

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 7th May 2015, 7.45PM @ Scorton Primary School

Present: Cllrs Anderton, Cottle and Atkinson, the clerk and 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence:

Wyre Cllr Val Wilson

Cllr Annie Collinson

Former parish councillor Colin Babbs

Sanjeev Prashar (who will become a new parish councillor upon completion of the acceptance of office form)

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Police report:

No police present, refer appendix 1 for email reports.

5. Matters arising:

Plaques/memorial garden/ information board

The clerk read the email (26th March) from Colin Babbs as follows:

*“The Blue Plaques. **Thomas Mawson** is not listed on the 1861 Census presumably born after the date of the Census but his family were listed and we may assume he was born at Rushtons on Higher Lane (Ena Rhodes). The family moves to Ingleton where the first listing of Thomas appears in the 1871 and 1881 Census as a “common gardener”. The house he was born in was pulled down and replaced sometime in the 20th century, the new house is too far out of the village and on a private road so I think no point in pursuing that one any further. Page 270 of the Scorton Millennium Book has more details. **John Parkinson** – his family were living in Scorton at the time of the 1841 Census and through to the 1861 Census, but again no mention of John having been born at the date of the Census. He first appears on the 1871 Census at Swinton and again in 1881 at Bolton where he is listed as a qualified Joiner aged 19 and he emigrates to America aged 21. The Census has no clear indication of which cottage his family lived in, just listing the mill cottages along with all the neighbours. Will try to pursue other lines of enquiry to try to pin point the exact location.”*

Cllr Anderton suggested that something commemorative could be incorporated into the MUGA once established due to the fact that it cannot be determined where exactly they resided. He requested that this be kept on file for future reference.

Blocked gully (Wagon Rd, Nr Wyreside Hall)

The clerk reported the details shown on the LCC Highways website which states that arrangements have been made for the gully to be checked and cleaned as required. This was actioned on 24th March. Cllr Anderton stated this could be rechecked.

Resurfacing request for Station Lane and Gubberford Lane

The clerk reported that Station Lane is not on the list as confirmed by Paul Dunne (Highways) but that all roads are reassessed annually and included as necessary. He said the following regarding Gubberford Lane (between the A6 and the river) on 15th April:

“Resurfacing schemes have already been assigned for the current financial year and although this road has been identified as requiring treatment it is currently 7th on the list for a future commissioning plan. This position may change in year depending upon how other schemes fare throughout the year and this may push it up the list or conversely move it down when ranked and prioritized with other schemes. That said, we will undertake any necessary safety repairs that are identified following inspections in the intervening period.”

Upgrade of road sign (street name), outside Pear Tree Cottage

The clerk reported that Wyre Council (Asset management) are dealing. Cllr Cottle suggested including Brook Ave which is in a poor state. The clerk will contact them again.

Rubbish to the read of the village hall

The clerk read the email response from the homeowner which states that all building materials have been removed along with several loads of green rubbish left by whoever replaced the roof of the shed belonging to the hall.

Street sweeping

The clerk read a further response from John Bettle (Wyre Council St Scene) via Wyre Cllr Val Wilson on the 20th March:

“I must relay that even though we have a 3 week schedule in place, the Street Cleansing service is actually based on an out-turn as opposed to a frequency led specification, which in real terms means the areas are swept as and when required. Schedules are also affected by Operational issues where have to divert staff or machinery away from the schedule therefore fixed dates when a machine will attend is impracticable.

The requirement to sweep is based on the National measurement produced by DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs) in a code of practice produced to specifically deal with litter, and rates cleanliness of a road between “A” (perfectly clean) and “D” (heavily littered). Using the code of practice means the service is operating on visible evidence, as opposed to perception of cleanliness, and I can confirm that levels A to B- are acceptable standards, with C+ to D- being unacceptable, and the Council’s sweeping regime is designed to ensure your area does not deteriorate to a recognized unacceptable level. The mechanical sweepers undertaking the work in Wyre are designed to sweep both footpaths (which type of sweeper depends on the size and make-up of the footpath) and channels (between the kerb-edge and the start of the carriageway).

