

# WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mr Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs Burton, Mr F Johnson, and Mr C House.

## 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.)

### **IN RESPONSE TO THE PARISH COUNCIL INVITATION TO ATTEND, COUNCILLOR FILLIS CONFIRMED HE WILL TRY TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO DISCUSS APPELEY BRIDGE QUARRY RELATED ISSUES**

An Appley Bridge resident, Keely Dalfen, a member of ABCAGE and ABCA, attended to raise questions about the forthcoming Local Plan Consultation/Review and any proposed input by the Parish Council. Mrs Dalfen reported that the process began in 2016, and in 2017 the Issues and Options were publicised. It was confirmed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were invited to attend a meeting of the joint Eastern Parishes, held at West Lancs. BC, where the issues and options were discussed and where they had a verbal opportunity to have an input. At the meeting both Councillors referred to parking issues/problems in Appley Bridge and raised questions about industry in the area and also questioned whether there is a need for low cost housing in the Parish. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were asked for their opinions only and were not instructed to go away and canvas the opinions of parishioners. It was confirmed that in the call for site exercise in 2016 several plots of land were put forward/identified for potential development in both Appley Bridge and Mossy Lea, however, all those sites were described as being parked due to their green belt status. Mrs Dalfen reported that the residents had been told that they have missed these opportunities to comment. It was explained that the consultation process is only due to commence on 12<sup>th</sup> October and at that stage residents, and any other interested parties, can comment on the proposals after possibly attending one of the proposed drop in sessions to be arranged by the Borough Council. The Parish Council confirmed that they are also disappointed that they have not received any information regarding the proposals for Appley Bridge from either of the Borough Councillors for our area. The Local Plan Review is a Borough Council lead initiative and as such our Borough Councillors should be leading the way with regard to information relating to the proposals, passing that information down to Parish Council and parishioner level and, how to object to or comment on the proposals and, should be arranging meetings to find out what the views of the residents are on the proposals. The Parish Council agree that this consultation is very important and confirmed that they will be looking at the proposals when they are published and submitting comments and observations as appropriate. Mrs Dalfen reported that residents have been told that Appley Bridge has been earmarked for approx 400 houses and that the proposals do not look at developing Brownfield sites but that they are looking at green fields in the green belt. Further concern was expressed that the proposed 6 week consultation period is too short. The Clerk will request an extension to the consultation period and request that a drop in session be arranged for Appley Bridge. Furthermore, any information relating to the Local Plan will be rolled out by the Clerk to anyone who wishes to leave their email address. Councillor Mrs Burton suggested that a public meeting could be arranged if residents wished but, that Borough Councillors would have to attend to outline the proposals and answer questions on why these areas have been proposed and, be prepared to support the residents in their comments and objections to the proposals at Borough Council level as they are their elected representatives. It was explained that the Parish Council are more limited and have little power to influence things without the support of their Borough Councillors and residents. Those present were encouraged to submit their own views individually rather than collectively as one response, to achieve the most impact. It was further explained that it is difficult in Appley Bridge due to the cross-border difficulties of being partly located in Wigan and partly in West Lancashire. The Chairman pointed out at this stage that there had been a sudden, unexplained, interest recently in joining the Parish Council as an Appley Bridge Ward Councillor, something which has not been seen before in the past 20 years. He further explained that there are elections in 2019 for Wrightington Parish Council and that any person, provided they satisfy the relevant criteria can apply to join the Parish Council and may or may not be appointed during the election process if there is a contested election.

Mrs MacDonald raised questions in relation to the lack of a bus service in Appley Bridge to either Wigan or Shevington during the day. She confirmed that a petition had been sent to County Councillor Fillis but that she had been informed that the front page had been spoiled during delivery. Mrs MacDonald has also been in contact with the MP over this matter. There is an hourly service in the evenings and on Sundays and Bank Holidays but no service during the day. The Clerk will pursue this with LCC.

Katie Jukes reported on the following on behalf of a gentleman who cannot attend the Meeting. It was reported that there have been 5 planning applications for various things at Northern Diver so far this year, including 1 to house a biomass boiler and 1 retrospective application. She further reported that when the quarry was built it was blown out with dynamite and that there are currently 2 x JCB's in the bottom of the quarry shoring up the edge of quarry. The question was asked why Northern Diver applies for planning permission retrospectively, should they not follow due process. The Chairman confirmed some planning applications are submitted retrospectively and there is nothing the Parish Council can do about this, it is up to the planning officers at West Lancs. BC to determine these applications. Ms Jukes reported that a resident of Ashfield Terrace has reported that a garage has been built exceeding the property boundaries, without planning permission, following which retrospective planning permission was granted. Ms Jukes felt that the Parish Council did not act in the best interests of the residents in regard to this application. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council examine all applications before them and base their comments, objections or observations on the merit of the application, retrospective or otherwise and, that unless the Parish Council are made aware of any objections by affected residents, neighbours or other interested parties, then they must make their decision based on what they see in front of them. It was further explained that it is not Parish Council policy to take account of anonymous reports or comments as this could be considered irresponsible and erroneous on their part. Ms Jukes then asked who Councillor Clinch is and how can he represent Appley Bridge when he doesn't live in the area. Councillor Clinch's apologies were reported. It was confirmed that as long as an applicant lives or has his/her main place of work in the Parish or, lives within 3 miles of the Parish, which Councillor Clinch does, then he/she is eligible to be a Parish Councillor.

At the close of this business all members of the public present left the Parish Council Meeting.

47. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Clinch (illness).
48. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members are 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.**
49. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting, were accepted as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.
50. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – Appley Bridge Ward Councillor Vacancies – It was confirmed that there are now 2 applicants for the 1 vacant post of Appley Bridge Ward Councillor. In view of the impending Parish Council elections in May 2019 the Council will ask West Lancs. BC if they need to co-opt a Councillor on to the Parish Council for such a short period of time. Councillors again expressed concern about the level of aggression being experienced at Parish Council Meetings. It was noted that despite the attendance of a number of residents from Appley Bridge none of them followed up reports from the previous meeting in relation to problems experienced over the summer at the quarry and whether any responses had been received to Parish Council correspondence on this matter.  
Ironman Event – Councillor Mrs Burton expressed her concern that residents on Courage Low Lane were not allowed out of their homes during the event and felt that the motorcycle escorts could have dealt with this matter as there were only 3 homes affected. It also made things more dangerous for people who had to walk this route to access the stables or their work e.g.: the young lady who, having left her car near the Courage Low Lane/Tunley Lane junction then had to walk along the route to Moss Lane to go to work. Escorts again could have accompanied her.
51. **CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**

Items reported to, and noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 5/6 – ACCEPTED

