

**NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes for the PC meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2013, 7.30PM @ Scorton Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs Cottle, Babbs and Atkinson, the clerk, PC Simon Jones, Wyre Borough Cllr Val Wilson, Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins and a member of the public

1. Apologies for absence:

**Cllr Gorst**

2. Declarations of Interest:

**None**

3. Minutes from last meeting:

**Signed as a correct record.**

4. Matters arising:

**Dog fouling (Millennium Way)**

Cllr Cottle showed the Parish Council a selection of posters made by the school children. It was agreed that Cllr Cottle and Cllr Babbs should look at these in more detail and arrange for the lengthsman to put them up. Prizes for the school children are yet to be decided.

**Lower Dolphinholme speed limit**

The clerk reported the response from Highways (Karen Cassar) on the 21<sup>st</sup> October:

*“To introduce a speed restriction at the location is considered to be inappropriate as well as incorrect. At the location it is national speed limit, for that reason there is no safe speed to travel i.e. you drive to the condition of the road and not at 60 MPH. To introduce a speed limit would send out the wrong message i.e. if we were to introduce a speed limit of 30 MPH or 40 MPH we are setting a target speed therefore stating it is safe to drive at that speed on the road. In reality it is not safe to drive at a speed of 30 MPH or 40 MPH.*

*As you mention, at this location the pedestrian activity does not precede the movement of traffic therefore is not suitable for introducing a speed restriction. We have speed management guidelines which we have to follow and when you apply these against the area of highway requested for a speed reduction, the section does meet the criteria therefore technically incorrect to introduce.”*

Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins stated that she will see Karen on Monday and arrange a site visit. The clerk will email her the response and Cllr Babbs' contact details. A member of the public expressed an interest in attending and he asked the clerk to let him know when the meeting would be. The clerk will also inform Ellel Parish Council as well as the Dolphinholme Resident's Association.

### **Speed limit inconsistency (Station Ln)**

The clerk updated the PC regarding the response from Highways (Chandra Dholakia) on the 18<sup>th</sup> Nov:

*"It is evident that a start for the proposed 30mph speed limit has either already been made or is implemented as a number of 30mph signs are already in place. However the 30mph signs at the A6 are missing along with a pole and sign at the bottom of the bridge therefore arrangements will be made for their making good (next 1-2mths).*

*The 30mph will extend from the A6 to down and just over the metal river bridge. This length has street lighting therefore we are happy to proceed on that basis without a TRO.*

*Station Lane between the river bridge and the railway bridge is de-restricted national speed limit, and is then 30mph from the railway bridge up to the start of the new village 20mph speed limit.*

*The above length of the 30mph speed limit is approx only 100m long which is somewhat inappropriate therefore there will be an intention to try and rationalize the speed limit in the area by reducing the national speed limit between the two bridges to down to 30mph as well. However the change in speed limit will again need to be affected through a legal process, which we will try and progress at the same time as the proposed 40mph speed limit on Gubberford Lane."*

### **Cabus Parish Council request for speed limit reduction (Gubberford Lane to A6)**

The clerk updated the PC regarding the response from Highways (Chandra Dholakia) on the 18<sup>th</sup> Nov:

*"I can confirm the request for the first section of the road to be made 30mph was taken to the Wyre Traffic Officer's meeting where approval was reached. The change will be affected through a signing scheme only without the need to undergo a TRO process as the road is illuminated with street lighting.*

*The new 30mph speed limit will apply from the A6 and up to and over the river bridge and stopping at Hazlehead Lane/Woodacre Lodge Farm.*

*In this regard a signing scheme is prepared however I am just waiting on a number of large invoices to come back and this will enable me a clearer indication whether we will be able to fund the scheme from this year's budget or if it will need to be carried over into the next financial year.*

*In addition, with regards to the remaining stretch of Gubberford Lane down to the village 30mph (near bowling club) which is presently de-restricted. This length of road is narrow, bendy, has high verges and is well used by cyclists and as such the County will be willing to support the introduction of a reduced 40mph speed limit along the road. The proposed change in the speed limit will however involve a legal process and as such we will try and progress the matter over the next 12months as more resource (time) becomes available."*

### **Notice board**

Cllr Cottle has not looked into this in detail as yet. He requested the clerk to put this on the next agenda.

### **Rd markings (Tythebarn Lane junction)**

The clerk reported that Chandra Dholakia had responded on the 18<sup>th</sup> October to say that he would come the following week to mark out the extent of the hatched marking. He will then ask the lining team to pick it up the next time they come through the area (within the next 2-3 weeks time).

### **Manhole covers (Junction of Mill Lane/Station Lane)**

The clerk stated that she has been informed by Karen Cassar that the covers are the property of BT and that a defect notice has been sent to them (they should do the work shortly).

#### 5. Open forum:

##### **Police report**

PC Simon Jones stated that there has been no crime or ASB reported this month. He has not checked Lower Dolphinholme as he was unaware it is part of Nether Wyresdale. He will check this next time. He is involved in community speed watch and undertook speed detection on Station Lane. Out of 20 cars, 2-3 were over the speed limit but only by 2-3 MPH.

#### 6. Playing field:

##### **Progress report & MUGA**

Cllr Cottle stated he has not heard anything from Penny Bennett yet regarding the technical drawings and costs.

##### **Dog fouling sign**

Cllr Babbs stated that ordinary “no dog fouling” signs are approx £8. It was felt that a small sign may not be adequate and the sign need to be specific “no dogs on the playing field”. Cllr Babbs will get quotes for this. Cllr Atkinson suggested Vista Print.

#### 7. Bikes & Barrows

Cllr Cottle stated that there will be a meeting within the next 2 weeks.

#### 8. Correspondence/circulated items:

##### **Refer appendix 1. Items to discuss are:**

**LCC – FOB management plan 2014-19 consultation**

**LCC – Consultation re speed limits (Garstang)**

**Local Govt Boundary Commission –Electoral review of Wyre final recommendations**

**No comments to any of the above.**

#### 9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Lancashire County Cllr Perkins reported:

##### **Gritting**

LCC will not grit this winter if temperatures fall below -8 because salt is ineffective when it gets to this temperature.

Wyre Borough Cllr Val Wilson reported:

**Poster** – Val provided a poster “Where to go for advice in Wyre and Fylde” containing contact numbers.

### **Bowgreave Rise Care Home**

Due to the cancellation of the development of the above, this may close as money needs to be spent on it. Val was involved in the scheme to improve the site and she is doing a notice of motion, to try to get the development back on track. The PC stated they would send their comments to the clerk, who will get in touch with the cabinet member for social services at LCC.

### 10. Planning:

**13/00769/FUL** – SS rear ext & addition of pitched roof & new FF window @ Oaktree Cottage, 37 Factory Brow

**The PC agreed the above application in principle but they share the concerns of the Village Hall Committee and would expect their concerns to be addressed.**

### **TPO request**

Cllr Atkinson raised concerns about the ML Planning presentation relating to the proposed caravan site at the land adj to Long Lane. Although no formal application has been received, she felt that a site visit was required with Alan Walbank (TPO officer at Wyre Council) to discuss protection of the trees between Bland’s Cottage and Lea Green (on Long Lane/Trough Rd). The parish council agreed with her concerns that there was a potential for some of these trees and hedges to be removed to facilitate the proposal, particularly relating to visibility. The clerk was asked to contact Alan to arrange this. She will give him Cllr Atkinson’s contact details.

### 11. Decision notices:

**None**

### 12. Highways:

#### **Puddle on Highway (Station Lane)**

Cllr Babbs reported that due to a trough in the road, a large puddle is forming (from Carhouse Cottage due west for 50 metres). Cars are unable to avoid it and a couple of elderly pedestrians have been soaked as they were unable to get out of the way. The clerk was asked to report this to Highways.

### 13. Lengthsman:

#### **Jobs to do**

The clerk was requested to ask the lengthsman to check that the 30MPH signs on Trough Rd/Long Lane can be clearly seen and not obscured by foliage.

## **Jobs undertaken**

The clerk reported jobs done since the last meeting:

*“Wk commencing 14th Oct - Mow tennis court & up to church, then checking round all areas clearing gulley tops, ford at Throstle Nest, then strim to tidy rear of Village Hall as directed .*

*Wk 21st Oct - Finally contacted by Roger Scanlon re painting sight railings, so to C.& C. Supplies to by paint and make arrangements to meet to hand over. Wet day so gulley clearing and litter picking also collected debris from round play area as directed. Sight railings been undercoated.*

*Wk 28th Oct - Met up with community Pay-back to hand over paint, picking up litter and fireworks over Harrisend , Tithebarn & Gubberford Lanes.*

*Wk 4th Nov – Litter picking Play area, tidy hedge and verge after wagon damage at end of Tithebarn, blow leaves off path up to church, L.P. Station Lane, strimming and leaf blowing Mil-Way.”*

## 14. Village Hall:

### **Update**

The clerk reported village hall news as follows:

*“Thanks to Josh for cutting back the weeds in the back garden – disappointingly, the neighbour behind is having a garden sort out and has thrown all their hedge trimmings onto the village hall garden. We need a skip or large trailer to move it all - is this an area that Josh could help us with?*

*We recently held a Christmas fair and we are holding another one in December - we should raise a total of £500 for the hall.*

*We have been approached to hold a New Year’s Eve party at the hall as there isn’t an option for locals this year. This is now looking a possibility but might need a helping hand taking entrance fee on the door on the night - any takers?*

*Our AGM will be held within the next couple of weeks.*

*We responded to the planning application for neighbouring Oaktree Cottage saying we were in favour with development providing the structure of the hall was not damaged long term.”*

## 15. Finance:

Agreed for payment:

**Scorton village hall donation - £600**

**Dolphinholme village hall donation - £200**

**Lengthsman - railings (Long Lane) extra paint – £74.86**

### **6 monthly account update**

The clerk to confirmed funds remaining as at the end of September are £9591.83. End of year balance is estimated at over £6000.