All sweepers should sweep up to the kerb-line, but the machines are fitted with suction equipment operating like a large vacuum which is very close to the ground, and if the carriageway has significant damage or the road surface falls away towards the channel at a significant gradient the suction equipment could sustain significant damage, if the operator attempted to sweep the area, but if you find an area where this is happening please make me aware and I will investigate the matter and give relevant

feedback. I must also stress that the biggest hindrance to the sweeping operation being completed is stationary vehicles.

Wyre have been undertaking footpath sweeping throughout the Borough for approximately 18 months, but the task has proven to be slower than anticipated as the build-up of detritus was significant, due to this form of cleansing not being carried out for several years. However, even though we have the code of practice in place we are targeting a minimum of an annual sweep of all footpaths throughout the Borough.

I have previously provided a map of the routes the sweeper covers and this was handed over by me to the parish clerk."

6. Open forum:

A member of the public reported the following:

Notice board

He wants to see the notice board replaced as soon as possible. See item 16.

20MPH signs

He stated that drivers are ignoring these. The PC requested the clerk to contact Highways to see if they could make a flashing speed sign available to highlight the speed limit to drivers.

7. Playing field:

Progress report

Cllr Cottle stated that the lottery funding decision has been delayed until 7th May.

Playground check list

The clerk made available the list provided by the previous lengthsman and stated that the current lengthsman had inspected the playing field on 28/04/15.

Playing field mowing

Cllr Cottle stated that he had undertaken some mowing.

The clerk said that Cllr Collinson has stated that school are responsible. Cllr Cottle requested the clerk to request a copy of the grass cutting contract from school.

Playing field inspection report & replacement equipment

The clerk stated that Cllr Collinson has confirmed that John (lengthsman) should be working through the list of repairs.

The clerk stated that Cllr Collinson has recommended that the seat to the tyre swing (£500) should be replaced. The PC agreed to pay for this.

8. Bikes & Barrows:

Cllr Cottle reported the following:

There is a review meeting taking place on Tuesday 26th May in the Chapel at 7.30PM which will include the committee and reps from village organisations. The purpose of this meeting is to decide on a way forward. Accounts will also be discussed.

9. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items to discuss are:

LCC – Public Rights of Way improvement Plan CONSULTATION no comments

NALC – Audit arrangements

The clerk confirmed that the external audit arrangements still apply (for parishes under 25k) until financial year 2017/18 and in the meantime, they are subject to the mandatory publishing requirements of the transparency code also.

WC – Planning training

The PC requested the clerk to email David Thow to express their concerns over the £60 cost of the training session.

10. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

No Wyre Council or LCC members present.

11. Planning:

15/00145/FUL - SS rear ext @ 10 Station Lane, Scorton

15/00149/FUL - Erection of two storey side & rear ext plus SS rear ext @ Ashbourne Cottage, Cleveley Bank Lane

Notification of no objection sent on 19/4/15 regarding both the above.

12. Decision notices:

15/00022/FUL - SS Rear ext and FF side ext above existing GG @ The Hollies, Scorton Hall Park **Permitted**

15/00069/FUL - Erection of replacement dwelling @ Ash Lea, Station Lane **Permitted**

13. Highways:

The following matters were raised:

- ❖ Potholes on Snow Hill Lane.
- ❖ Gullies are blocked on Higher Lane including opposite Arkmire House.
- ❖ The road surface requires repair at the edges on Higher Lane. It was suggested that an engineer attend site to assess this and the gullies. At the location of the problem there is a cone near it.

14. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated his job sheet.

Jobs to be done

No specific jobs raised.

Line manager

PC to discuss further at the next meeting when all cllrs are present and vacancy hopefully filled.

New lengthsman insurance

The PC agreed to the cover provided in the email sent by Cllr Collinson on 1st April.

New lengthsman contract 2015/16

The PC will discuss the new contract at the next meeting when there are more cllrs present.

