

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 16th October 2023 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs J Burton (Chairman), Mrs Nicholson, Mr F Hodgkinson, Mr Carey, and Mrs K Jukes. (Councillors Mrs Nicholson and Mr Carey – had signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms and completed their Declaration of Interest Forms, prior to the Meeting and prior to taking up office on the Parish Council.) 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 October Meeting and asked that we all treat each other with respect and respect everyone's points of view. The Chairman reminded those present that Open Forum is for members of the public to raise or report matters and not for discussion by Parish Councillors. The Chairman welcomed the 2 newly appointed Appley Bridge Ward Councillors onto the Parish Council – Councillor Mrs Nicholson and Councillor Mr Carey. A resident enquired about correspondence under Report 1, requesting more detail. This lead on to, not having received a response from West Lancs. BC in relation to whether they had asked the owner of East Quarry when he would commence dewatering. This question will be asked again. A number of residents were present to discuss the LCC proposed parking restrictions on Mossy Lea Road. Some reported they were suffering as a result of unauthorised development at the White Lion. The increased seating capacity has caused overspill parking on Mossy Lea Road. The proposals go some way to help, but it is felt that double yellow lines on both sides of Mossy Lea Road from the Boundary Lane junction to the Tunley Lane junction would be better. It is felt that if the proposals are approved as suggested, Mossy Lea Road will be like a chicane. The proposals will make matters worse for those homeowners with no yellow lines in front of their home. Some residents struggle to get off their drives. It was reported that there has been a noticeable change in the traffic over the last couple of years. Permitted development in Covid to increase outside dining space has never been removed. It is dangerous for the primary school children at school drop off and pick up times, as they cannot be seen between parked cars. Some feel that double yellow lines would simply move the school parking problem somewhere else. Parents often mount the pavement to drop children off at school. It was suggested that maybe slightly different provision can be made for school parking, maybe on a single yellow line at drop off and pick up times. St Joseph's Church and Derby House have both offered the use of their car park for parents taking children to school. Borough Councillor Jukes confirmed dropping leaflets off at homes that had not been notified of the proposed parking restrictions by LCC, and that she has spoken to a number of residents about the problems being experienced. It was reported that double yellow lines would help some of the businesses access their premises as it would remove the obstruction caused by parked vehicles. Some residents do not want double yellow lines; they would prefer white lines at the bottom of their driveway to assist with access/exit. Some residents confirmed this is only an issue due to expansion at the White Lion and that double yellow lines would not be necessary if the seating capacity had not been increased. A resident reported having applied for planning permission for a dropped kerb to assist with parking at his home. Planning permission was refused and they have to park on the road, however, if double yellow lines are implemented where will they park? It was reported that some farmers also struggle to access/exit their premises and that yellow lines would be helpful with this problem. On occasions the Police have been called to help address parking issues which have arisen when large farm vehicles or HGV's cannot get through because of the volume of parked vehicles. If motorists are asked to move their vehicles this is often met with abuse. The majority of those present to discuss the parking restrictions were in agreement that double yellow lines, on both sides of Mossy Lea Road, would be a better solution and, to allow those homeowners with restricted parking provision to extend onto the wide grassed areas on the pavements to compensate for the loss of on street parking.

57. APOLOGIES - Were received and accepted from Councillor Johnson, Councillor House and Councillor Shaw. Apologies were also reported from Borough Councillor Whittington.

58. **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 - **Councillor Juckes declared a pecuniary interest due to the fact that she is currently in a legal dispute with Northern Diver, the now owner of part of West Quarry, which remains on-going. No further 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.**

59. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18th September 2023 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, they were proposed, seconded and accepted as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

