

## NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes for the PC meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 7.30PM @ Scorton Chapel

**Present: Cllrs Cottle, Drinnan, Collinson, Kenyon and Hantom, the clerk and Alison Boden (Wyre Council Coast & Countryside manager)**

1. Apologies:

**Cllr Atkinson**

2. Declarations of Interest:

**None**

3. Minutes from last meeting:

**Signed as a correct record.**

4. Matters arising (from previous meeting/s):

#### **Village enhancement**

Cllr Drinnan stated that the bracket on The Barn will be sorted imminently (he will inform the proprietor).

He has raised some issues with LCC, one relating to the painting of the columns. They are currently matt finish whereas gloss is normally used. LCC has stated they will look at this. Cllr Drinnan has also reminded LCC that three other columns that have not had new tops fitted are two on Factory Brow and one in Springfield Gardens. These were shown on the schedule and agreed with LCC to be painted.

#### **B4RN**

It was confirmed that it has not come across the motorway yet. There is currently no timescale for further progress or connection. Cllr Collinson will make enquiries.

#### **Parking problems (Higher Lane)**

Pending. Item to be included on next agenda.

#### **Springfield Gardens**

Cllr Collinson has the contact details of the warden in case of any issues.

#### **Flooding (Lower Dolphinholme)**

Cllr Hantom stated that the drains have now been done but there is some finishing off to do including tidying debris from the drains and road sweeping. The clerk was asked to request Highways to complete this.

## **Millennium Way audit**

The PC discussed with Alison Boden as follows.

She has conducted a survey in December 2019 during which all structures on the route were visited. The biggest issue found was rot to some of the timbers (including path edging), otherwise, most of the path was deemed to be satisfactory. It was identified that the tapping rails in certain areas particularly on the field side require attention. 600 metres was looked at and to replace the rails for this distance would cost £5,500. She mentioned other individual costs and explained that there were three options to consider:

Undertake all the work at once.

Do the work in phases.

Do the worst affected sections only.

She stated that to keep costs down it may be worth removing some of the tapping rail altogether unless it is necessary for safety, although she explained the disadvantages of doing this. She has identified that there is a supply shortage when it comes to wood. Cllr Collinson suggested metal which would improve longevity and Cllr Kenyon suggested plastic that resembles wood although it is not known what effect the sun would have (making it brittle).

Alison stated that the most effective thing for the partially sighted was to ensure there is a decent edging board so the borders of the path is distinct. She said the focus should also be on the passing places and ensuring the path itself is stable.

Cllr Drinnan stated that a full audit is required and liability needs to be established. He said that as this is a permissive path it is outside the remit of LCC and is therefore a grey area.

With regards to the full audit, Alison stated that it is important another section is looked at as she thinks that this is in potentially worse condition than the first section. When work is agreed, she confirmed that she could commit to once a week (Tuesday's and Thursday's available) and the rule of six would apply although this could include volunteers from the village by arrangement. Potentially, work could start in November and suggested that the Environment Agency could be consulted as well.

Cllr Cottle said for the PC to get funding, guidance costings would be needed as evidence in order to apply.

The PC agreed the following actions regarding the Millennium Way:

- ❖ Obtain guidance costings for funding request.
- ❖ Cllr Collinson to investigate sourcing cost-effective materials (Alison has supplied her with the list).
- ❖ Cllr Drinnan to look into liability.
- ❖ The clerk was requested to include on Asset register which she will do as “Asset of community value”
- ❖ Alison to complete the audit.

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

Alison Boden stated that an inventory of condition of benches has been done on the Millennium Way only. The ones on private land are outside her remit.

### **Website Accessibility**

The clerk enquired whether Steve Elliot has made progress. She confirmed that she has resent by email all the relevant details relating to the proposed site on 27<sup>th</sup> August but as she did not receive an acknowledgement, she is unsure as to whether he received the information.

The clerk was asked whether she could have a similar arrangement as with her other parishes. She confirmed that it was not possible to set up a site similar to her others (which are google sites) due to the fact that these were pre-existing and the regulations state that anything set up now must comply with WCAG2.

Cllr Collinson stated that she will contact Wyre Council to see if PC information can be uploaded onto their site. The clerk informed her that they have already said no. Cllr Collinson will try again anyway and if unsuccessful, the PC agreed that she ask Steve Elliott to create a site using Site 123.

The PC are mindful of ongoing costs and this is the foremost consideration.