New lengthsman training

The clerk contacted Linda Anderson about this and she recommended dealing with Dave Padley. Cllr Collinson has not been in contact with him as yet.

The clerk also contacted Jan Finch (clerk to Stalmine) who stated that her parish accesses training through Myerscough, but these courses are not cheap. She stated that there is no list of what training a Lengthsman should have but in her parish, the lengthsman has done Roadside Working training which ensures they and other road users are kept safe when litter picking, grass cutting etc along the highway. They also ask him to weedspray so he has done the training on that so that he understands mixture ratios and all the personal protective equipment requirements. One of theirs has also done chainsaw training. She recommends the Roadside Working and Weedspraying be undertaken as these are essential.

The PC will discuss this further at the next meeting.

15. Village Hall:

No update received.

16. Finance:

account update

The clerk confirmed remaining funds as per bank statement as £10,004.25 (year end) and as at 9th April, £22,409.25.

Items approved for payment:

Lengthsman invoice (APRIL) - £422.50

Parish Council insurance - £354.74

Items for discussion:

Notice board – The clerk state that Cllr Collinson had agreed to chase this up.

Wayleave cheque

The clerk discussed the receipt of this cheque (£25) which is for laying of 4 metres of cable on the playing field. Paperwork was signed by Cllr Collinson who hadn't realised that the name and address details were incorrect. She has made many calls (where she couldn't get through) to try to resolve the issue that the cheque was in the name of Nether Wyreside Parish Council in error. She has spoken to various individuals a total of 6 times and sent two emails which were ignored. She has finally got the matter in hand and Openreach are sending her an envelope to return the cheque and payment will be reissued (by BACS).

17. Health & Safety:

None

18. Points of interest:

Parish Council vacancy

The PC agreed to defer this until June due to cllr absences. Also, no public present wanted to fill the vacancy. The clerk stated that the vacancy is advertised on the notice board.

The PC suggested that the clerk ask Wyre Council what the requirements are in terms of increase size in the village, for another position on the parish council to be created so that if there is more than one person interested in joining, this could be accommodated.

Cllr Cottle suggested sending a letter to John Gorst thanking him for his years of service.

Pension requirements for the clerk

Prior to the meeting, the clerk circulated the pensions briefing and she explained the requirement for registration with the pension's regulator (she will be the point of contact). She falls into the lowest earnings bracket and therefore there is no requirement for the parishes to pay in if they decided to enrol in a pension scheme. They asked for the clerk's opinion but she said she did not earn enough for it to be viable.

Disposable Pecuniary Interests and Other Interests forms

The clerk has circulated copies and requested that these be returned at the next meeting so they can be scanned in and forwarded to Wyre Council.

Bank Forms

The clerk stated that she has a form ready to remove and add signatories. Cllr Atkinson said this can all be done together as the existing signatories will have to sign the form. This need to be deferred until the June meeting as some cllrs are absent and there is also a vacancy to be filled by co-option.

19. Date of next meeting: **4th June 2015**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.50PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

LCC – Winter service bulletin 12th – 19th March, 19th-26th, 26th March – 2nd April and final bulletin

LCC - Public Rights of Way improvement Plan CONSULTATION see item 9

LCC – Copy of temporary road closure (Trough Rd)

Preesall Underground Gas Storage info

Came & Co – Spring newsletter

CPRE – letter re neighbourhood planning

Community Futures – April Newsletter & AGM

Police – Crime summary March and end of year

LALC – Newsletter, spring conference & war memorials

WC – Community E-Newsletter April 2015

Damien Ibster – Pre-planning consultation letters

WC – Shaping your neighbourhood £60,000 on offer

WC – Mayor civic forces event chairman invite

NALC – Audit arrangements see item 9

WC – Planning training see item 9

LCC – May bus service changes

LCC – Briefing re inert waste delivery

Charity Commission news

FOB – Bulletin April

Clerks & Council's Direct magazine

Val Wilson – Active communities fund