

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Wrightington Parish Council held on Monday 16th June 2025 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Ms. K Juckes (Chairman), Mrs J Burton (Vice Chairman), Mr F Johnson, Mr Lee Burton, Mrs H Kelsall, Ms Ann Fletcher, Mrs S Roberts, Mr H Carey and Mr J Ashurst, Clerk

Also in attendance was LCC Cllrs. N. Swales and D. Whittington and several members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

(At this point in the Meeting members of the public present can report, ask questions, raise issues and make observations on parish matters or items appearing on the Agenda. Reports will also be received from the Police, Borough and County Councillors if attending – Once open forum is closed the Chairman will only suspend standing orders to allow public participation in extreme circumstances.)

The Chairman welcomed those present to the 16th June 2025 meeting and asked everyone to treat each other with respect, and respect everyone's points of view by opening the meeting at 7.30pm.

A Representative from Northern Diver requested permission to speak which was granted. The Illuminated Signage was mentioned and if Councillors had visited the location. Other developments at the East Quarry and West Quarry were also explained. A full transcript of the Open Forum is attached to the Official Minutes at Appendix A which is available on request

Other members spoke regarding the possibility of a book sharing facility in the grounds of the Appley Bridge Village Hall amongst other things

LCC Councillor Nigel Swales shared with the Meeting information relating to the proposed Mural on the canal bank bridge.

Open Forum closed at 7.55pm.

20. APOLOGIES – None

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST An interest was declared by Councillor Juckes relating to a land dispute with Maybrook Ltd

22. MINUTES -- The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parish Council held on Monday 19th May 2025 and the Extra Ordinary (Planning) Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4th June 2025 were unanimously accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

23. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON AGENDA-- None

24. CORRESPONDENCE /INFORMATION ITEMS

Items reported to, and noted by, the Council- no decision required : REPORT 1 page 2-- ACCEPTED

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) A Revised quote for Memorial Bench at Mossy Lea Village Hall Playing Fields and the Notice Board opposite the Rivaj restaurant was awaited.

- b) Letter from LCC Councillor Nigel Swales requesting Parish Council to distribute the information relating to the mural on the canal bridge be distributed .
- c) E mail from Patrick Clarke, Ashley Dalton M.P. 's caseworker indicating availability of Grants from Health Lottery Foundation and Co-op Local Community Fund.
- d) E mail from Wigan Council's Strategic Planning Team regarding Consultation on the Initial Draft Wigan Borough Local Plan

25. EAST QUARRY --- The Clerk confirmed that nothing had been received recently

26. WEST QUARRY & THE PAD --- The Clerk was asked to confirm that the letter, to WLBC, questioning the monitoring of the enforcement notice at the West Quarry had been sent and if a reply had been received? The PC is still awaiting a response from WLBC.

Cllr. Carey reported correspondence from LCC Highways concerning the legal position LCC would be taking to ensure the entrance to WQ was removed and restored to its original state. **It was resolved** that LCC Cllr. Swales would follow it up and the PC would also request an update of the situation.

27. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS -- Cllr. Jukes gave an update.

The Clerk was asked to write to LCC Highways regarding double yellow lines on Mossy Lea road from Boundary Lane to Tunley Lane.

Following another accident on Moss Lane involving a fatality, it was resolved that the Clerk would write to the Police requesting Police attendance at the next WPC Meeting to discuss this and other road safety issues

28. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES --- None

29. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA --- Painting of Toilets Two quotes had been received for the painting of the toilet areas but further clarification was required to ensure comparability.

---- **Patio Doors** **It was resolved** that the Clerk would again request written permission from West Lancs Estates Dept for the work to be carried out

APPLEY BRIDGE --- Blinds. Cllr Carey reported the work had been down satisfactorily by Just Blinds at a cost of £64.00 and the Council expressed its gratitude

Kitchen Refurbishment /Replacement --- Three quotes had been received and **it was resolved** to accept the quote from Cabinet Masters. The work to be done once the asbestos review of the ABVH had been carried out by West Lancs. Cllr. J Burton reported that the review would take place on Wednesday 18th June 2025

ABVH Committee—It was resolved that Cllr. J Burton would call an AGM of the ABVH Committee a.s.a.p.

Car Park Repairs -- Cllr J Burton reported that West Lancs had carried out the repairs to the car park

30. PLANNING

1. **Planning App. 2025/0434/PIP Sandhole Farm** It was resolved that the Council would object to this App on the grounds previously circulated and agreed
2. **Plan App. 2025/0469/ADV Illuminated Signage by Northern Diver** It was resolved that the Council would not object to this App.
3. **Plan App. 2025/0461/FUL Extension at 376 Mossy Lea Road** It was resolved that the Council would not object to this App.
4. **Plan App. 2025/0458/FUL Disabled Stair enclosure at Worthington Farm** It was resolved that the Council would not object to this App.
- 5 **Plan App. 2025/0489/PIP Removal of Caravan and erection of two dwellings**
It was resolved that the Council would object to this App on the grounds previously circulated and agreed

31. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS -- Nil report

- 31.a **FAIRY GLEN** Cllr Carey gave a report on the work being done by West Lancs at the Fairy Glen. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to Dan Massey the Head Ranger, requesting him to attend the next WPC Meeting to provide details of the work being undertaken.

At this point (9pm) members of the public left the meeting while Council discussed several sensitive and confidential issues. LCC Cllrs Swales and Whittington also left

32. ACCOUNTS --

----- **The Financial Statement and Annual Governance Statement (AGAR)** for the year ending 31 March 2025. It was resolved to accept these items as an accurate record which were signed by the Chair

----- **It was resolved** to approve the following Payments for Approval for May/June 2025

J. Ashurst	Clerk's Salary (net) to 31st May 2025	£967.68
J. Ashurst	Clerk's PAYE for May. 2025	£241.00
J. Ashurst	Clerk's Expenses (Mileage) May/June	£58.99
D/D BT	Broadband charges May 2025	£69.94
J. Ashurst	Petty Cash Float	£50.00
All Saints School Sensory Garden Project Donation		£100.00
J. Cross	Reimburse for Cleaning Materials etc	£94.20
D/D Br. Gas Lite	MLVH Gas Usage Apr/May 2025	£106.44
D/D Br. Gas Lite	MLVH Gas Usage May/June 2025	£42.38
D/D Brit. Gas	ABVH Gas Usage Apr/May 2025	£222.88
D/D Brit. Gas	ABVH Gas Usage May /June 2025	£143.57
D/D Waterplus	ABVH Water Charges May/June 25	£36.81
OPSTA	Membership Fee to 16/6/26	£10.00

33. CANAL BRIDGE MURAL

It was resolved that the work be agreed in principle pending reassurance from the Canal and Rivers Trust that it was satisfied with the proposed arrangements. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Swales and ask him to arrange a meeting between the Council and the Artist to enable the Council to ask more questions regarding his work

34. RESIGNATION OF ABVH TREASURER

It was resolved that the Chair would speak to him to discuss his resignation and if appropriate to offer an ex gratia payment of £200

**35. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT WPC MEETING: Monday 21st July 2025 at 7.30 pm
at Mossy Lea Village Hall**

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed at 9.30 p.m

Chairman:

Date:

