadow, which were identified as a risk to the public during the recent assessment by the Lancs. Wildlife Trust Reserve Officer Danny Myers. It was resolved to fell these trees but leave them in situ as they will become excellent habitat for wildlife.
- Appley Bridge FC have applied for a new licence to run from 1st September 2022 to 31 August 2023. It was resolved to renew this licence with an increase in rental to reflect the uplift in maintenance costs of the playing fields and goal posts.

12. Update on the land adjacent to The Heys

The Land Registry state that the current application for transfer of ownership of land could take up to 18 months.

It was resolved to clear this piece of land save for a few established trees, and suggestions were sought via the Newsletter for how to utilise this space. A number of good suggestions were made by residents which were noted by the council. Once cleared a plan will be agreed, to regenerate the land with a view to a low maintenance and wildlife friendly space.

13. To consider the quotes for the Capital Grant work on Chapel Meadow

- Following the successful application for a Capital Grant to improve the paths on Chapel Meadow the Parbold Wildlife Group have suggested that now is a good time to undertake the work. Quotes have been submitted and were discussed. It was agreed that it will be more cost effective to have the path renovated in stages, with substantive kerbs in areas more prone to subsidence/flooding. Consequently, revised quotes will be sought.

14. Update on Councillor raised issues:-

- **Perimeter signs to the Parish**

Cllr Arnold met with Cllr Whittington and the Hilldale Parish Clerk to discuss the parish boundary sign between Parbold and Hilldale and has liaised with Hilldale PC with regard to sharing the signpost. It was resolved that a new gate frame would be purchased along with a polyurethane sign similar to that which was there previously. It then would be possible to site the Parbold and Hilldale signs on either side of the same frame on the parish boundary.

- **Jubilee Garden commemorative stone**

It was resolved to add the date of 2022 to the Jubilee stone and to also add “E:R” to the left of the dates to balance out the writing on the stone.

- **Mill Leat issues**

Cllr Blake has confirmed that the land behind Mill Leat is the responsibility of WLBC.

- **Councillor’s Code of Conduct**

Following circulation of the draft Code of Conduct document it was resolved to formally adopt the ratified document.

15. Clerk's Report

The report was duly noted.

16. Councillors' agenda items for future meetings

- Concern was raised over potholes in the tarmac of the parking area in front of the shops on The Common. One hole in particular is in need of attention.
- It was raised that there are a number of overgrown hedges around the village that are impairing pedestrian access along pavements. Now the nesting season has ended this issue needs to be addressed.
- Another litter pick is being arranged for Saturday 12th November, details to be circulated nearer the time.
- It was suggested that the PCA are approached to determine how the rising energy costs may impact upon their bills this winter.

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 2135hrs.

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Chairman

2nd September 2022