

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 6th May 2021, 7.45PM @ Scorton Chapel

Present: Cllrs Cottle, Drinnan, Kenyon, Collinson, Atkinson & Hantom, the clerk and a member of the public

1. Apologies:

Sgt Guy Hamlett (see item 17)

Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

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

New website

The clerk provided an update from Steve on Wednesday. He spoke with two people from the web company on Tuesday morning to sort out a few things. He says the new site is a very different format to the old one. He has populated the list of councillors. Meetings are now shown on a calendar and associated papers are linked to the calendar event. He has created meetings for May with the agendas attached. He plans that the website should go live today.

Village enhancement

Cllr Drinnan stated he is still awaiting the invoice from LCC.

He suggested he could re-circulate the ideas emailed originally in order to revisit further action to take things forward post Covid. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

B4RN

Cllr Kenyon stated that a box is required at the bowling green and the church has to decide which is the best route out of three options to get it there.

Millennium Way audit

Cllr Collinson confirmed the following:

- ❖ Upgrade is over halfway completed.
- ❖ 40 tonne of stone invoice yet to be submitted.
- ❖ No action yet regarding the disabled ramp.
- ❖ Cabus PC has informed her that they will not make a contribution due to the fact that it is of limited benefit to their parish and they do not have the funds to donate.

The clerk stated that she had been unable to find Cabus PC's officially minuted decision not to contribute. Cllrs Collinson and Cottle have also been unable to find this. The clerk was requested to ask Cabus PC for a copy of their minutes where this decision is documented in order to confirm this has been decided formally and for the clerk's records.

Parking issues/traffic on the village

The clerk reported that Mark O'Donnell has provided an update today. He has discussed with his team and they are hoping to programme the works (patching on Snowhill Lane, setts work outside the Barn) for over the coming weeks / light nights. This will need to be discussed with The Barn as well. He is trying to arrange for the correct highways traffic team to get in touch regarding the parking situation. He is hoping someone will be in contact with the PC early next week. He confirmed that once he has specific dates on things, he will be in touch.

It had been discussed with Mark that consideration could be given to the use of Church Drive (when not in use for school or church events), in order to provide extra parking provision with the possible inclusion of an honesty box. The PC agreed that the Vicar should be contacted for his feedback. The clerk will email him.

Refer appendix 2 for a summary of discussions with Mark O'Donnell as per email of 8th April.

Forest of Bowland Wildflowers for the meadows campaign

Cllr Collinson confirmed that the lengthsman has spread some seed and that the Millennium Way will not be strimmed this year. It was noted that LCC has strimmed recently and left clumps of wild flowers.

Children's play area

Cllr Cottle provided an update regarding potential replacement flooring to alleviate flooding. He confirmed that Mark Billington (Wyre Council) had been very helpful and attached details of two firms that deal with safety surfaces and offered further assistance. Cllr Cottle stated he had contacted the company who do the playground annual checks but as yet has not received detailed feedback. He has established that any bark laid would have to be 300mm depth in accordance with the guidance. He suggested replacing the impact mats and is currently working towards this.

Litter picking equipment

The clerk reported the response from Sandra Byrne (Wyre Council) on 26/3 regarding the request to obtain some as follows:

“As residents pay a precept to parish councils and part of their responsibility is litter and environment, Wyre Council is willing to work with parish councils as the second tier authority on a co-ordinated approach to tackle the ongoing problems of litter.

Wyre Council is willing to loan 5 sets of equipment to Scorton Parish Council, we can provide our supplier’s information for you to order further equipment and you can then loan the equipment to your residents as you see appropriate.

I would like to invite Scorton to get involved in the Keep Britain Tidy’s Great British Spring Clean campaign, where like-minded volunteers across the country get involved in litter picks.

This often results in volunteers making themselves known to each other and solidifying their commitment to their environment by arranging regular ‘meets’ to create a litter picking group – I am willing to offer guidance if this was the case for the parish council to support a willing group and to liaise with the group leader.

Due to the current situation, the GBSC has been delayed this year 28th May – 13th June are the new dates.

Ordinarily, we would advertise the event on social media and press which generates local attention around the problems of litter. But due to the current ‘rule of six’ we would ask that volunteers sign up to the activity with you and if there were more than five (I have to be included) we could run a couple of sessions.

During this campaign, I will bring all equipment which will be sanitized before and after use.

Please let me know if you would be interested as the dates are filling up.”

Cllr Collinson confirmed that Sandra has provided 5 sets of litter picking equipment. In view of the equipment now available, the PC agreed there was no need to get specifically involved (as per Sandra’s email) in the Great British Spring Clean campaign.