### **Precept and projections 2014/15**

£11,900 shown on figures. The PC requested the clerk to remove the lengthsman bin item (£101), add Penny Bennett's fee of £267.50 and add an amount for the noticeboard. Cllr Cottle will get a price so this can be included. The clerk will then send round new figures that confirm the precept. She will notify Wyre Council as soon as Cllr Cottle provides the price.

#### 16. Health & Safety:

**None**

#### 17. Points of interest:

##### **Wyresdale Crescent Trees**

The clerk reported that Cllr Collinson had received a complaint regarding the removal of trees opposite Wyresdale Crescent. She stated that she has received a response from Alan Walbank (TPO officer Wyre Council) on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct as follows:

*"Your complainant is possibly referring to the removal of an ash tree in the linear area behind the Weavers Court/Mill Lane development. I've given a resident from Weavers Court consent to remove a dying ash tree, but the issue came to light because the resident had been contact by LCC Highways, who had identified them as owner of the tree and were writing to enforce pruning work (as it was felt the tree posed a danger to the highway). I inspected the tree and felt that so much of the canopy was already dead there was little point just pruning it.*

*As to why it and others here have suffered – the development involved dropping ground levels by about 1.5 metres at a short distance from the mature trees to install a brick retaining wall, resulting in large root severance which the affects the heath of the tree. Trees will not usually cope with major root loss, and generally if they do, it's younger trees not mature ones. In spatial terms anyway, the trees have lost out because they are fenced off from the properties so the owners have no sense of owning them, and they now occupy a narrow strip locked between a fence and the adopted highway. I think this is possibly unsustainable and certainly not much use as a TPO because there isn't really sufficient space to insist on replanting of a tree that will grow to an appreciable size. It's one of those instances where trees lost out to the development layout because they haven't been given sufficient space to continue growing or been treated properly during development. Planning permission, which will have been granted by committee rather than an individual officer, takes precedence however and will have overruled the consideration of the TPO at the time."*

##### **Request for change of meeting date for March 2014 from 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.**

The clerk stated she was not available on this night due to her daughter's parents evening which she has only recently been made aware of. The PC agreed to the date change to the 27<sup>th</sup>.

##### **Request for a memorial bench**

The clerk stated she had received a call from a man requesting a memorial bench (preferable on the Millennium Way). The PC agreed but asked the clerk to email Cllr Anderton for his permission. Cllr Atkinson stated she would give the clerk a contact number for one of the countryside rangers, so he could liaise with him to discuss the type of bench and arrange installation.

#### 18. Date of next meeting: **16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014**

**As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.15PM.**

**APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)**

**Wickstead play info**

**LALC – NALC council tax support fund survey**

**WC – Neighbourhood services portfolio holder report 24<sup>th</sup> Oct link**

**WC – Employment & appeals committee agenda 4<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**WC – Full council 17<sup>th</sup> Oct & Cabinet 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct minutes links**

**Clerks & Councils Direct magazine**

**LCC – Briefing note and copy of presentations re shale gas operations in Lancs**

**WC – Overview & Scrutiny minutes 21<sup>st</sup> Oct link**

**LCC – Winter service briefing note**

**WC – planning committee agenda 6<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**LALC - Groundwork training day**

**WC – Schedule of executive decisions links x 2**

**WC – home to school transport consultation**

**WC - Audit committee agenda 12<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**FOB – Bowland bulletin 2013 autumn edition**

**LCC – FOB management plan 2014-19 consultation see item 8**

**WC – Wyre Voice community E-newsletter Nov edition**

**WC – Consultations focus groups for professionals & users/carers**

**WC – Employment & appeals committee minutes 4<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**WC – Neighbourhood portfolio decision (capital programme update 24<sup>th</sup> Oct)**

**WC - Overview & Scrutiny agenda 18<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**Regenda advert 06/11/13**

**Lancashire PCC – Weekly roundup x 2**

**War Memorials Trust magazine**

**WC - Invitation to focus groups**

**WC – Planning committee minutes 6<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**WC – Licensing committee agenda 21<sup>st</sup> Nov link**

**Regenda – Property advert**

**LCC – Speed limit reduction consultation (Garstang) See item 8**

**WC – War memorials info re grants**

**Proludic play info**

**LALC – Crime prevention leaflet**

**LCC – Bus service changes for Dec**

**Community Futures – Annual report** emailed to Cllrs Babbs and Cottle

**Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral review of Wyre final recommendations** See item 8

**WC – Audit committee minutes 12<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**WC – Full Council agenda 28<sup>th</sup> Nov link**

**WC – Overview & scrutiny committee minutes 18<sup>th</sup> Nov link**