### 5. Open forum:

#### **Planters (The Priory)**

The clerk reported the email from Robert Swales (WC) on 25<sup>th</sup> August which states that the member of the public does not wish to proceed with any claim. He also states that he has a concern that as the planters have been identified, whether they have had planning permission to place them on a public highway. Cllr Collinson stated it was her understanding that permission has been sought previously.

#### **Footpath (Taylor's Farm)**

The PC requested the clerk to report this to report to PRoW (LCC) and David Goode following a further report from a member of the public. Also refer item 13 (PRoW).

## **Other matters**

A member of the public contacted the clerk to report the following:

- ❖ Littering outside The Barn. She clears away rubbish as well due to her proximity to The Barn but has no gloves and is reluctant to handle some of this due to the current situation. She asked whether the lengthsman would do this.

The PC stated that the lengthsman is very busy at present and that regular litter picking is done on a voluntary basis. Cllr Drinnan will inform The Barn of a potential issue.

- ❖ Request for a bin outside The Barn. In relation to the above, as rubbish is generated by visitors to The Barn, she asked whether a litter bin could be installed.

The PC stated another bin is not necessary as there is one near the playing field as well as a further two near the shop and at Springfield Gardens.

- ❖ Pothole on the Highway outside The Barn. She said some attempt has been made to fill this with stone but it is getting bigger all the time and cars are scraping the road when they go down it.

Cllr Drinnan will make enquiries to establish that it is Highways and he will inform the clerk accordingly.

## **Highway matters**

A member of the public emailed the clerk to report the following. This was forwarded to the PC prior to the meeting. In brief the matters raised were:

- ❖ Blocked gullies (Gubberford Lane between Tithebarn Lane and the railway bridge).
- ❖ Overgrown hedges (various locations).
- ❖ Condition of the highway (Stations Lane and Gubberford Lane).
- ❖ Overgrown verges (Station Lane)
- ❖ Network Rail blocking footways on Station Lane and Gubberford Lane.

The clerk was asked to report all above to Highways.

## **Request for a bench**

A member of the public contacted Cllr Cottle regarding placing a bench on Higher Lane. The PC agreed that he should provide a map with the location.

## **Request from Cockerham Football Club**

Cllr Collinson said that they had requested use of the Scorton Multi Use Games Area for training nights during winter. The PC agreed.

6. Playing field:

**None**

7. Bikes & Barrows:

**None**

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Item to discuss:

**LALC – Consultation on planning changes & the white paper (Wyre Council)**

The clerk referred the PC to the latest email from Wyre Council which states a summary of proposals. The clerk also informed them of comments from a Lancashire County Cllr who described planning changes as disastrous. He had said the government's intention is to simplify the planning system to enable building of more houses. In effect, this makes things easier for developers and potentially make much more demand for building in rural areas as well as having the effect of placing less emphasis on local voices and making it more difficult for rural communities to resist development. He confirmed that in relation to the Local Plan, he believes preparation for any new Local Plan process would start in around 5 years' time and any potential changes would have to be part of a new plan.

Cllr Drinnan said he would circulate a summary sheet. Cllr Cottle has read the proposals and the PC had no comments to make.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

**No representatives in attendance.**

10. Planning:

**20/00668/FUL** - Agricultural livestock building @ Salisbury Farm Long Lane Scorton

**Notification of no objection sent 31/07/20 regarding the above.**

**20/00688/FUL** - Roof over existing silage clamp Location: Dolphinholme House Wagon Road

**Notification of no objection sent 11/08/20 regarding the above.**

**20/00755/FUL** - Erection of one detached dwelling (part retrospective) @ Land At Gubberford Lane Scorton

**The PC wish to comment regarding inadequate drainage. Cllr Drinnan will prepare a response and circulate. The clerk stated that this was time critical.**

## 11. Decision notices(status):

**20/00304/FUL** – (Conversion of existing outbuilding to provide one holiday let @ Lea Green Farm Long Lane Scorton) **Permitted**

**16/00969/DIS** – (DIS discharge of condition 3 {drainage}, 4 {contamination}, 5 {gas protection}, 7 {method statement works near trees}, 8 {tree protection plan} and 10 {levels} on outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling with integral garage and associated access {all other matters reserved} @ Land Adjacent to Wyresdale House Sandwell Brow Scorton **Split decision**

## 12. Highways:

### **Potholes**

Cllr Collinson stated that there is one at Daisy Clough Nursery on left hand side driving north. There is also a pothole on Station Lane at Hill Foot Farm near the railway bridge in the middle of the road. The clerk to report to Highways.

### **Blocked drain**

It was reported that there is a drain problem near Kettlewell and Snowhill Lane near Scorton Primary School entrance. The clerk to report to Highways.

## 13. Lengthsman:

### **Jobs undertaken**

The clerk circulated the latest time sheet by email.

### **Jobs to be done**

The PC agreed that the shrubs need pruning near the play area. Cllr Collinson will inform the lengthsman.

### **PRoW (Public Right's of Way)**

The clerk stated that she has been notified by David Goode that there are no officers in the north of the county and he suggested any repairs to footpaths could be done using this money. She confirmed that LCC had increased the amount given to parishes to £500. NWPC are not currently in the scheme as no PRoW job sheet had been submitted previously by the lengthsman.

The PC agreed that when the information comes again next year, they should re-join the scheme. The clerk stated that a form must be submitted showing the Public Rights of Way work that has been done. Cllr Collinson requested the clerk to send her a copy of the form which she will complete on his behalf.

## 14. Village Hall:

Cllr Cottle stated there had been an issue with the new flood being too slippery but this has now been resolved.

15. Finance:

**Account update**

The clerk confirmed the latest balance as at 1/9 = **£22,444.55.**

Items approved for payment:

**Lengthsman fees (July) – £609 fees & £10.33 materials = £619.33**

**Lengthsman fees (August) - £882 & £6.98 petrol = £888.98**

**Lengthsman grass cutting (July) - £160.00**

**Lengthsman grass cutting (Aug) - £160.00**

**Dolphinholme village hall donation - £600**

**Scorton village hall donation - £1000**

**Clerk (office equipment new computer) – £120.00**

**LALC subscription (original cheque lost in post) - £181.80**

Other item:

**Scorton Methodist Chapel (Scorton taxi) donation - £200**

The above item is in abeyance due to Covid-19.

16. Health & Safety:

**The PC had no health and safety concerns.**

17. Points of interest:

**Current regulations on holding meetings**

Due to some confusion on this issue with another parish, the clerk stated that NALC recommended using remote meetings. MHCLG also recommend that “where meetings can take place digitally without the need for face to face contact, they should continue to do so”. However, the actual principal regulations: **“Continue to permit local councils to hold meetings (now as an exemption to the six-person gathering limit) in Covid secure premises”** as per the emails from NALC on 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September.

18. Date of next meeting: **22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 (Scorton Chapel)**

**As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.30PM**

## **APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)**

**WC – Item published 13/7 link**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 28/7 link**

**WC – Item published 16/7 link**

**WC – Employment and Appeals minutes 13/7 link**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 23/7 link**

**NALC – Coronavirus update for guidance on managing play areas**

**WC – Dog control order consultation**

**Rural Services Network (RSN) – Rural bulletin 21/7, 28/7, 4/8, 11/8, 18/8, 25/8, 2/9, 8/9**

**LALC – EPC4 – Communities framework & the devolution white paper**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions 23/7 x 2 links**

**WC – Licensing agenda, supplement and minutes 24/7 links**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions 3/8 link**

**B4RN – plan and costs plus info x 6**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions 3/8 x 2 links**

**NALC – Coronavirus update on use of community facilities**

**WC – Press release: Wyre’s future High St’s fund bid submitted**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions 28/7 x 2 links**

**WC - Item published 29/7 link**

**WC – Licensing agenda, supplement & minutes 30/7 links**

**LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts August & September**

**Environment Agency – River Lune Salmon byelaws & net limitation order  
consultation**

**RSN – Rural funding digest August & September**

**WC – Items published 4/8 links**

**WC – Schedule of executive decisions 4/8**

**WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 3/8 links**

**Legend Fires North West Stages 2021 – clarification of start point**

**LALC – Planning consultations see item 8**

**LCC – Rd Closure Trough Rd, Dunsop Bridge 28/9 (4 weeks)**

**WC – Wyre re Flood Forum cancellation of meeting**

**LALC – Chief executives bulletin**

**WC – August update from Wyre**

**Community Futures – information bulletin**

**LCC – Switch to cycling campaign article**

**WC – Flood Forum Wyre NFM investment readiness update**

**Clerks & Councils Direct magazine**

**Shaun Turner – Garstang recycling and reuse centre**

**WC – Item published 19/8**

**LALC – Making spaces for water minutes**

**WC – Making Spaces for Water minutes**

**WC – LRF stakeholder bulletin**

**NALC – rebuilding communities (planning)**

**WC – Covid -19 update**

**WC – Council agenda 9/9 link**

**WC – Item published 10/9 link**

**NALC – Rebuilding communities**

**WC – License for Christmas trees and decorations (letter)**