Grizedale Bridge repairs

Cllr Collinson has not actioned yet. This will be deferred until the next meeting.

Wagon Rd surface deterioration (from junct. Tinker’s Lane to Wyreside Hall)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 1st April including request for reinstatement of the ditch.

“Our jet patching team is attending today to carry out the carriageway repairs and we have added the ditch repair to our drainage work programme and this will be carried out as soon as possible.”

Higher Lane rd crumbling (between Throstle's Nest & junct with Keeper's Lane)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 1st April as follows:

"We have inspected the above location and all investigatory level defects (40mm deep and 150mm wide) identified will be repaired within 20 working days. We have forwarded this section of Higher Lane to our Asset team for consideration of a future resurfacing programme."

Damaged trees (motorway embankment, Cleveley Bank Lane near junct of Long Ln)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 1st April re falling and splitting trees. They confirmed that they have referred this issue to Highways England for action, as this is on their land.

Pothole W573537(cobbles @ Barn entrance)

The clerk reported the update on the Highways online system following a report by Cllr Cottle. Online, the fault report shows that Highways are aware.

Cllr Cottle discussed this with Mark O'Donnell during his visit. He agreed that the repairs to the cobbles/setts should be done properly and that he would liaise with Neil Anderton at The Barn to agree suitable times. Temporary infill has been done since a number of accidents/car damage have occurred recently. Cllr Cottle confirmed he has spoken to Neil about this and he is expecting contact from Highways engineers in the near future. He intends to speak with him again to discuss suitable times.

5. Open forum:

Playing field gates

A member of the public had reported to Cllr Cottle prior to the meeting that the gates to the village field had been left open which he felt, posed a health and safety risk. Cllr Cottle stated that cable ties have been used on the main section and the matter has now been dealt with.

Overgrown hedges (Station Lane near railway bridge and Long Lane up to "The Willows")

A Member of the public raised this as a concern. Cllr Atkinson stated that the hedge on Long Lane has an LCC order on it instructing the landowner to cut it therefore this is in hand.

Parking (Gubberford Lane near railway bridge)

A Member of the public raised concerns over the pinch point due to lack of passing places. Cllr Cottle stated that this had been discussed with the engineer (Mark O'Donnell) and there is the intention of introducing passing places. This issue is a work in progress. (Refer item 4, parking issues.)

6. Playing field:

Damage to swing hammock

Following a report made to Wyre Council, Cllr Cottle stated that a couple of nuts were required to re-attach. This has now been repaired.

Single Tyre Swing

Cllr Collinson confirmed that this has been inspected and greased.

Replacement play equipment

Cllr Collinson reported the following quotes:

- ❖ Sovereign quote for replacing climbing frame with space net - £18,000 plus VAT
- ❖ Kompan quote for replacing climbing frame with space net - £17,000 plus VAT
- ❖ Sovereign quote for putting mulch around slide - £4000.00

Cllr Cottle suggested sorting out the surfacing and drainage first.

Old Holly Farm play equipment

Cllr Kenyon reported that after making enquiries, he has established that their equipment is not for sale.

7. Bikes & Barrows:

No update

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

No update received from representatives.

10. Planning:

11/00839/FULMAJ (Wyreside Hall)

PC to discuss any update from Dolphinholme's resident's association further to the PC's email of support sent on 14th April.

The clerk reported the response from the licensing department on 14/4 prior to their decision as follows:

"The relevant considerations when determining an application for a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003, do not include a pre-requirement for planning consent, as Planning and Licensing are two completely separate regulatory regimes. This is highlighted in section 7 of Wyre Council's current Licensing policy:

"The Council is of the view that the licensing authority is not bound by decisions made by the planning authority and vice versa. The two authorities consider different (albeit related) matters, but the only relevant considerations for the Licensing Authority when determining applications are the licensing objectives."

If there are breaches of planning rules it would be for the Council's Planning Department to investigate and where appropriate instigate formal action. Likewise, if a premises is trading outside any authorisation granted under the Licensing Act 2003, it would be for my office to investigate and take appropriate action."

Cllr Hantom stated that he has sent a further email but so far has received a generic response. He said he would wait and see what happens.

11. Decision notices(status):

20/00571/FUL- (Conversion of existing agricultural barn to one key worker (agricultural) Dwelling @ Salisbury Farm Long Lane Scorton) **Withdrawn**

20/00182/FUL – (Change of use of land for the creation of car park to be used in connection with Wyresdale Park including alterations to existing access and re-grading of land levels @ Land East Of Ghyll Wood And North Of Snow Hill Lane Scorton) **Permitted**

21/00067/COUQ – (Prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to 1 dwelling house under Class Q of the GDPO @: Salisbury Farm Long Lane Scorton) **Prior approval approved**

12. Highways:

Online reporting of Highways issues

As per Cllr Cottle's email of 8/4, Mark O' Donnell advised the PC to encourage online reporting of potholes wherever they occur via LCC Highways website as the weight of reports will stimulate action.

