

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 18th November 2019 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mr F Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs J Burton, Mr F Johnson, Mrs K Jukes, Mr C House and Mrs R Critchley. Also present were 7 members of the public and Helen Jones, West Lancs. CVS.

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, District and County Councillors if attending – Once open forum is closed the Chairman will only suspend standing orders to allow public participation in extreme circumstances.)

Helen Jones from West Lancs. CVS attended to offer information and support with the Buzz IT project, commissioned and funded by West Lancs. BC, because more services are now online. There is still a digital gap in rural areas and a risk of digital exclusion and people being left behind. The project supports this by signposting lots of “learn my way” centres e.g.: at libraries or citizens advice centres, where people can see what is available and how they can access it. Some see the internet as a dangerous place whilst for others it is very familiar as they do everything online, very confidently. The project is looking for ways of outreach and support for people in rural areas who are quite isolated. It is about making ways of learning more visible i.e.: is there something locally that the project could support to get the information out there and make it more visible. The Parish may not be ready to do this yet but could they look at doing this in the future? using partnership workings to help people who feel excluded to become more involved. It was confirmed that computer classes were held at Mossy Lea Village Hall but that learners progress at different rates and do not all want to learn the same things. Councillor Critchley asked if any work had been done in our area to see how many people have access to computers or who have to go to say for example a library to use one. Helen confirmed that a Health and Wellbeing survey by West Lancs. BC shows that our area has an aging population whilst a Digital Heatmap for the borough shows that 12% of people have limited access to the internet across West Lancs. It was reported that many people do not have the skills and some do not want them. Bickerstaffe PC did a project which provides some indicative figures indicating that geography could be an issue, and that lack of access to services, facilities or even transport may also result in limited access. Some people simply cannot afford to install internet at home. It was also confirmed that advancing technology also leads to a fear of use, together with embarrassment at not being able to pick things up or, a fear of being too old to learn. The project is trying to highlight that the internet is a useful tool to be used for a variety of purposes. Talking about it and using volunteers to show people what to do and how to do it can sometimes make it easier to learn. Removing the elements of fear and embarrassment is key. Edge Hill University are rolling out a programme called “Digital Eagles” who are student volunteers to support people with their learning. Helen Jones can be contacted in the following ways: Tel 01695 733737 or Email: helenj@wlcvs.org

74. **APOLOGIES** – No apologies necessary as all serving Councillors are present.
75. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members were asked to consider any personal/prejudicial interest they may have to disclose in relation to matters under discussion at the Meeting – **No declarations were made at this point in the Meeting however, should a Councillor feel he/she has any interest in later matters he/she will declare it at that point.**
76. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 23rd September 2019 and the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 21st October 2019 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting. Councillor Jukes objected to the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting saying that they were unwarranted, the content was biased and, the Parish Council are not helping to find a solution. Councillor Critchley did not think they were biased and asked for confirmation that this was Councillor Jukes’s opinion, to which she agreed. The Clerk asked how the Minutes could be changed. Councillors’ House and Burton said the Minutes did not need changing as they recorded what happened at the extraordinary Meeting and Councillor Johnson agreed with this. It was proposed by Councillor Johnson and seconded by Councillor Burton, that the Minutes are a correct record of the extraordinary meeting. Recorded votes were requested. Councillors Johnson, Burton, House and Critchley voted in favour of the

proposal, Councillor Jukes voted against. Therefore, it was **Resolved** – That the Minutes of the extraordinary meeting were accepted as a correct record, and were signed by the Chairman. Taking the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st October 2019 – It was **Resolved** – by Councillors Critchley, Johnson and Hodgkinson that the Minutes were accepted as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. Councillor Jukes abstained from voting on the October Minutes. Councillors House and Burton did not vote as they were not present at the October Parish Council Meeting.

77. UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING - Nothing to report that will not be dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

78. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

Items reported to, & noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 5 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Response from WLBC re: discharge of clean water from a septic tank on adjacent land – **Councillors believe West Lancs. planning officers should have been more diligent when granting the numerous planning applications over the past few years. The site should have been connected to the main drainage system. The water seeping through the wall does cause problems for users of the old road, which is constantly wet. The Council will report the discharge of water on to a highway to LCC.**
- b) Information on the implementation of route optimisation of waste management services – **It was confirmed that there have been no changes in our area.**
- c) Current position from CC Fillis re: issues with Herons Wharf junction – **The Council will suggest site visits between 5pm-6pm and during rush hour in the mornings to see the full impact of the problems. Councillors still believe turning right out of Herons Wharf is problematic. For pedestrians or parents with young children or prams it is dangerous as there are no footways under the bridge and the road is very narrow at this point. The Council maintain it would be safer with a one-way system in place.**

At this point Councillor Jukes had to leave the meeting as she was unwell. Councillor Jukes was escorted from the building by her friends who were attending in the public. Councillors will wish Councillor Jukes a speedy recovery.

