

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 22nd Nov 2012, 7.30PM @ Scorton Primary School

**Present: Cllrs Gorst, Babbs, Atkinson, Cottle (for part of the meeting),
Wyre Borough & Lancashire County Councillor Val Wilson, the clerk and
a member of the public**

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Collinson

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising:

Email confidentiality and procedure

The format presented by the clerk with the inclusion of an additional point (relating to responses to derogatory emails) was agreed. The clerk will do a formal copy for adoption.

The clerk was requested to ensure it was minuted that Cllr Anderton's email address was secure.

School signs

Cllr Babbs has spoken with staff at the school and confirmed they do not have lollypop signs. He will bring this up at the Wyre Area Rd Safety meeting next week. The clerk confirmed that Cllr Collinson had sent an email stating she had not had a chance to speak to the headmistress regarding this. The clerk stated that she has not received details of pupil numbers yet from Cllr Collinson, in order to respond to Highways. The clerk sent Cllr Collinson a copy of the original response from Highways (for discussion with the headmistress) on 8th Nov. She will await details from Cllr Collinson and the chairman agreed to wait for feedback.

Dog fouling (Millennium Way)

Cllr Cottle requested the clerk to email John Bettle (Wyre Council St cleaning) to check the current situation regarding the provision of signs before he involves the school.

Rd Sweeping

The clerk stated that John Bettle had replied on 2nd Nov, stating that Scorton and the surrounding area had been cleared of leaf debris by a mechanical sweeper.

Drainage and flooding issues

The clerk received the following reply from Highways:

“Unfortunately we are still dealing with a substantial number of drainage issues as a direct result of the severe weather conditions experienced in September. The information provided has been forwarded to our Wyre area superintendent and will be investigated as soon as possible. It is unlikely however that I will be able to provide you with site-specific information prior to your next Parish Council Meeting, should details be available then I will send them to you.”

The clerk confirmed that Matt Hodges had clarified with Highways the drain cover aspect.

5. Open forum:

Potholes

There are large potholes at the ford near Sykes Farm these are now about 2 foot across and 6 inches deep. They are considered very dangerous. The clerk was requested to report this.

6. Playing field:

Progress report

Cllr Cottle reported that he is currently awaiting confirmation of prices for the picnic tables and Peter Gelderd has been doing some work on the shrubs .

MUGA

Cllr Cottle stated that he has a meeting early next week with the suppliers.

Playing field maintenance (hedges)

Discussion has taken place with Cllr Anderton since the last meeting and he is amenable to having an access gate installed for access. It was felt that a 12 foot gate would be sufficient. The PC agreed that the hedge needed trimming once a year during September and this was best done by hand as tractors create too much mess. It was agreed to accept the quote from Distinctive Landscapes for £108 plus VAT.

7. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1 (public to refer to clerk for further information and post received following publication of agenda)

Items to discuss as follows:

LCC – Strategy for provision of school places & capital investment consultation

The clerk state that Cllr Collinson had requested further information. She stated that LCC had confirmed that they do not have the outline for 2013/14 and they also do not have a five year forecast, only 12 months.

With regards to Scorton School (and future growth) the following reply was received:

“Our pupil projections show that the birth rate in the area is fairly stable and not expected to generate additional pupils in the next couple of years. We may know more when the next set of birth data is obtained from the NHS.

We were approached by the Head teacher of the school last year when she asked our advice about increasing the admission number to 10.

We advised that, to take such action could put the school in a position where 3 classrooms would be needed by 2017, if the additional pupils were admitted. Since the school relies on using the village hall as its assembly/ large space, this would put the school in a vulnerable position, should the village hall become unavailable. However, we also informed Holly that, if the school admitted more pupils and later sought to secure additional accommodation, we would be unable to reinstate the 3rd space as it would be a suitability issue which must come behind the provision of basic need places in terms of the authority's priorities. We advised that it may be pertinent to seek a more secure lease arrangement on the Hall and seek advice from the diocese.

The admission of pupils over the published admission number of 8 as a result of successful appeals could put the school in the same position.”

The clerk was requested to contact Holly Husset for her comments on the strategy before the deadline on 14th December.

Dog control orders

The clerk read a letter from Wyre Council requesting comments about the introduction of dog signs on the playing field. She was instructed to reply that the PC request the installation of a total dog exclusion order for the entire play area and playing field (as this is a school playing field).

8. Borough Council matters:

Flooding update (re Snow Hill & Tithebarn Lane)

The clerk reported on an email update she has received from Val Wilson on 8th Nov from Highways:

“The two roads affected following the recent flash flooding were Snow Hill and Tithebarn Lane. On Snow Hill Lane, the affected road has now been repaired and no houses were involved. Work on Tithebarn Lane has been carried out to tidy and clean up the road and affected area. Further investigations are to be carried out on Tithebarn Lane to try to alleviate any future flash flooding incidents.”

LCC winter service briefing note

Further to the email bulletin received by the clerk, Val Wilson provided a copy of the above as this contains more information. The clerk will retain for reference.

Police and Crime Commissioner

Val Wilson confirmed that the new commissioner has resigned from his position as leader of Wyre Labour Group. In the short term, he will continue his roles as a District and County Councillor. He will consider his future in these roles in the new-year.

9. Planning:

None

10. Decision notices:

None

11. Highways:

Flooding and drainage issues

Cllrs Atkinson and Gorst reported the following:

- ❖ Drains are overflowing on Wagon Rd, 200 yards towards Dolphinholme on the right (from the street crossroads).
- ❖ There are drain problems on Long Lane (Scorton) @ Bobbin Mill (Trough Rd). This was reported by phone 7 time previously followed by a letter from Mr & Mrs Gardner.
- ❖ There are also drain problems at the entrance to Sykes Farm off Long Lane (Trough Rd). As this is making the surface very soft near the entrance, this is hampering vehicle access to the property.
- ❖ There is flooding from the east side of Long Lane and this creates a large puddle on the corner of Cleveley Bank Lane.

The PC believe that strong action needs to be taken to sort the drains out before more problems are caused in the winter due to the risk of severe ice from the standing water. The clerk will report the above.

The clerk stated she would provide Sim Lane-Dixon's contact for Cllrs Atkinson and Gorst.

Cllr Babbs asked the clerk to email him the details (shown above) so he can raise this at the Wyre Area Rd Safety meeting next week.

12. Lengthsman:

Jobs

PC agreed that the lengthsman should clear the edges of the road from debris so that water can run freely into the drains. Cllr Babbs will inform the lengthsman. The clerk confirmed that Cockerham had agreed to Josh providing a report at each meeting as to what areas he had covered and this was included as an agenda item. The clerk provided an email of a list of jobs he has done since the last meeting for Scorton and handed out copies for perusal. The PC agreed that this should be done from now on and included on the agenda as an item.

Contract 2013/14

This was signed by Cllr Babbs.

Lengthsman access to public conveniences

The clerk stated that this was now resolved following liaison with John Bettle (WC).

Litter picking

It was felt that rubbish collected in this way (which would normally be deposited in public bins and emptied by WC) should be treated separately to his other waste (hedge cuttings etc) which are deposited in the designated lengthsman bin in Cockerham. The clerk was asked to contact John Bettle with a view to arranging a suitable collection point for WC to collect the litter picking rubbish as this type of waste is their responsibility.

13. Village Hall:

Bikes & Barrows

No update

VH parking

Cllr Babbs requested the clerk to write a letter to the householder in order for him to sign as confirmation that he has no claim, with a view to sending this to land registry. Cllr Babbs will prepare the initial draft.

Update

The clerk stated there is no village hall news to report.

Gateway signs

Cllr Babbs reported that the chosen signs do not comply with Highways standards but they do not object to installing them as long as the PC takes full responsibility for every aspect of their maintenance and accept liability. The clerk has received an insurance quote (including the 2 benches see item 14) for 3 signs (although 4 will be needed). For cover before renewal, this would be free. After renewal this would be an additional £16.22 (excl. IPT). The clerk requested Cllr Babbs to inform her when the signs are in place so she can change the insurance.

Joanne Golton will do the final design (option 2 with roses). Consideration needs to be given regarding the positioning.

14. Finance:

Account update - £8456.98 (end Oct) should be now £6410.01

Projections to determine precept for 2013/14 (& removal of rural parishes grant)

It was agreed to request a precept of £11,800 (less than last year).

The clerk stated that the rural parishes grant will cease from 2014/15. The clerk stated that Lancaster City Council did not pay this grant. No comments or objections were raised at this time.

Benches Bill (3) - £1084.97

Paid by the PC . Some monies repaid by Bikes and Barrows (£576.37) as well as St Peters Church (£393.33). The PC agreed that two benches (refer item 13) are the property of the parish council. Cllr Babbs confirmed that they are situated on the path inside the entrance to the playing field backing on to the chapel wall.

15. Health & Safety:

None

16. Points of interest:

New Wyre Council Code of Conduct and other interest forms

The new code was adopted and the clerk received "other interest" forms from Cllrs Atkinson, Babbs and Gorst.

Proposed creation of a new parish council for Dolphinholme

Cllr Gorst raised this and stated his involvement in this process, in the event that the PC thought there was a conflict of interest. As there were few other members, the clerk was requested to put this on the next agenda for the PC to discuss. The other two members felt that Cllr Gorst should continue to represent Lower Dolphinholme whilst the process is ongoing as it is important to receive feedback about this area of the parish.

17. Date of next meeting: **17th Jan 2013**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.10PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

WC – Police & crime commissioner poster

WC – Employment and appeals committee agenda 5th Nov link

Gas Storage Preesall – Notice of completion link

WC – Planning committee 7th Nov agenda link

WC – Schedule of executive decisions link x 2

WC - Licensing committee minutes 25th Oct link

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

WC – Tourism task group agenda 8th Nov link

LALC – NALC briefing (setting up new parish & town councils)

Parkwood Healthcare – Healthwatch Lancashire advert

WC – Memorial Park Fleetwood

WC- Agenda for Audit Committee 13th Nov link

LCC – Strategy for provision of school places & school capital investment 2013/14 to 2015/16 consultation See item 7.

WC – Employment & Appeals Committee minutes 5th Nov link

WC – Standards Committee agenda 14th Nov link

WC – St Cleaning Task Group minutes 30th Oct link

WC – “Wyre Together” information

War memorials bulletin

Parish Online – Newsletter

WC – Mayoral charity event Christmas candlelight poster

WC – Portfolio holder reports 8th Nov links

Wyre Area Rd Safety Committee – Agenda and last minutes emailed Cllrs Babbs and Cottle

Community Futures – information emailed Cllrs Babbs and Cottle

WC – Overview & Scrutiny Committee agenda 19th Nov link

WC – Planning Committee minutes link 7th Nov

WC – Schedule of executive decisions link

WC – Christmas candlelight poster

WC – Licensing Committee 22nd Nov agenda link

WC – Resources portfolio holder decision notice

WC – Dog control orders See item 7.

Community Futures – Newsletter emailed to Cllrs Babbs and Cottle

LALC – Winter leaflet & annual report

Part funded youth shelter info emailed to Cllr Cottle

LCC – Bus service changes Dec

Lancs Police Authority – New police & crime commissioner

WC – Audit Committee minutes 13th Nov link

WC – Schedule of executive decisions link

WC – Tourism Task Group 8th Nov minutes link

WC – Full Council agenda 29th Nov link

WC – Resources portfolio holder & economy portfolio holder decision notices

LCC – Winter service bulletin refer item 8.

