

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held at Newburgh School, Back Lane, on Wednesday 27 March 2019 commencing at 7.30pm.

PRESENT Cllr C Moore, Chairman.

Cllrs Atty, Turner, O'Keefe, Baker, Roughneen, Casey and the Clerk, S Jones.

No members of the public attended the meeting.

024/19

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Citarella and Borough Cllr Pope.

025/19

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr O'Keefe declared an interest in item 5b as she is a close neighbour of the residents submitting the planning application.

Cllr Casey declared an interest in item no 12 as she is co-chair of Newburgh Fair Association, which is included on the payments list.

026/19

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 FEBRUARY 2019

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27 February 2019 should be approved and signed by the Chairman.

027/19

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION

The meeting was not adjourned for public discussion as no members of the public were present.

028/19

PLANNING

a) To receive an update on the West Lancashire Borough Council Local Plan consultation process and agree any actions

It was confirmed that a recent article in the Champion newspaper had stated that West Lancashire Borough Council planned to reconsider various parts of the proposed Local Plan consultation including the lengthy time period and the number of houses proposed. It was resolved that the Parish Council would continue to monitor any developments to the Local Plan consultation process.

b) Applications to be considered:

Cllr O'Keefe left the meeting at this point.

2019/0188/FUL - Erection of garden summerhouse in rear garden of residential property owned and inhabited by the applicant. Hexagonal in shape size 2.31m x 2.31m made of western red cedar wood. Eave height 2.13m, ridge height 3.05m. To be situated within 2m from boundary fence at rear of property at Hillview, Course Lane.

Councillors were given an update from the Planning Working Group regarding this planning application and following discussion it was resolved to submit no comment.

Cllr O'Keefe returned to the meeting at this point.

029/19

WORKPLAN

a) To receive an update from Roads Investigation Working Group and agree any actions

It was confirmed that two monitoring exercises had taken place since the last Parish Council meeting to count the volume of HGVs using the A5209 for thirteen hours a day from 6am to 7pm. Both days revealed that over 200 very large HGVs (five or six axels) and over 135 large HGVs (three or four axels) used the A5209 during these hours. It was resolved to carry out an exercise to determine the "pinch points" along the A5209 where large vehicles, including HGVs, tend to mount the pavement in order to pass by oncoming traffic. Efforts will be made to gather photographic evidence.

b) To receive an update on the village clean and maintenance plan and agree any actions

It was confirmed that further sessions had been carried out by Parish Councillors and volunteers to cut hedges in the village. Plans for future sessions include clearing gutters and painting litter bins, with priority given to the litter bin outside the Post Office following the recent refurbishment.

The Clerk informed Councillors that Lancashire County Council Highways department had stated that the hedge bordering Newburgh School would be cut around the end of August. However, concern was raised regarding the likely state of the hedge by June when Newburgh Fair is due to take place. It was resolved to get a quote for the hedge to be cut in time for Newburgh Fair, if work is deemed necessary. The Clerk was asked to contact Lancashire County Council Highways to find out if a schedule of future cuts in the village is available to enable the Parish Council to effectively monitor the situation going forward.

c) To receive an update on the village footpaths including the joint venture with Parbold Parish Council regarding improvements to the canal footpath between the two villages and agree any actions

Councillors were informed that further discussions had taken place between representatives of the two Parish Councils regarding improvements to the canal footpath. A quote of £33,000 had been received for work to be carried out on approximately 1km of canal footpath. The quote was much lower than an initial guess of £70,000, so the quote is currently being queried. Some landowners are still not keen to support the proposals so alternatives to the original plan are being considered. A representative from the Canal and River Trust has visited the site and promised to feed back the issues to the organisation's engineers. There is a part of the canal bank which has fallen away and is in need to repair and this particular part of the project is the responsibility of the Canal and River Trust to resolve. Further updates will be provided at future Parish Council meetings.

030/19

TO REVIEW THE ISSUE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL CIVIC SERVICE FOR 2019 AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS

Councillors were informed that the Church had been in contact with the Parish Council to confirm that the Church was keen to take part in a Civic Service this year. It was resolved that a meeting would be held with Rev Jane Morgan to discuss possible dates and format for the Civic Service and an update will be provided at a future Parish Council meeting.

031/19

TO REVIEW THE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, STANDING ORDERS, ASSET REGISTER, RISK ASSESSMENT REGISTER AND TRAINING POLICY AND AGREE ANY AMENDMENTS AS REQUIRED

It was resolved to approve the Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Asset Register and Risk Assessment Register without amendment. In addition, it was also resolved to approve the draft Training Policy without amendment.

032/19

TO AGREE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL STREET SCENE TEAM

The Clerk was asked to contact the appropriate officer at West Lancashire Borough Council to arrange a suitable date for the annual meeting between the Parish Council and members of the Street Scene team.

033/19

TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO PUT FORWARD ANY SCHEMES RELATING TO COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) FUNDING AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS

Due to the unconfirmed cost of possible works to the canal footpath, it was resolved not to put forward any schemes relating to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding. The Clerk informed Councillors that the Community Infrastructure Levy officer at West Lancashire Borough Council has confirmed that the Parish Council would not receive any CIL monies as a result of the Mushroom Farm development on Course Lane, as the footprint of the new housing development was similar to the footprint of the Mushroom Farm. Councillors expressed disappointment at the news and asked the Clerk to make further enquiries into the matter.

034/19

TO CONSIDER THE OFFER FROM THE APPLETON FAMILY TO GIFT BLUEBELL WOOD AND THE ADJOINING FIELD TO THE VILLAGE AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS REQUIRED

It was confirmed that the Parish Council had spoken to a member of the Appleton family regarding the offer and had requested a couple of months to look into all the implications in order to assess if the Parish Council would be able to take over the land. The suggested timescale was agreed by Mr Appleton who informed the Parish Council that the family were looking into alternative options for the land. Local organisations had been contacted to gauge interest and meetings were due to take place with officers from West Lancashire Borough Council and a representative from the Lancashire Wildlife Trust. Regular meetings of the Bluebell Wood Working Group will take place over the next few weeks to monitor progress made with gathering the information required to make a formal decision. Due to the relatively short timescale, Councillors were informed that an extraordinary Parish Council meeting in early May could be necessary if a decision is not possible at the April Parish Council meeting. It was resolved to allocate £500 from the general maintenance budget towards any initial costs.

035/19

FINANCE

a) To agree the March Payments Schedule

Cllr Casey left the meeting at this point.

The Payments Schedule for March was approved.

Cllr Casey returned to the meeting at this point.

036/19

TO NOTE THE CLERKS REPORT

The Clerks report was noted.

037/19

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be on 24 April 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.

Schedule of Accounts for Payment – March 2019

Chq No	Payee	Amount
N/A	1&1 Internet Ltd – website charges March 2018	£ 5.99 Direct Debits
2025	Mrs S Jones – March salary and expenses	£ 622.27
2026	Lancashire County Council – February school hire	£ 10.63
2027	Newburgh Fair Association – donation and Parish Champion grant	£ 300.00 (S137 exp)
2028	Flexipress – March 2019 newsletter	£ 35.00
2029	Yates Playgrounds – SPID costs Jan 19 – Mar 19 (inc)	£ 499.20
TOTAL		<u>£1,473.09</u>