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Update on fencing on Courage Low Lane – **Councillors noted the lengthy delay in replying to this email. This explains why there is no action for many months following a report.**
- b) Response to request to upgrade Mossy Lea Road to an A road – **The Parish Council are disappointed that LCC do not consider that this route meets the criteria of an A road.**
- c) Response from BC Mrs Baybutt on the current position with regard to the Quarry + Copy correspondence regarding the community response to Quarry related issues – **The Parish Council were grateful for this detailed response, however, were a little disappointed that Borough Councillors and the County Councillor had met on site to discuss the problems and did not invite the Parish Council to attend. County Councillor Fillis did say he would try to attend the Parish Council meeting to discuss this matter but has not done so. The Clerk has also asked the Police for information relating to incidents in the past and what action they have taken to try to address the issues raised and, asked them if they can take any action if the quarry owners choose not to prosecute for trespass or wilful damage to the fences. No response to date. It is understood by the Parish Council that the Police have taken names and addresses in the past but that the quarry owners would not prosecute.**
- d) Update re: picnic tables at Mossy Lea and Appley Lane South play areas – **The Clerk confirmed that West Lancs. BC officers are still deciding whether they will install 2 picnic tables at Appley Lane South play area as they agreed to do at Mossy Lea and, the logistics of them collecting them from Huws Gray once the Council has purchased them.**
- e) Concerns raised by a resident re: lack of parking for commuter traffic and speeding vehicles through Appley Bridge – **The Parish Council note and share these concerns.**
- f) Invitation to attend the Lathom Parish Council Civic Service, Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Lathom Park Chapel, Hall Lane, Lathom at 11.00am – **Apologies will be submitted.**
- g) Confirmation that the original route of part of public footpath No.9, Wrightington, has now been extinguished as the diverted route is now fit for public use – **Noted.**
- h) Notification of a temporary road closure on Crow Orchard Road on 1/10/18 until 14/12/18 to enable full carriageway construction, carriageway resurfacing works and installation of traffic signal loops – **The dates on the notice and in the email do not agree. Clarification will be obtained.**
- i) Press Release – Preferred options for a bold Local Plan Review – **The Council agreed that, if requested, a public meeting will be arranged but that the Borough Councillors will be expected to attend to present, and answer questions, on the proposals.**
- j) West Lancs. BC – Gambling Act 2005 – Consultation on Revised Licensing Policy – **The Council agreed to leave this matter to the professional officers.**
- k) Notification that registration is now open for the Parish & Town Council Conference to be held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November – **The Clerk would like to determine what will be discussed at the Conference before committing to attend.**
- l) Applications to join the Parish Council, as an Appley Bridge Ward Councillor, from Ms Katie Jukes and Mrs Robina Critchley – **The Clerk will obtain information from the Borough Council regarding co-option of a Parish Councillor such a short time before the 2019 elections. If co-option must continue, the Clerk will invite the 2 applicants to attend the next 3 meetings as an observer as is Parish Council Policy.**
- m) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations –
  - i) Invitations to Parish Councillors to attend the Institution & Induction of Revd. Stefan Mykola Dnistrianskyj as Vicar (half time) of Heskin with Wrightington St James the Great on Wednesday 31 October 2018 at 7.30pm at St James the Great, Wrightington – **Councillors will respond personally.**
  - ii) Lack of bus services in Appley Bridge – **Discussed and actioned in Open Forum.**

## 52. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- Councillor Johnson reported the following: The culvert at the bottom of Broadhurst Lane, which is running over the road, is causing surface damage to the carriageway. Clear water is still running down the lane from the septic tank at Tree Tops, Broadhurst Lane. Grass needs strimming around hazard markers Mossy Lea Road. Footways in the Parish have still not been swept. Chevrons are missing from the road sign on the first bend on Church Lane. Road

gullies are blocked at the Mossy Lea Road/Church Lane junction. The 2 road gullies at the bottom of Raby Fold Farm driveway are blocked. The road gully near Rigby's Bridge is only taking water slowly. No further action yet with regard to flooding at 15 Mossy Lea Road. The "Wrightington" place name sign on the grass verge near 162/164 Mossy Lea Road is in a poor state of repair and the metal posts are rotted. The grass verge at the rear of the footways from where the telephone box used to be near the BP garage to the Boundary Lane junction has not been cut on the last 2 grass verge cuts, although the strip of grass at the edge of the footway has. The gateway planting at the junction of Mossy Lea Road/Crow Orchard Road are full of weeds, are overgrown and obstructing sightlines and need tidying up. Following an incident at the Chisnall Avenue/Mossy Lea Road junction involving 2 cyclists and a motorist, attended by the Police and PCSO, a complaint has been received that the bus shelter on Mossy Lea Road, near the Chisnall Avenue junction, needs cleaning and is obstructing motorists' sightlines when coming out of Chisnall Avenue for traffic coming from the right. Councillors will check sightlines when exiting Chisnall Avenue