Pothole (Cleveley Bank Lane near Badger's Wood)

Cllr Atkinson reported that this is a bad pothole. The clerk will report to Highways.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the latest time sheet via email.

Jobs to be done

None raised.

PRoW scheme

The clerk stated that unusually, the letter has not been emailed through yet. The PC confirmed their intention to join the scheme and requested the clerk to chase up.

Contract

Cllr Cottle provided the signed copy (with insurance cover) to the clerk.

14. Village Hall:

Cllr Cottle provided the following update:

- ❖ He confirmed that Joanne had emailed an update but he did not have this to hand. He will circulate.
- ❖ He is in the process of applying for a restart grant.
- ❖ Village Hall functions have resumed.
- ❖ Upgrade of hall is progressing well.

The PC felt it would be appropriate to consider how much to donate to both village halls. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

15. Finance:

Account update – Refer end of year balance in AGM minutes.

Items approved for payment:

Lengthsman invoice March - £364.00

Lengthsman invoice April - £476 plus £71.06 materials = £547.06

Lengthsman grass cutting April - £80.00

Community Action Suffolk (3 year agreement) - £411.68

Cllr A Collinson (Haldene Fisher wood for Millennium way) - £1941.30

Cllr A Collinson (CC supplies – limestone for Millennium way) - £744.72

Cllr A Collinson (CC supplies – limestone for Millennium way) - £1175.52

Cllr A Collinson- gift for Peter Anderton (Millennium way) - £21.27

N.B. Extra cheque signed for lengthsman June payment as the chequebook will be with the accountant.

16. Health & Safety:

No health and safety concerns raised.

17. Points of interest:

Tennis court

Cllr Kenyon stated the matter is being considered by the DCC (Scorton Church).

Police apology and update

"I'm not sure if Chris (or a rep from the Police) was invited to the meeting, but if so, please accept my apologies but I/we are not able to attend.

With regard to attending Parish Council meetings on a regular basis, please accept my further apologies, but that is not something that I/we can commit to now unfortunately. That is because, following a core services review (just over two years ago), resources were refocussed from Neighbourhood Policing and in to our Response function. That ensured that Lancashire now enjoys an enhanced 24/7 policing service, with Neighbourhood Policing becoming a more bespoke service focusing on crime prevention and community safety. Practically, that means that my team and I cover a larger area with fewer (but more specifically focussed) officers.

In order to manage our relationship with Parish Councils though (and across my geographic area of responsibility I have twenty town and parish councils), I do provide regular updates (and attend when my duties/operational commitments allow) to LALC.

In addition, my team and I have also been encouraging all of our community members to conduct the Lancashire Talking survey and sign up for our (free) bespoke messaging service ('In the Know'). The survey provides our communities with a 'voice' in how we prioritise our Neighbourhood Policing activity and In the Know allows us to engage directly with communities. Thousands of surveys have now been completed across all ward areas in Lancashire, which has provided teams like mine with a unique understanding of the issues that affect communities at a local level. We are now forging ahead with plans to tackle those issues and then report back to communities (via In the Know) – i.e. 'you said, we did.' In tackling the issues, we also get to collaborate with our existing partners (including LALC members), as well as in newly formed partnerships (e.g. Our Lancashire volunteer groups). In relation to your area, residents have told us that some of the top issues that they want the Police (and our partners, such as the Parish Council) to focus on are dog fouling, road safety and farming equipment thefts.

<https://www.lancashire.police.uk/lancashire-talking> is the link to learn more about Lancashire Talking. From there, there is a further link to take the survey and also sign up to In the Know. I would be really grateful if you could share this with the Councillors at your next meeting and ask them to complete the survey/sign up themselves, but also encourage residents to do the same.

Finally, in relation to future the Parish Council minutes/agendas, I am happy for you to forward them to me for information only. I will then be able to monitor re anything that might have a policing angle.”

Defibrillator

It was confirmed that Garry Lee has taken over the responsibility for the defibrillator.