- d) Info. on “what3words” and an enquiry if you need more information – **Noted. The Council will try to determine what3words for the location of the village halls and display them.**
- e) Details and application form for West Lancs. BC Capital Funding Scheme – suggestions – **No additional suggestions at the moment. Next Agenda.**
- f) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – Nothing received.

79. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- Road gullies have been cleaned out on Skull House Lane and Mill Lane.
- Water continues to run off land at The Mount, down to the junction with Skull House Lane and then continues down Appley Lane North. This will be monitored. It was reported that the pipe into the ditch is too high. This, along with the increased volume of water from excessive rainfall means the water does not go into the ditch but straight on to Appley Lane North.
- An evening or weekend leaf sweep will be requested for Appley Lane North.
- New, tall, metal bollards have been installed at the entrance to the old road r/o BP garage.
- The road surface on Crow Orchard Road, from Back Lane down towards Wrightington Hospital is in a very poor state of repair compared to the newly resurfaced road on the motorway roundabout. Remedial work is required.
- The road surface at the junction of Mossy Lea Road and Boundary Lane is also in a very poor state of repair and requires remedial work.
- Resolutions to the flooding near 15 Mossy Lea Road are ongoing.
- Flooding on Mossy Lea Road, near the village hall, during the recent heavy rainfall was excessive. The water flowed down Mossy Lea Road like a river. Councillors feel that if drainage issues were dealt with properly, fields and roads would not flood.

- The Council will ask LCC why neighbouring Parishes can have road safety signs up e.g.: “look after each other” but Wrightington cannot have them.
- The Council will request a reduction in the speed limit on Hall Lane to create a blanket 40mph speed from the motorway roundabout to the speed camera at the bottom of Parbold hill
- Flooding from blocked drains on Moss Lane, caused flooding to land on Courage Low Lane and came very close to flooding homes. LCC will be asked for details of their flood strategy.
- A blocked drain under the road on Church Lane, which was reported several years ago, continues to cause problems. Local farmers are currently undertaking ditch work to try to alleviate flooding problems but this will not resolve the issue if the drains are blocked under the road. A similar flooding issue caused by blocked gullies exists at the foot of Raby Fold Farm driveway. LCC installed additional gullies a few years ago with little effect.
- Overgrown hedges on both sides of Mill Lane, Appley Bridge, need cutting back.

80. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Councillor Critchley attended a Peter Lathom Charity Meeting recently where it was agreed that any money due in the Parish would be divided equally between Mossy Lea Pensioners and Appley Bridge Pensioners. Councillor Burton attended a LALC Area Committee Meeting where it was reported that Rufford PC had paid for a flood survey for their area, some of which could be useful to other Parishes. Parishes were asked to make a financial contribution if they found the survey information useful.

81. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – The Parish Council thanked Appley Bridge Scouts and Councillors Mrs Burton, Mr Hodgkinson and Mr Johnson for the donation of event poppies which were displayed in Mossy Lea and Appley Bridge in time for Remembrance Sunday. Email correspondence and a telephone call have been received on this subject. The Clerk confirmed that she had responded to the telephone call, passed to her from West Lancs. BC, in relation to the cancellation of the parade, explaining that the decision was taken for health and safety reasons and to cause as little disruption as possible to the Remembrance Day Service at the war memorial. It was **Resolved** – **that the Clerk respond to the email explaining the reason for the decision to cancel this year’s parade from the village hall to the war memorial.** Councillor Burton reported that in her opinion, and that of many who attended that day who she spoke to, the Remembrance Day Service went well. Once it was explained, those attending accepted the reasoning behind the changes. The Council has also received offers of help to raise funding towards training of stewards for next year’s parade, from Appley Bridge Scouts and The Girls Brigade. The Council will write to the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner expressing their disappointment at the cuts which resulted in no policing for this important event in the Parish Council calendar. The Council will consider purchasing more poppies in the future and will look into training of stewards for next year’s parade..

82. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Confirmation from WLBC that the village hall is required for polling purposes for the General Election on Thursday 12th December – Councillor Johnson agreed to open up and lock up. Income received from Christmas Fair £40. Embroidery Class £50. Craft Class £60. **Noted.**

APPLEY BRIDGE – Change of date for the Brass Band Concert to Monday 9th December at 7.30pm, Posters will be displayed around the village. The Parish Council agreed that the response compiled be sent to Mr Hill regarding the proposed barrier at the village hall. Progress will now be made with ordering, manufacture and installation of this. The Council assessed the information obtained by Councillor Jukes regarding the regularity of cars parked on the car park. The Council agreed the information was extremely useful and thanked Councillor Jukes for the work involved in this exercise. Cars will continue to be leafleted until the barrier is erected.

Flower Baskets – The Council will contact Applecast at Newburgh to see if this is a project they may be able to assist with.

83. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2019/0930/FUL Single storey rear/side extension, new roof over existing single storey side of property. 22 Graham Avenue, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 2) 2019/0993/FUL 2 storey side extension and single storey front and rear extensions. 24 Millbank, Appley Bridge. **Resolved: No Objections.**

- 3) 2019/1038/FUL Erection of one dwellinghouse and garage. 1 Tunley Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 4) 2019/1036/PNH Application for determination as to whether prior approval of details is required for Extension to dwellinghouse. Extension extends beyond the rear wall of the original dwellinghouse by 6m. Maximum height of extension 4m. Height of eaves of extension 2.5m. 16 Church Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 5) 2019/1012/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. Oaksprings, Smithy Brow, Wrightington. **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 6) 2019/1120/FUL Replacement of existing dwelling with new dwelling. Tunley Lane Farm, Tunley Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved: The Council remain concerned that this would result in over development of this site. Furthermore, the original planning application for the new larger house set back on the site was granted on condition that the original dwelling was demolished. This has never taken place, instead a variation was granted to retain the ground floor of the original dwelling to which the Parish Council objected. To allow a new dwelling on this site will set a precedent for future applicants to obtain permission for similar proposals via a similar planning path.**

84. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Request for discussion and response to how Parish Councils can join in with Climate Change initiatives. Councillor Burton confirmed that she had asked at Remembrance Day for views on Climate change. She was also asked if the Parish Council would get involved in the Scouts, Guides and Brigade projects on Climate Change over the next year. The Parish Council agreed to help in any way they can.

85. ACCOUNTS - To receive the following list of accounts for Approval:

For Payment:

Royal BL Poppy Apl	Payment for 7 wreaths		£140.00
Fire Eqpmt Services	Servicing Extinguishers at MLVH – 2 replacements required		£158.02
Defib. Store Ltd	3 replacement defibrillator doors		£390.00
Festive Lights	New lights for Christmas Tree at ABVH		£46.36
Petty Cash			£50.00
Mrs J Rogers	Refreshments – Remembrance Day		£14.75
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk’s Salary – Net		£799.60
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£26.44	
	NI due by Parish Council	£14.77	£41.21
D/D British Gas	Gas usage ABVH		£143.70
D/D E.on	Electricity usage ABVH		£35.69
D/D E.on	Electricity usage MLVH		£161.00

Receipts:

West Lancs. BC	2 nd Half of Concurrent Contributions		£1159.00
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Resolved: Payment and Receipt of the above accounts is approved.

86. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 16th December 2019
Mossy Lea Village Hall

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 16th December 2019 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 74 to 86 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 16th November 2019.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9.40 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification permission granted with conditions for variation of condition No2 of planning permission 2018/1260/FUL to vary the approved plans. Ramsay Timber & Building Supplies.
- b) Notification permission granted for variation or removal of condition No10 of planning permission 2019/0098/FUL relating to a Natural England licence for the farmhouse. Richardsons Farm, Finch Lane.
- c) Notification Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) granted for use of residential outbuildings and related land ancillary to the enjoyment of the dwelling house known as Earlswood, Moss Lane.
- d) Notification permission granted for proposed single storey side and rear extension. 34 Millbank.
- e) Notification Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) not permitted for proposed single storey detached building for purposes ancillary to those of the main dwelling. Holdcrofts, Tunley Lane.
- f) Notification permission granted for new driveway and vehicular access. 38 Church Lane.
- g) Notification Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) Refused for an existing use of 2 No existing cabins. Agricultural Livestock and Storage Building, Coopers Lane, Hilldale.
- h) Notification permission granted to raise height of roof to provide first floor living accommodation including dormers to front, extension to rear and terrace and porch to front. 2 Finch Lane.
- i) Notification that prior approval is not required for the extension of dwellinghouse, dimension from rear wall of the original dwellinghouse 3.5m. Maximum height of extension 3.3m. Height to eaves of the extension 2.4m. 14 Mossfields.
- j) Notification from CPRE that the Government has announced an end to support for fracking in UK
- k) Copy press release from West Lancs. BC informing residents that they can give their views on the proposals to change control orders for dogs at certain locations. None in Wrightington Parish.
- l) Confirmation that the request for replacement of 3 bins in Mossy Lea and the request for additional litter bins in Appley Bridge have not been forgotten and will be looked into shortly by the Clean and Green Area Team now the new Litter Bin Policy has been agreed.
- m) Notification of a Public Meeting at 2.30pm on Saturday 16th November at the Maharishi Golden Dome, Woodley Park, Skelmersdale to discuss how to “Stop Hidden GMO’s (genetically modified organisms) in your Food” – Posters in the Notice Boards.
- n) Copy Open Spaces Society – Autumn Edition of Open space.