60. **CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**

Items reported to, and noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 6 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Response from West Lancs. BC Enforcement Officer following the report of the use of the railway pad, West Quarry, by Chorley Concrete and Gaskell's Haulage, confirming that the activity is unauthorised and breaches planning control and that the development be ceased with immediate effect and a valid planning application must be submitted by 27th September 2023. Site owner has been advised that to continue without planning permission may lead to enforcement action – **Noted. Borough Councillor Juckes provided an update only, having declared an interest in West Quarry matters. Reporting – Northern Diver, Chorley Concrete and Gaskell's Haulage are all still operating despite having been served with notices. Borough Councillor Whittington is now in dialogue with West Lancs. BC over matters relating to all 3 operations on West Quarry. It was confirmed that Chorley Concrete have registered the West Quarry address with Company's House and applied for an operator's licence. Following discussion it was Resolved: The Parish Council will ask West Lancs. BC to legally enforce the enforcement notices against Chorley Concrete and ask why they are being allowed to operate without planning permission.**
- b) Following report of safety issue with the platform installed in front of Northern Diver - Initial response from West Lancs. BC Enforcement Officer stating construction work on private land is not a planning matter and if it impacts on the safety of the footpath, should be reported to LCC. Officer informed that a fence formed part of the planning application approved – **Noted.**
- c) Details of the proposed parking restrictions on Mossy Lea Road for observations – **It was confirmed that some residents and businesses had not been informed of the proposals. From discussions in Open Forum it appears the majority of those present and speaking on this subject, would prefer double yellow lines all the way along Mossy Lea Road, from the Boundary Lane junction to the Tunley Lane junction. Some residents would struggle with parking if double yellow lines were installed due to only having sufficient space to park 1 car on their driveway. Concern was expressed about the impact this would have on school related parking as some school staff park on the road all day. However, LCC are aware of the school parking issues. St Joseph's Church has offered the use of the car park for school related parking which seems like a good idea; however, not everyone wishes to then walk the distance to school. It was reported that some farmers and businesses find it difficult, and sometimes impossible, to access their site due to the obstruction caused by parked cars. The feeling from some of those present is that this is a post Covid problem created due to the expansion of seating capacity at the White Lion. Borough Councillor Whittington is pursuing this with planning and will be asked to report back on the planning status of the White Lion. Borough Councillor Juckes reported that she would be abstaining from any vote as she is required to submit a report to LCC on behalf of the residents and therefore cannot appear to be taking sides. Some Councillors think the proposals will make the situation worse, restricting parking in front of some homes and not others, and believe the proposals need re-doing/thinking. Borough Councillor Juckes reported that she has suggested the possible use of some of the wide grassed areas on Mossy Lea Road to extend parking provision. The Parish Council will comment as follows: There has been no direct communication with the Parish Council on**

the proposals. Some residents and all the local businesses were not consulted. Some of the businesses would welcome double yellow lines, some residents would struggle however as they have insufficient off-road parking at their homes. A number of residents present would like double yellow lines along the whole length however, others would prefer white lines in front of their driveways to allow for access/exit. Another suggestion made was permit parking. Serious concern was expressed about the impact on school related parking, which may simply be displaced elsewhere, and the safety of the primary school children if double yellow lines were implemented. The Parish Council suggested that the deadline for comments be extended, that a public meeting be arranged with residents to express their concerns and allow officers to explain the reasoning behind their proposals and why alternative measures have not been explored.

