

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 17th October 2019, 7.30PM @ Scorton Primary School

**Present: Cllrs Atkinson, Drinnan, Cottle and Collinson,
Wyre Councillor Jonny Leach, Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner,
the clerk and a member of the public**

1. Apologies:

Cllr Kenyon

Cllr Hantom

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising (from last meeting):

Plaques and village enhancement

Cllrs Drinnan & Cottle reported the following:

- ❖ Cllr Drinnan circulated a report of costings confirming the total cost of the lighting scheme as £16,408.00.
- ❖ Contributions agreed to date are: Nether Wyresdale PC £3000, Lancashire CC £3750, Private sector contributions £1996, Bikes and Barrows Committee £6662 Other pledge £250 & Champion Bowland £750.
- ❖ Cllr Drinnan stated that the scheme covers 19 locations in the conservation area and a survey has been carried out in each location to establish what is required. This has been agreed with LCC.
- ❖ Cllr Cottle stated that The Priory have also agreed to a donation of £500 towards the scheme.

The clerk stated it would be better for all contributors to send cheques payable to LCC and for the PC to collate these together along with their own cheque for £3000 and post on to LCC all at the same time. She explained it may be problematic to pay everything into the PC account first because this may generate an audit next year which would incur a cost. It was suggested that monies could instead be paid into Bikes and Barrows who could pay LCC directly. The PC agreed.

Grass area (Wyresdale Crescent)

It has been ascertained that the area is owned by LCC but maintained by Wyre Council. Cllr Drinnan stated he would need a contact for LCC in order to liaise with them. Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner will email the clerk a contact which she will forward to Cllr Drinnan.

B4RN

Cllr Atkinson stated that she has been liaising with Felicity and the PC have been asked whether they would agree to a donation if a junction box was installed on Snow Hill Lane. The PC are open to potentially making a donation. The PC felt that more volunteers would be required to take things forward.

Millennium Way audit

Cllr Atkinson has received no contact from Alison Bowden (Wyre Council Coast & Countryside Service) since the last meeting.

Inventory of benches in the parish (to ascertain their condition)

As above.

Roadside Mowing

The clerk reported the further reply from Highways on 12th September. They had requested details of areas that were missed so that they could follow up with the contractors. This was forwarded to Cllr Atkinson. She confirmed that she has not contacted Highways. The PC suggested that this should be monitored for the time being.

Condition of the roads (Gubberford Lane and Station Lane)

The clerk reported the response from Highways (Phil Steed) on 12th September following concerns raised by members of the public as well as the request for a site visit as follows:

“We inspect all the roads in our care at least once a year, and busier roads more often. These help identify any defects which meet our minimum investigatory level. For carriageways, this means we repair any defect of 40mm deep or greater and 150mm wide.

We also carry out video surveys each year to help compile our annual resurfacing programme. We consider a number of factors when doing this, including: the asset's strategic importance, the number of reported defects, the volume and speed of traffic and its proximity to major utilities (such as hospitals). We repeat this survey and assessment work each year to capture any ongoing deterioration. This helps ensure we only put forward the most deserving schemes.

Our annual resurfacing programme aligns with our long term maintenance plan, or TAMP (Transport Asset Management Plan). This takes a proactive approach to help ensure we carry out preventative maintenance at the most appropriate time, using the most cost-effective solution. This in turn reduces the rate of deterioration, preventing the need for more costly maintenance sooner than would normally be required.

Unfortunately, previous assessments have not placed the main gateway roads in Scorton on one of our resurfacing programmes. We will look to include them in a future programme in due course, in line with the above criteria. In the meantime, we will continue to inspect these roads every 3 months to ensure they remain in a safe and serviceable condition.

As I hope you can appreciate, our officers receive many requests for site meetings, which can be very resource intensive. As such, we only accommodate such requests if they would help our understanding of an issue, or if we have topics which would benefit from an on-site discussion. Based on the above, we do not consider a site meeting necessary at this time.”

Inaccessible footpath (Taylor's Farm)

The clerk reported the responses from LCC. A standard letter was received on 25/9 to say that the PC would be contacted when this has been resolved or closed.

A more detailed response was received from David Goode on 24th September which was forwarded to PC members as follows:

"Thank you for your email regarding the footpath 2-19-FP27 at Taylor's Farm, Nether Wyresdale. We have inspected the site and there is indeed an issue where users cross the stream there although the resolution might cause more problems for the residents. The County Council gives a higher priority to reports of defects and obstructions of public rights of way where the Parish Council requests that they do so - please can you confirm that your email is to be taken as such a request?"

There is a slope on the east side and a difficult, steep one on the west which appears to have been caused by a fairly recent reprofiling of the bank. At higher water levels crossing the beck itself might be tricky. There is no evidence that there ever was a footbridge. However, the footpath on the ground has been pushed to different line at Taylor's Farm and to a lesser extent at Wyrebeck.

The footpath as indicated by residents' signs and available on the ground runs from Long Lane, and up the track past Wyrebeck then before the field gates it turns right through a pedestrian gate onto the driveway for Taylor's Farm. It follows the right fork keeping away from the house at Taylor's Farm then takes a later constructed way east of the garden to a the beck at a point where the bank has been built up to 1m above the water. There is no provision for crossing the beck but a stile a few metres east of that point provides access into the field and towards Lane Head.

The legal line of the footpath does not turn right through the pedestrian gate but keeps straight to cut through the hedge a few metres further on (where there should be a gap), follows the verge of the drive then through the garden of Taylor's Farm (via a gap at each boundary) turning at the south-west corner of the house to cross the beck and over to the field and towards Lane Head.