- An email from a resident of Wood Lane reports the blocked ditch from The Cornerhouse to Rivington View, the blocked gully outside Rivington View causing flooding to the garden of this property, the overgrown hedges either side of Wood Lane, and the fact the bus shelter needs cleaning and looks neglected – The Clerk confirmed that flooding and blocked gullies have been reported previously but will be reported again along with the overgrown hedges.
- Since St Joseph's school term has started again there has been an increase in the number of cars being left parked on Mossy Lea Road between school and Sharrocks. Councillor Hodgkinson will make enquiries at the Governors Meeting and report back.
- The planters at Mossy Lea Village Hall have been disappointing over the last couple of weeks.
- A "Horse" sign has recently been erected on Tunley Lane which is good news.
- There is ragwort at the junction of Moss Lane/Courage Low Lane which has not been sprayed and has now flowered and seeded. This is dangerous to animals and for farmers.
- There is a blocked drain in front of No 2 and No 6 Courage Low Lane
- There is a blocked gully on Hall Lane, near St Josephs Church, causing highway flooding.
- Soil needs removing from the footway/edge of the carriageway in front of St Josephs Church.
- The Council will ask Shevington PC to pursue a request for a loading or parking bay in front of Bewleys Hardware shop in Shevington as this is a valuable and well used amenity with no parking provision for customers, the elderly or disabled motorists.
- The public footpath from Moss Lane to Mossy Lea Road is overgrown.
- Hedges on Appley Lane North need cutting back.
- The Council will request an update re: the upgrading of public footpath 21 to a bridleway.

**53. STANDING ORDERS - Resolved:** In Accordance with Standing Order No 19, Standing Order No 18 was suspended to allow the remaining items of business to be conducted.

**54. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES** – Nothing to report.

**55. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** – Wreaths have been ordered. A request for Policing for this event has been submitted. A road closure order has been requested. Lamp post poppies have been ordered. The silent soldier has been received and is waiting to be set in place.

## **56. VILLAGE HALLS**

**MOSSY LEA** – Fire Extinguishers serviced. Moo Music £220 – classes will no longer be held. Reiki £60. Children's Party £30. Sleep Apnoea £40. Machine Embroidery £25. Craft Classes £110. **Noted.**  
**APPLEY BRIDGE** – Next Village Hall Committee Meeting – Monday 5 November at 8pm. The Clerk reported quotations from 2 window suppliers for replacing the 4 large windows, 2 at the front and 2 at the back, in the village hall. There is still one quotation outstanding. The Clerk will report the details to Councillors when received and, once a decision has been made, the chosen contractor will be instructed to proceed. Grass cutting and weed spraying is again required and removal of ragwort at the rear of the hall before Remembrance Day. It was confirmed that West Lancs. BC have agreed to the Parish Council choice of contractor, P Cornwell Construction, for repairs to the fallen wall and erection of metal fencing to fill the remaining gap at a total cost of £2001.70. It was further confirmed that West Lancs. BC has agreed to contribute 50% of the cost of repairs once the work is completed to their satisfaction.

**57. PLANNING** To discuss the following applications:

**Report 2 (page 6)** – Planning Applications discussed in the Summer Recess for ratification.

**Planning Applications during summer recess for ratification – REPORT 2 (page 6) - Resolved: Decisions approved.**

1) 2018/0812/FUL Proposed carport structure. Inglenook, Hall Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved: No Objections.**

**58. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** – Nothing to report.

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

**Payments during summer recess for ratification – REPORT 3 (page 6) – Resolved: Approved.**

**For Payment:**

Mr D Proe	Hedge Cutting		£40.00
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net		£751.57
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£6.76	
	NI due by Parish Council	£7.77	£14.53
Mr F Johnson	Reimburse cost of Window Cleaning – MLVH (outside only)		£15.00
D/D British Gas	Gas supplied MLVH		£142.62
D/D British Gas	Gas supplied ABVH (estimated)		£45.46
D/D E.on	Electricity supplied ABVH		£37.68
D/D E.on	Electricity supplied ABVH		£21.61

**Receipts:**

ABVH Committee	Quarterly Transfer		£2220.00
West Lancs. BC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Part Precept		£8093.50

**Resolved: Payment and Receipt of the above accounts is approved.**

## **60. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 15 October 2018 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 47 to 60 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 15 October 2018.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 10.00 pm

Chairman:

Date:

## **REPORT 1**

- a) Notification permission withdrawn for alterations to west elevation. Northern Diver.
- b) Notification permission granted for erection of a single storey outbuilding with flat roof at bottom of rear garden. 76 Appley Lane North.
- c) Notification permission granted for change of use of existing grazing field to riding ménage 25 x 50m with post and rail perimeter fence for private use. Tunley Moss Farmhouse, 10 Tunley Moss.
- d) Notification permission granted for ground and first floor side extension with dormers to front and rear of property. 390 Mossy Lea Road.
- e) Notification permission granted for proposed loft conversion with new dormer to rear elevation. 14 Back Skull House Lane.
- f) Copy ABCA Minutes and exchange of correspondence since July Meeting.
- g) Notification of 6 week Yoga Classes at Appley Bridge Village Hall, Thursdays 10-11am + Yoga and Gong: Sacred Sound day, Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at Appley Bridge Village Hall 1-4pm
- h) Confirmation that prior approval is not required for the erection of a replacement barn to be used for hay storage. Martin House Farm, Church Lane, Wrightington.
- i) Notification of a temporary road closure on Roby Mill/Bank Brow/Appley Lane South, Upholland on 13/8/18 until 2/10/18 to enable utility works to take place.

- j) Confirmation your report of overgrowth requiring cutting back on public footpath 3A will be investigated.
- k) Continued correspondence regarding the possibility of a litter pick in Appley Bridge in September
- l) Copy CPRE Fieldwork – Summer 2018      m) Copy CPRE Countryside Voice – Summer 2018

## **REPORT 2**

The following applications received, observations were as follows:

- 1) 2018/0528/FUL Erection of warehouse, retrospective consent for retention of store for a limited period, car park extension, excavation and erection of retaining walls, and surfacing of access and hard standing. Northern Diver Ltd, Northern Divers Building East Quarry, Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge. **Resolved – No Objections.**
- 2) 2018/0663/FUL New office development on vacant plot of land with off road car parking and associated landscaping. Land to the east of Stonecrop, North Quarry Business Park, Appley Bridge. **Resolved – No Objections.**
- 3) 2018/0754/FUL Application to remove condition no.12 from application 2012/1089/FUL Decision Date 21/12/2012, to allow the retention of the ground floor of the original dwelling to create a residential annexe. Tunley Lane Farm, Tunley Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved – The Council object to the removal of this condition as planning permission for a much larger dwelling on this site was only granted in the first instance provided the original dwelling was demolished. If this condition is removed, and the applicant is allowed to retain any of the original dwelling, no matter how little, this will set a precedent for future applicants to obtain planning permission for otherwise unacceptable development knowing that any conditions attached can later be removed.**
- 4) 2018/0797/FUL 1<sup>st</sup> floor rear extension over existing ground floor rear extension. Partially convert detached garage into study/granny flat, with ground floor connection and 1<sup>st</sup> floor dormer extension. 321 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **Resolved – No Objections.**

## **REPORT 3**

### **Payments:**

Paid during the summer recess:

Fir Tree Fisheries	Planters MLVH & ABVH		£270.00
M Champion	Plumbing work – ABVH		£90.00
Mrs M Stewart	Honorarium for Internal Audit		£25.00
Waterplus Ltd	Water usage ABVH		£176.08
OPSTA	Annual Subscriptions		£10.00
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net		£751.57
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£6.76	
	NI due by Parish Council	£7.77	£14.53
F H Associates	Ink & Paper for Newsletters		£266.25
D/D E.on	Electricity supplied – ABVH		£34.83
D/D British Gas	Gas supplied – ABVH		£35.55
D/D E.on	Electricity supplied – MLVH		£139.35
D/D E.on	Electricity supplied – ABVH		£28.72
D/D Waterplus Ltd	Water supplied – MLVH		£24.66

### **Receipts:**

West Lancs. BC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Part Concurrent Contributions		£1159.00
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