- d) Confirmation that supply and installation of posts at SPID locations in the Parish, together with assembly and initial installation of SPID's will be £578 per location = £1734 in total – **Resolved: LCC be instructed to proceed with installation of posts and that the SPID's are ordered for delivery to the LCC Depot to allow for installation by LCC.**
- e) Info. From SLCC - Joint Training Event on 8th Nov. 2023. £60 + VAT to attend – **Resolved: The Clerk will attend, the cost to be shared with Charnock Richard PC. Due to unforeseen circumstances the Clerk was unable to attend, and did not book the training.**
- f) Information on Connect your Community to the Slow Ways National Walking Network - for consideration by Councillors – **Noted by Parish Councillors. Details will be forwarded to local walking and rambling groups.**
- g) Request from Shevington PC for permission to lay a wreath in Appley Bridge on Remembrance Sunday – **The Council are happy for a Shevington PC representative to lay a wreath.**
- h) Copy correspondence the Parish Council has been copied into by residents in Appley Bridge pursuing the following matters: Safety concerns in front of the Northern Diver Building. Non-compliance with the enforcement notice, and further activities at West Quarry by Northern Diver. Use of the railway pad by Chorley Concrete without planning permission – **Noted.**
- i) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – i) Consultation by West Lancs. BC on the proposed CIL funding schemes shortlisted – Improvements and Enhancements at Fairy Glen, Appley Bridge, being one of the shortlisted schemes – **Councillors were concerned that the proposed improvements will detract from the natural environment and natural woodland which has evolved over time at Fairy Glen. Concern was expressed that easier/better access would encourage more foot-fall. The Parish Council will comment saying they support the proposals provided the site remains as natural as possible, with any health and safety risks identified, rectified e.g.: broken bridges or boardwalks and improved signage. They would like to see the inclusion of bird and bat boxes where possible to encourage wildlife. They will suggest some of the money is used to improve the existing public right of way network used to access Fairy Glen. The Council do not feel it appropriate to add benches to this natural site as fallen trees provide adequate support for people who want to sit. The Council hope any improvements or enhancements will be sympathetic to the natural beauty of this wood and the way nature has evolved here over recent years.** ii) Info. and details of the Community Chest Fund from West Lancs. BC – **details will be forwarded to ABCA and Appley Bridge Scouts.**

61. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The poor condition of Mossy Lea Road was discussed – grass in the gutters, hedges and verges need cutting back, on both sides of the road. The Council await a response from the Chief Executive at West Lancs. BC and LCC.
- There is a drain blocked, and flooding the road, near Derby House, Mossy Lea Road.
- There is a large pothole in the carriageway just past Derby House, Mossy Lea Road.
- An update will be requested from West Lancs. BC on new litter bin provision in Appley Bridge
- A salt bin will be requested on Appley Lane North, near the Canal Bank junction.
- It was reported that speeding vehicles using the circular route, Courage Low Lane/Toogood Lane/Tunley Lane, has reduced since it is understood that the Police caught some of them on camera, and prosecuted.

- A new bus-stop sign has appeared on Church Lane, but there is no bus service on this route. Enquiries will be made to determine the reason for the bus-stop sign.
- It was confirmed that LCC has a dedicated report it hotline on their website. LCC are encouraging everyone to use the Love Clean Streets mobile app. to report faults.

62. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ARRANGEMENTS - It was confirmed that participants and those wishing to attend will meet at the war memorial for the Remembrance Service, Act of Remembrance, 2 minute silence, and laying of the wreaths. Refreshments will be served in Appley Bridge Village Hall afterwards. The Clerk will purchase the necessary tea, coffee, pop, crisps etc. The Clerk will be sending out details and invitations to attend by the end of the month. The Clerk will liaise with All Saints who lead the service. 200 orders of service will be printed. Councillors volunteered to help members of the WI with refreshments. Street light poppies will be erected.

63. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE – The Clerk stressed that it is now important that the Parish Council make progress with this matter, initiating the creation of a .gov.uk website with their provider of choice, ensuring that the Clerk (as Parish Council officer) and each Parish Councillor is provided with an email address ending with the same .gov.uk. This will be required to satisfy the External Audit and Governance requirements for the year ending 31/3/23. The Clerk would like to share the information she has obtained with a Parish Councillor, who will assist in the assessment and recommendation of service provision from those who have provided information. As the Clerk does not consider herself proficient in this field, Councillor Carey agreed to share this task with her and report back at the next Parish Council Meeting.

64. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Nothing to report.

65. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Yoga classes starting Wednesday evenings from 18th October 2023, 4 weeks initially. Christmas Fair, Sunday 19th November, 11am-3pm – **Noted.**

APPLEY BRIDGE – Quotations still required for work to the car park - **Councillors will ask contractors to quote if they see anyone working locally.** Leak in ladies toilets repaired. Amendments to the foundations required for the extension using the party wall on Lowther Terrace – **Noted.**

Changes to the Fire Safety Legislation – applicable at the village halls – **This will be updated.**

The Clerk reported an enquiry from some village hall users at both village halls about the possible installation of electric hand driers. 3 will be required at each village hall. The Clerk will ask the electrical contractor for a quotation along with details of potential running costs.