Options for the residents are to open the legal line or to apply for a diversion onto the currently available line (with a ditch crossing over the beck)."

Cllr Collinson stated that the residents are happy with current arrangements therefore it was agreed that no further action is required.

5. Open forum:

Hedges (Station Lane)

A member of the public stated that in at least two locations there is severe overgrowth. Cllr Atkinson stated that Cllr Kenyon has mentioned this and he was informed the hedges will be cut soon. She agreed to contact one of the landowners and the PC decided to wait until the next meeting regarding the hedge owned by 6 Arches Caravan Park to see if this had been cut and if not, consideration could be given to sending a letter at that time.

Street lighting

A member of the public stated that the street lighting on Gubberford Lane near the railway bridge is not up to standard which is an issue because it is a main walking route into the village. He also stated that several of the lights on Station Lane (Cabus Parish) are overgrown.

6. Playing field:

Progress report

Cllr Collinson reported that she has had a meeting with Mike from Kompan who has indicated he is willing to repair equipment if the PC buy something new. She suggested that the climbing frame could be replaced with a space net which in the brochure costs £10,000 although this could be purchased cheaper. He made the suggestion of getting new seats for the swings but said most other equipment requires repainting and there is a special paint for this purpose. She said in the longer term, the trim trail equipment could be replaced. She stated that all materials used by Kompan are metal.

The PC are happy with Cllrs Collinson's suggestion of the lengthsman doing the repainting and are happy to progress the upgrade by replacing 1 piece of equipment and having the others repaired.

7. Bikes & Barrows:

None

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items discussed:

Wyre Council polling district and place review

Cllr Collinson said this was a waste of time as there were no changes and she thought there should be fewer polling stations. Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner stated it was important that the polling stations be accessible for all. The PC had no comments to make therefore Cllr Collinson will submit her own personal observations.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Lancashire County Council

See item 12 (Harrisend Fell).

Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner also reported that Wyre Council now has a full complement of planning enforcement officers. They have caught up on all outstanding cases and are taking action where breaches have occurred.

Wyre Council

Wyre Cllr Jonny Leach reported the following:

- ❖ He requested that if there are any areas where the PC are wanting to carry out planting, to let him know and he can look into this.
- ❖ He asked that if there are any items of interest to go in an edition of the Wyre Voice magazine to let him know.
- ❖ Recycling has been improved and it is now possible to recycle more than previously. In April/May, new bins will be provided as new trucks will be available to lift them.
- ❖ With regard to waste collection, if anyone has difficulty moving their bin for collection, they can register with Wyre Council and they will do this for them.

10. Planning:

None

11. Decision notices(status):

19/00674/LAWE - Certificate of lawful use for existing use of land as residential curtilage
@ Bluebell Barn Higher Lane Scorton **Lawful**

12. Highways:

Road sweeping (Gubberford Lane)

Cllr Collinson said that this needed doing. It was confirmed that that they had recently visited. The clerk will request them to revisit and include Gubberford Lane as this has been missed previously.

Harrisend Fell

Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner confirmed that work would be undertaken to improve the situation regarding the gullies and he had a discussion about resurfacing the road but was informed that in comparison with other roads, it did not meet the criteria. He will put this road forward for surface dressing for next year. Cllr Atkinson will also report a separate issue with this road.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the latest time sheet prior to the meeting.

Jobs to be done

The PC requested that he keep the gullies free from leaves and also to clear vegetation from near the bench opposite the shop.

14. Village Hall:

No update

15. Finance:

account update

The clerk will report the balance at the next meeting.

Items approved for payment:

Lengthsman invoice September - £630.00

Lengthsman invoice P/F mowing - £160.00

Item to discuss:

Defibrillator pads

The PC agreed to fund the replacement pads. Cllr Atkinson will obtain an invoice.

16. Health & Safety:

No health and safety concerns raised.

17. Points of interest:

Legend Fires North West Stages rally

The clerk confirmed that in light of representations received, the decision has been made by the organisers to revise the stage start location so that it is in the same place that they used for the 2019 event.

18. Date of next meeting: **7th November (PRECEPT)**

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

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

**LALC – Addendum – policy consultation E-briefing 9/19 independent review of
Local Government Audit**

WC – items published 27/8 links

WC – Planning agenda & minutes 4/9 link

WC – Cabinet agenda & minutes 4/9 link

Rural Services Network (RSN) – rural bulletins 28/8, 3/9, 10/9, 17/9, 24/9

WC – Flood Forum meeting 12/9 notification

WC – Items published 29/8 links

WC – Schedule of executive decisions 29/8, 1/10

WC – Overview & scrutiny agenda & minutes 9/9 link

WC – Licensing minutes 29/8 link

WC – Press release: fine for taxi driver

RSN – Rural funding digest September

LCC – Bus service changes October

WC – Item published 5/9 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 12/9 link

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

WC – Flood Forum 12th September

LCC – Rd closure Oakenclough Rd 23/10 – 25/10

LALC – Accounts 2018/19

LALC – Policy consultation E-briefing 10-19 -SG mobile coverage in rural areas

WC – Item published 12/9 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 19/9 link

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 12/9 links

WC – Overview & scrutiny agenda & minutes 23/9 links

WC – Licensing agenda 26/9 link

LALC – September newsletter

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 4 19/9 links

LALC – Policy consultation E-briefing 11 – NAO code of practice part 2

WC – Planning agenda 2/10 link

WC – Council agenda 3/10 link

LCC – Cosy homes in Lancashire

WC – Item published 26/9 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 3/10 link

WC – Items published 27/9 links