18. Date of next meeting: **3rd June 2021 @ Scorton Chapel**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.25PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

LCC – Zero carbon communities

WC – Press release: going electric – Wyre’s new fleet of electric vehicles

LCC – Winter bulletin 19/3, 26/3, 2/4, 9/4

Community Futures – Information bulletin

NALC – Chief executives bulletin 19/3, 26/3, 1/4, 9/4

WC – Wyre press release: Wyre reflects on 1st Anniversary of 1st Covid lockdown

WC – Flood Forum United Utilities message

WC – Press release: Government “Green Homes Grant”

Rural Services Network (RSN) – Rural bulletin 23/3, 30/3, 7/4, 13/4

WC – Press release: celebrating the restoration of The Mount (Fleetwood)

WC – Items published 24/3 links

WC – Cabinet minutes 24/3 link

WC – Portfolio, holder decision agenda 25/3 link

WC – Standards minutes 18/3 link

WC – Planning agenda, supplement x 2 and minutes 7/4 links

WC – Items published 29/3 links

WC – Schedule of executive decisions 29/3

Highways England – M6 Turner’s Farm junct 32-33 update

LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts April

WC – Portfolio, holder decisions 1/4 links x 6

LCC – Surface dressing scheme 2021 – areas

RSN – Rural funding digest April

WC – Community lottery has had a £250 winner from Garstang

LALC – Queen’s award for voluntary service

LALC – Wyre Area meeting agenda & minutes 28/4

RBLI – VE day “Tommy” leaflet

LALC – Remote meetings evidence

WC – Press release: Permit scheme for using open spaces for personal training and fitness activities plus updated version

WC – Item published 12/4 link

WC – Licensing agenda supplement 15/4 link

WC – Portfolio holder decisions 14/4 link

NALC – Star council awards 2021

APPENDIX 2

Cllr Cottle's emails of 8th April - a summary of discussion (sent to Mark to confirm what had been agreed) with Mark O'Donnell below:

Church Drive:

It was discussed with Mark O'Donnell that consideration could be given to the use of Church Drive (when not in use for school or church events), in order to provide extra parking provision. NWPC to discuss contacting the Parochial Church Council/ Vicar for his feedback. Consideration should be given for an honesty box.

W573537 at The Barn : Looked at the entrance to The Barn and Mark agreed that the repairs to the cobbles / setts should be done properly and that he would liaise with Neil Anderton at The Barn to agree suitable times - probably out of business hours. It is a major congestion area. Temporary infill has been done since a number of accidents / car damage have occurred recently. Cllr Cottle has spoken to Neil about this and he is expecting contact from Highways engineers in the near future.

Gubberford Lane : Looked at passing places to allow vehicles to pull in to allow traffic through in both directions :-

- a. Outside Springfield House lengthen/double length of existing 'H' marks
- b. Re-paint white marks outside Curwen House at bottom Tithe Barn Lane to allow agricultural vehicles to access Gubberford Lane and vice-versa.
- c. Install new passing space 'H' marks midway between the railway bridge and the bottom of Tithe Barn Lane of similar length to 'a'.
- d. The PC should have mentioned issues about parking when there are Bowling Events at the Bowling Club - generally weekends / Bank Holidays

Tithe Barn Lane : The PC are enthusiastic about providing some off road parking either side of the M6 road bridge on Tithe Barn Lane.

- a. There is considerable space there (as we know because it is regularly used by the travellers on the way to Appleby. This would provide many parking spaces without enormous cost - apart from drop kerbs.
- b. Existing broken drains have been flooding the road surface for months and the PC understand that work needs to be coordinated between Highways and Cadent due to major Gas connection - no sign of work as yet

Snow Hill : Looked especially at the situation here between the 'Skew' stone bridge and Nicky Nook Stile.. The road is in a perilous state especially at both edges with deep trenches having been eroded by water and parking. The PC showed Mark the issues regarding the current parking situation on a quiet day from 'The Wall' up to Nicky Nook Stile where many vehicles were parked. It was agreed that this was so bad that it justified short term remedial work with a longer term project after the 'new' car park (approx 50 spaces) has been built - assuming planning permission granted. The landowner has agreed to put pedestrian access off the existing road.

The Parish Council are very concerned especially regarding emergency vehicle access and of course, agricultural vehicles being able to get through. We met a resident of Higher land who had been unable to get out with construction vehicles whilst 'on call' for Motorway work.

Higher Lane : Ownership of the verges was discussed - Mark said this could be checked. The PC would like that information from top of Snow Hill to top of Tithebarn Lane. The residents dispute where the highway boundary actually is positioned. Mark said he would look at the use of stone infill or similar to create some better passing places.

Grizdale Bridge – Cllr Collinson to look into.

Online reporting of Highways issues

Mark advised the PC to encourage online reporting of potholes wherever they occur via LCC Highways website as the weight of reports will stimulate action.