66. PLANNING To discuss the following applications:

- 1) 2023/0817/LDC Certificate of Lawfulness – Conservatory to the rear of the house. 349 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington - **Resolved** – **No objections.**

67. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Whistlestop Tour for New Councillors & Clerks - both new Councillors are booked on the training on 23/10/23, 7-9pm. LALC Area Committee Meeting, Thursday 12th October, West Lancs. BC offices. LALC 79th AGM – Saturday 4th November 2023, 2.30pm, County Hall, Preston – **Noted.**

68. ACCOUNTS - To receive the following list of accounts for Approval together with any late ones received since the agenda was prepared:

For Payment:

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| DTG Plumbg & Htg | Work at ABVH & MLVH | £472.00 |
| Mr F Johnson | Reimburse window cleaning – MLVH | £40.00 |
| West Lancs. BC | Payment for lease of ABVH | £1.00 |
| DTG Plumbg & Htg | Repairs to the ladies toilets – ABVH | £260.00 |
| The Wiper Co. | Hand Towels – ABVH | £32.40 |
| Mrs C A Cross | Clerk’s Salary – Net of NI and Pension Contributions. | £1055.84 |
| HM Rev. & Customs | Tax & NI due | £53.74 |

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| D/D NEST | Pension Contributions | £55.27 |
| D/D BT | Broadband MLVH & ABVH | £89.82 |
| D/D British Gas | Gas supplied ABVH | £49.12 |
| D/D British Gas | Gas supplied MLVH | £34.19 |
| D/D Waterplus | Water usage ABVH | £47.72 |
| D/D Waterplus | Water usage MLVH | £44.63 |
| D/D Open Spaces Soc. | Annual Subscriptions | £45.00 |

Late accounts received and added for payment:

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|------|---------|----------|
| Mr Dale Burton | Grounds Maintenance | ABVH | £340.00 | |
| | Planters | MLVH | £185.75 | |
| | | ABVH | £139.25 | |
| | Clean Gutters and Install Gutter Brush | ABVH | £420.00 | £1085.00 |
| Matrix FSE | Electrical Safety Test & Certificate | ABVH | | £240.00 |
| Matrix FSE | Electrical Safety Test & Certificate | MLVH | | £480.00 |

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts is approved. The Clerk presented Councillors with a financial report (Attached) indicating the impact of the above payments on the Parish Council finances - Resolved: The financial report was accepted.

69. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 20th November 2023 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 57 to 69 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 20th November 2023.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Close: 9.40 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification permission granted for erection of stable block (resiting) Mossy Lea Farm, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington.
- b) Notification permission granted for proposed switch room building. IKO Plc, Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge.
- c) Notification permission granted for single-storey building, to accommodate the backup generators and associated electrical installations. Wrightington Hospital.
- d) Notification PND details refused for determination as to whether prior approval is required for demolition of one outbuilding (building B). 14 Speakmans Drive, Appley Bridge.
- e) Notification Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) permitted for replacement of rear glazed roof to a solid roof structure with roof lights. 92 Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge.
- f) Notification of planned road closure, Lees Lane, Roby Mill, Thursday 9th November 2023 (9.30am-3.00pm only) to enable telegraph pole replacement works to be carried out.
- g) Notification of planned road closure, Hillock Lane, Dalton, Saturday 11th November 2023 until Sunday 12th November 2023, 7.30am to 6pm each day, to enable ducting installation works to be carried out.
- h) Confirmation from the Clean & Green Team that the enforcement team has visited Mossy Lea Primary School and St Joseph's Primary School but All Saints School have been contacted but have not got back in touch with them.
- i) Confirmation your letter to the Chief Executive at LCC has been received and that officers are investigating the matters raised.
- j) Request from a resident near the White Lion that his observations on the proposed parking restrictions be passed to the Borough Councillors for their support. (This has been done)
- k) Posters advertising Wrap Up West Lancs. 2023 – displayed in the Notice Boards.
- l) Copy Open Spaces Society Autumn 2023 edition of Open Space.

