

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 17th February 2025 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs J Burton (Chairman), Mr F Johnson, Ms K Jukes, (Vice Chairman), Mr Lee Burton, , Ms Anne Fletcher, and J Ashurst, Clerk

Also in attendance were 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 17th February 2025 meeting and asked everyone to treat each other with respect, and respect everyone's points of view.

Parishioner Mark Bolton requested permission to speak which was granted. The issue of the Code of Conduct not being adhered to by Councillors was raised once again. He alleged that the Chair's failure to control the January meeting had led the Council into disrepute and a reply was again requested. There were no other speakers.

Open Forum closed at 7.35pm.

124. APOLOGIES – None received

125. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr. Jukes declared an interest re: disputed land.

126.. MINUTES --- **It was resolved** to unanimously accept the Minutes of the Meetings of the 27th January 2025 and 3rd February 2025 as a true record .

127. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA --- The issue of Mr . Bolton's comments in Open Forum had still not been addressed. **It was resolved** to lift Standing Orders and to allow further debate as an Agenda item

128. NEW WEBSITE ---- The Clerk reported that the new website provided by Easywebsites would go live by Friday 21 February 2025

129. EAST QUARRY ---- Cllr. Fletcher reported regarding the Ramp at East Quarry. **It was resolved** that Cllr. Jukes would progress with the Fire Brigade the issue of Ramp access to the rear of the Main Spring offices .

130. WEST QUARRY ---- Cllr. Jukes gave a report regarding "unlawful" ground works at Main Spring Offices and that the Chorley Concrete appeal was with the Planning Inspectorate

131. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS ---

----- The Flooding at Skull House is being dealt with.

----- Cllr . Johnson reported that he had contacted LCC's Highways regarding the failure to road sweep the paths and gullies along Mossy Lea Road. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would write again requesting the sweeping to be done.

The Clerk was also asked to write to David Jones at West Lancs requesting the removal of the wooden stakes which had been put on the grass verge along Appley Lane North for 100 yds outside Brogeys without permission .

132. **REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES** ----- None

133. **VILLAGE HALLS**

Mossy Lea ---

----- **Toilets --- It was resolved** to refurbish both the Men's and Ladies toilets at a cost to be decided. Further quotes were awaited .

----- **Patio Doors and Patio --- It was resolved** to pursue the possibility of Patio Doors and Patio subject to cost . It was resolved that the Clerk would meet WLDC's Estates Dept to ascertain if permission would be granted for work to be done at both village halls

Appley Bridge --- Car Park. It was reported that West Lancs . had flushed the drains which had improved the situation and would work on the cellar to prevent ingress of water . West Lancs would investigate further the car park subsidence

---- **Blinds ---** The Caretaker reported that the motors driving the blinds were no longer working and in his opinion the Blinds needed replacement. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would contact a Blinds company to ascertain what could be done

----- **Gas Charges ---** The Clerk reported that Brit. Gas had confirmed that the Smart Meter was working correctly and that the excessive usage recordings were correct. DTG Plumbing and Heating were taking measures to prevent access to the thermostat by the public.

----- **Projector and Screen and CCTV system ----- It was resolved** to refer these matters to the next meeting of the ABVH Committee meeting to be held on 10th March 2025 at 1 p.m.

----- **Kitchen Refurbishment ---- It was resolved** to refer the matter of a partial or complete replacement of the kitchen to the next meeting of the ABVH Committee meeting to be held on 10th March 2025 at 1 p.m.

134. **PLANNING ---- It was resolved** that no objections would be made to any of the Planning Applications currently under consideration

135. **LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** Nil Report

136. **BANKING ARRANGEMENTS ---- On Line Banking Authorisations --- It was resolved** as regards the On line Banking account the positions would be :-

Key Contact -----

Clerk/ RFO John Ashurst

Payments Authorising Councillors -----

Cllr. J Burton, Cllr. L Burton, Cllr. K Jukes,
Cllr. A Fletcher

Read Access Only Councillor

Cllr. F Johnson

The relevant personal details from Councillors to enable the account to be opened would be requested by the Clerk

137. **FINANCE ---- It was resolved to approve the following payments and receipts for February 2025 :-**

Accounts for Approval at WPC February Meeting 17/2/2025

Payments:

Open Spaces	Donation to Legal Action Appeal	£100.00
J. Ashurst	Clerk's Salary (net) Jan. 2025	£967.48
J. Ashurst	Clerk's PAYE for Jan. 2025	£242.00
J. Ashurst	Clerk's Expenses (Mileage)	£86.32
Dale Burton	I/2 Yr. Grounds Maintenance ABVH	£340.00
D/D Eon Next	Electricity Charges ABVH	£248.72
D/D Eon Next	Electricity Charges MLVH	£188.36
D/D Waterplus	ABVH Feb. 25 Water Charges	£31.50
D/D Waterplus	MLVH Dec/Jan. 25 Water Charges	£27.98
D/D Waterplus	MLVH Jan/Feb. 25 Water Charges	£27.98
D/D Brit Gas Lite	MLVH Gas Charges Dec-Feb. 24	£374.58
DTG Plumbing	Boiler Repairs/Toilets ABVH	£160.00

Receipts:

Nat West	Bank Interest to 31/1/2025	£67.00
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Application of CIL Monies ----- The Clerk was instructed to ascertain from West Lancs. if available CIL funds can be applied to several projects or if it has to be applied to one specific project

138. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (i) **Councillor Vacancies ---** An application to become a member of the Council was received from Parishioner Helen Kelsall . Following a discussion **it was resolved** to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of former Cllr. House by co - opting Helen Kelsall onto the Council with immediate effect. The voting was unanimously in favour of the appointment.
- As regards the two remaining vacancies, following the resignations of former Cllrs Nicholson and Carey, **it was resolved** to immediately advertise them locally, now that the deadline for advertising the vacancies by West Lancs had passed. The closing date for receipt of applications to be 17th March 2025

- (ii) **Open Forum Issue raised by Parishioner Bolton.** As resolved the issue was discussed further and following a frank exchange of views, it was **unanimously agreed** to put matter to bed and move forward in the spirit of cordiality.

Meeting Closed at 9.20p.m

139. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT WPC MEETING:

Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.30 p.m. at the Mossy Lea Village Hall

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Chairman:

Date:

