

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Council of the Parish of Wrightington held on Monday 16th September 2019 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Mrs J Burton (Acting Chairman), Mr F Johnson, Mrs K Jukes, and Mrs R Critchley. Also present were members of the public and PCSO Chelsea Lane.

(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.)

Councillor Jukes – reported on an enquiry, emailed to the Clerk, in relation to the concrete barriers in the lay-by at Hall Lane. It was reported that these were temporary protection for the headwall by LCC.

PCSO Chelsea Lane – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced PCSO Chelsea Lane who then took questions from the public present. A request was made that PCSO Lane ask if West Lancs. Police can work with Greater Manchester Police on cross border village issues. PCSO explained that the Neighbourhood Team had been reduced for a while but it is now increasing and confirmed that they have been a visible presence around the quarry over summer. It was reported that the young people had been moved from the quarry to the Meadows in Appley Bridge, where there is now anti-social behaviour and drug abuse. PCSO Lane was asked to liaise with ABCA. ABCA would like to request assistance from the Police at the Appley Bridge Duck Race on 17th May 2020 to keep the event safe. Residents of Mossy Lea Road asked for assistance with speeding issues on this road by cars, motorcycles, tractors and HGV's. It was suggested that some of the yellow lines be removed to allow cars to park at the roadside thereby creating natural traffic calming measures. PCSO Lane reported that the Police are looking into starting an initiative called "mini police", using children in uniforms, addressing speeding issues by speaking directly to the offending drivers stopped by Police at the scene. This has been very successful in Merseyside. PCSO Lane will be undergoing training to use the speed gun. It was confirmed that PCSO's do not have the power to stop traffic or pursue speeding motorists, only Police officers can do this. PCSO Lane emphasised the importance of logging issues or instances which arise as statistics are very important in highlighting problems at specific locations. It was confirmed that the Parish Council did ask County Councillor Fillis to highlight the speeding problems on Mossy Lea Road. It was suggested that Hall Lane, going towards Parbold should be assessed as well as Appley Lane North. It was reported that there is a significant problem with motorists parking on pavements, obstructing their use e.g.: the 2 cars which now park at the junction of Carr House Lane and Mossy Lea Road. Cars parking on the pavement on Appley Lane North, near the junction with Finch Lane, make it dangerous for the primary school children. The PCSO confirmed that parking on the pavement is not a criminal offence it is just inconsiderate behaviour. It was suggested that an initiative needs to be found, or a way that the Police can work with local councils to enforce this issue. At St Josephs School on Mossy Lea Road, parked vehicles stretch quite a long way, some double parking and some blocking the pavements, making it dangerous at school opening and closing times. The PCSO said that they are hoping the use of "mini police" standing outside schools will get the point across. Now the Neighbourhood Team has increased they are hoping to show a police presence at school times. The exit at Heron's Wharf was raised as it is dangerous to exit onto Mill Lane. The situation was horrendous when an event was held at the public house adjacent to the junction a few weeks ago. It would appear some rail commuters are now parking on Heron's Wharf to access the railway station. The Parish Council has suggested a one-way system with only a left turn out of Heron's Wharf. Yellow lines at the entrance have also been suggested. PCSO Lane confirmed that recent correspondence from the Chief Constable states that the Police have no powers to issue road closure orders, the local council issues these. Road closure orders are costly. It was confirmed that there is no chance of a grit bin on Skull House Lane as it has been determined that Skull House Lane is on the primary gritting route. An update will be requested on the litter bin review underway in West Lancs. PCSO Lane confirmed that she covers Wrightington, Appley Bridge, Parbold, Bickerstaffe, Upholland, Roby Mill, Dalton and Newburgh. The crime statistics for Jan to Sept 2019 show 408 incidents. 38 Grade 1 emergencies. 4 incidents of anti-social behaviour up to August. Drug taking and dealing reports, and theft reports, have been received but do not form part of the statistics. There were burglaries recently in Upholland and it was found that all 8 of them were linked. Advice is to lock all doors and do not leave keys visible. PCSO Lane was thanked for attending.

Mr John Herbert, a Scarisbrick Parish Councillor, attended to request Parish Council support in objecting to the planning application for a mushroom factory in Scarisbrick. The application is for a very large steel portal building, approx 17,500 square metres, not including the car parks, turning areas and access roads. Most of the traffic will come from junction 27 of the M6 Motorway. It has been assessed that there will be approx. 8 HGV movements per hour during daylight hours. It was reported that the majority of land in Scarisbrick is Grade 1 agricultural, natural growing land, with very high yields. Mushrooms do not need soil to grow. If permission is granted the soil from the grade 1 agricultural land will be scraped off, disposed of and replaced with concrete which releases Co2 in its production process. It was stressed that sustainability means not doing anything today to fulfil our own needs which would compromise the needs of future generations. These proposals would be environmental vandalism. The Parish Council agreed to take all these points on boards when discussing this matter on the agenda.

48. **APOLOGIES** – Were received and accepted from Councillors Hodgkinson (unwell) and Councillor House (who will try to attend work permitting).
49. **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.**
50. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th July 2019 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and were accepted as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.
51. **UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH ISSUES RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING** - Nothing to report that will not be dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

52. **CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**

Items reported to, & noted by, the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 – page 5-6 – ACCEPTED.

Items requiring discussion, observations or action by the Council:

- a) Copies of correspondence received by CC Fillis in relation to flooding Mossy Lea Road – **The Clerk will confirm with Councillor Fillis that the residents have been kept up to date.**
- b) Response to problems with the holding tank at BP Garage from West Lancs. BC – **The Council will ask if it is legal for the now clean water coming from the holding tank to be discharged on to the old road.**
- c) Copy response from CC Fillis to his reports of speeding traffic on Appley Lane North and South – **The addition of a SPID on this route was welcomed. The Council were disappointed that speeding issues on Mossy Lea Road had not also been taken forward and will request that this be investigated in view of the further complaint received this evening, and the fact that there are 2 primary schools, a church, a pensioners hall and sheltered accommodation along this road. The police speed enforcement has been seen on Mossy Lea Road; however, it always stops at the same location.**
- d) Reminder - Invitation from the Mayor of West Lancs. to the Civic Sunday Service Sunday 15th September – emailed to Councillors as it is such short notice – **Councillor Juckes attended.**
- e) Invitation from Lathom PC for Chairman to attend the Lathom PC Civic Service at Lathom Park Chapel, Hall Lane, Lathom, on Sunday 6th October 2019 at 11 am – **Councillor Juckes will attend on behalf of the Parish Council.**
- f) Notification of, and request for support, against a planning application for a mushroom farm in Green Belt in Scarisbrick – **Having heard details of the application and its impact in the public part of the meeting it was Resolved – The Council will support the objections.**
- g) Consultation on Licensing Act 2003 – revised draft policy from West Lancs. BC – **Councillor Critchley confirmed that Councils welcome PSPO's (Public Spaces Protection Orders) being put in place to prevent drinking in public places. The policy is considered appropriate. Many people would like to alter licensing laws to reduce them from 24 hour licenses. The Council believe the licensing teams need to go out randomly and**

conduct more spot checks. It was confirmed that the onus is on the licensee to ensure that spiking of drinks is not happening on their premises.

- h) Details of a new project Buzz IT, based at West Lancs. CVS – **Invite Helen to speak at a Parish Council Meeting about this project.**
- i) Consultation from BT regarding the removal/adoption of public payphones across the Borough. Includes one opposite No. 11 Mossy Lea Road – **No objections.**
- j) Press Release notifying that the current Local Plan Review will be ceased and the preferred options consulted upon withdrawn. A new Local Plan Cabinet Working Group will be created to prepare a new 15 year Local Plan for the Borough – **The Council welcome this.**
- k) Notification from CPRE of a change in tone from them going forward – **Noted.**
- l) Late items received which may require discussion/action/observations – i) The defibrillator doors which have failed now need replacing at £105 each plus VAT. The locks will need removing from the existing doors and fitting into the new doors – **Resolved – 3 new doors for the defibrillator boxes affected will be ordered. Fitting details will be requested.**

53. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- The culvert at the bottom of Broadhurst Lane has now collapsed and the carriageway is flooding to a depth of approx. 1 foot as a result.
- It was reported that strimming around street furniture in Mossy Lea has still not been done and, an elderly local resident was seen cutting overgrowth back recently. It has been reported to West Lancs. BC in the past who say it has been done. There is only a footway on one side of the road at this location and it is on a bend. The overgrowth from the grass verges is also encroaching onto the footways significantly narrowing them in places and making it difficult for people with prams or disabled people to use them. It seems that grass cutting in Chorley Borough is better than that undertaken in West Lancs. Borough.
- Hedges still need cutting back on Mill Lane, Appley Bridge – The Clerk confirmed that LCC have informed her that they have written to the landowner on this matter.
- Councillor Burton reported the following in her capacity as a member of the British Horse Society – re: an incident on the footpath from Randalls Corner to the railway bridge and then on to Herons Wharf. This is a well used footpath which, if cut back properly, would be a good route for disabled use and for cyclists as well as pedestrians. Wigan BC has a grot spot team who it is understood will be asked to clear the route in an attempt to open this type of route up as a good safe, multi-purpose route for multiple users. Councillor Chris Horridge agreed to take this to Shevington PC, to assist.
- The blocked gully in front of 386 Mossy Lea Road is again overflowing and causing flooding to the garden of the elderly resident's home. LCC did investigate last year but the same problem seems to be occurring again.
- The grid at the top of Courage Low Lane is blocked on the right hand side of the road and as a result flooding to the driveway and paddock of the riding stables is an issue.

54. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – LALC Area Committee Meeting – was attended by Councillors Burton and Hodgkinson. Discussions took place on when farmers can cut hedges and on updating the LALC constitution. It was reported that all Councils, large and small, have voting powers. The committee asked representatives to come back with subjects for discussion or speakers they would like to invite to meetings. Councillor Burton suggested it would be useful to invite someone to attend and speak about problems experienced in the Parishes by disabled people and how these could be addressed. It was further suggested that information on the West Lancs. Dial-a-ride scheme would be useful as there are problems for many residents in relation to where and when they can use their bus passes. Peter Lathom Charity – Councillor Critchley reported that she will be attending a meeting in October. The Parish Council confirmed that they were once again happy for any money which may be available to be divided between the pensioners associations at Mossy Lea & Appley Bridge.

55. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – Written confirmation from the Police states that policing will not be available for the procession on Remembrance Sunday. Without Policing it will be necessary to have trained marshals/stewards to support the procession. It was felt that this is too

onerous a job to expect volunteers to undertake. Therefore, it was suggested that the format be changed so that everyone makes their own way to the war memorial and meets at 10.30 am, for the Service to begin at 10.45 am and the Act of Remembrance at 11.00 am. If everyone gathers around the war memorial and on Station Road, which is private, there should be no need for marshals/stewards, or for a road closure. It was Resolved that a member of Shevington PC can attend to lay a wreath. It was also noted that the PCSO will be attending to perform the Police Civic Duty and lay a wreath. 7 wreaths will be ordered for the uniformed organisations and the Parish Council. It was suggested that the uniformed organisations be informed that as part of the change in format this will be the last year the Parish Council will be paying for all the wreaths and they will need to obtain their own in future years. 300 Orders of Service will be produced. It was confirmed that 150 packets of crisps and cartons of pop, tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided after the Act of Remembrance in the Village Hall as usual.

56. VILLAGE HALLS

MOSSY LEA – Craft Classes £75. Tuesdays Yoga £140. Children’s Party £30. Practice night £20. Boiler repairs required over summer recess were approved. Village hall meeting prior to Parish Council Meeting on Monday 21st October at 6.45pm. An outside tap can be fitted to assist with watering planters. It was agreed a tap be fitted. It was reported that, due to the absence of Councillor Hodgkinson, the Parish Council will need to pay the caretaker £106.73 and the Village Hall Committee will reimburse the Parish Council at their next meeting for caretaker payments made in August and September.

APPLEY BRIDGE – New boiler fitted. Quotation for pointing around windows £225. Copy of end of year accounts – Accepted. Resolved – the contractor be instructed to go ahead with pointing around the windows and, at an additional cost, he be asked to clean out all the gutters at the village hall. It was reported that there is a leak in the ceiling in the chair store and secure room. Further roof work will be required at the hall to resolve this. The contractor will be instructed to investigate and quote for the necessary repairs. The Council will proceed with work to install a barrier at the entrance to the car park as soon as confirmation has been received from West Lancs. BC legal department, that they are legally entitled to do so. It is necessary to ensure the barrel is interchangeable with a new lock if it ever needs to be replaced, with 20+ keys required it could prove very costly should this be necessary in the future. The Council discussed winter planting of the planters at both village halls. It was Resolved that the Council thank Fir Tree Fishery for their work with the planters and for cutting the grass at Appley Bridge Village Hall and will decide if they wish them to continue for the next season or, due to the problems experienced this year, if the Parish Council should go back to Moss Bank Nurseries in Leigh. Councillor Johnson reported that Moss Bank Nurseries will replant the basket planters if the Parish Council will empty the existing baskets, take them to the Moss Bank Nurseries depot in Leigh and collect and reinstate re-filled baskets at the village halls. The Council will consider this.

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

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

- 1) 2019/0859/LDC Certificate of Lawfulness of an existing use (CLEU) for 2 No. existing cabins. Agricultural Livestock & Storage Building, Coopers Lane, Hilldale, Heskin - **Resolved: No Objections.**
- 2) 2019/0771/FUL Proposed single storey side and rear extension. 34 Millbank, Appley Bridge - **Resolved: No Objections.**

58. **LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** – Notification 75th AGM will take place on Saturday 23rd November 2019, 10am at Howick House, Penwortham – **Noted**. Notification of Finance Workshop, Thursday 14th November, 7-9pm, Howick House – **Noted**. Request for completion of elections survey. Notification of consultation by NALC on 5G Mobile Coverage in Rural Areas – **Noted with no objections.**

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 J R Cross	Caretaker MLVH – Wages	£106.73
Mrs M Stewart	Honorarium for Internal Audit	£25.00

DTG Plmbg & Htg	Repair work to the central heating boiler MLVH	£105.00
Defib Store Ltd	Consumables for the defibrillators in the Parish	£344.40
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse cost of recording device for Parish Council Meetings	£45.00
Mr F Johnson	Reimburse Window Cleaning MLVH	£15.00
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk's Salary – Net	£799.80
HM Rev. & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£26.24
	NI due by Parish Council	£14.77
		£41.01
D/D E.on	Electricity MLVH	£180.43
D/D British Gas	Gas usage ABVH	£45.34
D/D E.on	Electricity ABVH	£10.50

Receipts:

West Lancs. BC	2 nd Half of the Parish Precept	£9343.50
----------------	--	----------

Resolved: Payment and Receipt of the above accounts, together with the Bank Reconciliation Statement up to 30 June 2019, are approved.

60. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 21st October 2019 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Minutes 48 to 60 will be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman at the Meeting to be held on Monday 21st October 2019.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed: 9.50 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

- a) Notification permission granted for erection of an overhead crane. Finches Stone and Marble, Skull House Lane, Appley Bridge.
- b) Notification permission granted for two storey rear and single storey rear/side extension. Gerards Farm, 2 Church Lane, Wrightington.
- c) Notification permission refused to raise height of roof to provide first floor living accommodation including dormer extensions to front; extension to rear, porch to front. 2 Finch Lane, Appley Bridge.
- d) Notification permission granted for removal of condition No7 imposed on planning permission 2018/0528/FUL relating to use of the warehouse for storage purposes ancillary to Northern Diver Ltd only and for no other purpose. Northern Diver Building, East Quarry, Appley Bridge.
- e) Notification permission granted for conversion of garage and single storey rear extension. 76 Glenside, Appley Bridge.
- f) Notification that West Lancs. BC recommendation for LCC/2019/0028 - Proposed land restoration and regrading works using inert material, associated highway works including construction of a temporary public car park. Former Parbold Hill Quarry, Parbold Hill, Parbold, was to object to the proposals.
- g) Confirmation that Wigan Council has written to the landowner regarding Japanese Knotweed on the Slacks.
- h) Letter of thanks from St James the Great Church for your donation towards their building fund.
- i) Confirmation your report of overgrowth on footpath 21 is being investigated.
- j) Confirmation from LCC that the new lighting column erected on Toogood Lane will, after investigation, remain at this location. Further meetings are planned.
- k) Confirmation that CC Toon will be supporting the request for changes to the CROW Act to extend the cut off date for registration of Historic Rights of Way beyond 2026.
- l) Notification of proposed temporary road closure on Bank Brow, Upholland, on Tuesday 19th November 2019 to enable replacement of a street lighting column.

- m) Notification of a proposed temporary road closure on Hillock Lane, Dalton and Lees Lane, Dalton from Monday 30th September until Friday 8th of November to enable the excavation of joint bays to enable high voltage overlay to be undertaken on behalf of Electricity North West.
- n) Notification of a proposed temporary road closure on New Street, Mawdesley from 27th November to 3rd December to enable LCC to carry out carriageway inway works.
- o) Notification and request for topics for consideration by the Corporate & Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee – emailed to Councillors, no requests made or topics submitted.
- p) Copy CPRE Fieldwork Summer 2019 Copy CPRE Countryside Voice Summer 2019

REPORT 2

The following applications received, observations were as follows:

- 1) 2019/0758/FUL – Proposed side extension dormers. 36 Manse Avenue, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
- 2) 2019/0759/FUL – Application for variation or removal of condition No’s 10 and 15 of planning permission 2019/0098/FUL relating to a Natural England licence at both the farmhouse and the barn. Richardson’s Farm, Finch Lane, Appley Bridge. **Resolved** – **The Council are rather concerned that the applicants proposals fall short of the information in the supporting documentation which states that they wish to increase the biological diversity of the site. If this is indeed the case, and for the avoidance of doubt, then the provision of only 2 bat boxes is unacceptable. On a site of this size, which includes the farmhouse and the barn, there should be at least 12 boat boxes and at least 4 barn owl boxes in the adjacent trees.**
- 3) 2019/0774/FUL – New driveway and vehicular access. 38 Church Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
- 4) 2019/0760/FUL – Demolition of existing conservatory. Erection of single storey family/dining/kitchen and extension at first floor to existing bathroom. 4 Hall Lane, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
- 5) 2019/0822/OUT - Outline - Erection of two dwellings including details of access, layout and scale. Land Between 321 And 325 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **The Council again strongly object to these proposals. This is agricultural land and development would constitute inappropriate development in the green belt and will result in back building. The proposals would require the removal of several very mature trees which must be prevented. If permission is granted for this, it will set a precedent for further development of land at the rear of the houses in this area to which the Parish Council strongly object. There has been no significant change to the proposals since the previous application and therefore no change in the Parish Councils objections.**
- 6) 2019/0823/FUL - Alterations to the existing bungalow including, extensions to side and rear elevations. Raising of the ridge line to create bedrooms at first floor level. Addition of a porch to the front elevation. 139B Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**

REPORT 3

Payments:

DTG Plumbing & Heating	Purchase & Installation of Boiler ABVH	£1855.00
Autocross Euroshel Ltd	Cleaning Bus Shelters	£702.00
West Lancs. BC	Uncontested Election Fees	£424.00
The Wiper Company	Hand towels and Toilet Rolls	£44.40
Huws Gray	Fuses and Toilet Seat – MLVH	£33.94
Waterplus	Water & Wastewater charges ABVH	£85.13
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse Air Fresheners – MLVH	£20.00
Mrs C A Cross	Clerk’s Salary – Net	£799.60
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk £26.44	
	NI due by Parish Council £14.77	£41.21
Mr J R Cross	Caretaker MLVH – Wages	£106.73
D/D British Gas	Gas usage ABVH	£32.72
D/D E.on	Electricity usage ABVH	£41.94
D/D Waterplus	Water usage MLVH	£21.82
D/D British Gas	Gas usage AVBH	£46.13
D/D E.on	Electricity usage ABVH	£28.95