| Wrightington Parish Council - Monthly Financial Report | | | Budgeted | April | May | June | July | August | Sept. | October | Expenditure | Balance | VAT | |
|--|------------------------------|---|------------|-------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | | | Annually | | | | | | | | To date | Remaining | | |
| Staff Salary (Gross) for 14.5 hrs p wk w/e/f Apr 23 | | | £13,609.70 | Gross | £946.19 | £1,055.64 | £1,055.84 | £1,055.84 | £1,055.84 | £1,055.84 | £1,055.84 | | | |
| Employee HMRC + Pension Paymants | | | | | £31.51 | £78.50 | £78.30 | £78.30 | £78.30 | £78.30 | £78.30 | £7,782.54 | £5,827.16 | CR |
| Employer HMRC + Pension Payments | | | £300 | | £22.88 | £30.71 | £30.71 | £30.71 | £30.71 | £30.71 | £30.71 | £207.14 | £92.86 | CR |
| Insurance Premiums | | | £2,000.00 | | | £1,581.15 | | | | | | £1,581.15 | £418.85 | CR |
| Donations | | | £300.00 | | | £100.00 | | | | | | £100.00 | £200.00 | CR |
| LALC Subscriptions | | | £550.00 | | £485.17 | | | | | | | £485.17 | £64.83 | CR |
| CPRE & Open Spaces Subs & OPSTA | | | £110.00 | | | £60.00 | | £10.00 | | £45.00 | | £115.00 | -£5.00 | |
| SLCC & any other subs | | | £150.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Remembrance Day Expenses (+10%) | | | £61.26 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Remembrance Wreaths | | | £30.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Audit (External + Internal) | | | £425.00 | | | | | £25.00 | £210.00 | | | £235.00 | £190.00 | £42.00 CR |
| Election Expenses (uncontested) | | | £1,500.00 | | | | | £3,607.42 | | | | £3,607.42 | -£2,107.42 | |
| Admin | Stationery/ICO |) | £1,200.00 | | £35.00 | | £50.00 | | | |) | £250.49 | £949.51 | CR |
| | Copying |) | | | | | | | | |) | | | |
| | Training |) | | | | | | | | |) | | | |
| | Printer |) | | | | | | | | |) | | | |
| | Newsletter |) | | | | | | | | |) | | | |
| | Mobile Phone |) | | | | | | | £81.25 | |) | | | |
| | Broadbnad/Landline |) | | | | | | | £84.24 | |) | | | |
| Office Equipment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mileage | | | £250.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Honorarium to VH Officers | | | £800.00 | | £800.00 | | | | | | | £800.00 | £0.00 | NIL |
| Honorarium to Web Co-ordinator | | | £240.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bus Shelters - Litter Bins | | | £500.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Signs - Seats | | | £500.00 | | | £235.00 | | | | | | £235.00 | £265.00 | CR |
| Notice Boards | | | £500.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parks & Open Spaces | | | £500.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Defibrillators & Defib Boxes | | | £1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MLVH | Running Costs |) | £5,000.00 | | | | | | | |) | £1,662.15 | £3,337.85 | CR |
| | Gas |) | | | £160.54 | £117.69 | £122.47 | £44.32 | £33.69 | £32.57 |) | | | £49.23 |
| | Electricity |) | | | £149.64 | | | £132.59 | | |) | | | £14.11 |
| | Water - Paid from VH Account |) | | | | | | | | |) | | | |
| | Broadband |) | | | £23.00 | £23.00 | £23.00 | £23.00 | | £42.42 |) | | | £31.48 |
| | Sanitary Products |) | | | £21.67 | | £25.50 | £27.00 | | £13.50 |) | | | £17.53 |
| | Window Cleaning |) | | | £40.00 | | £40.00 | £20.00 | | £40.00 |) | | | |
| | Extinguishers |) | | | | | | | | |) | | | |
| | Gas Safety Cert. |) | | | | | | £60.00 | | |) | | | |
| | Electrical Safety Cert. |) | | | | | | | | £400.00 |) | | | £80.00 |
| | Cleaning Materials |) | | | | | | £23.55 | | |) | | | |

