

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23 June 2021 commencing at 7pm.
The meeting was held by Zoom.

PRESENT: Cllrs Citarella (Chair), Moore, O'Keefe, Turner, Roughneen, Baker, Casey and Clerk Sandra Jones.
County Cllr Bailey and Borough Cllr Pope also attended.
No members of the public attended the meeting.

052/21

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Atty.

053/21

COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Citarella and Cllr O'Keefe declared a pecuniary interest in the items relating to Eden Tea Rooms.
Cllr Moore declared an interest in the Finance item as he was included on the payments list.

054/21

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2021

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26 May 2021 should be approved and signed by the Chair.

055/21

ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Borough Cllr Pope confirmed that both he and County Cllr Bailey had received a copy of the Road report and he will send a copy to Charlie Edwards (Lancashire County Council Cabinet member for Highways and Transport). Borough Cllr Pope informed the meeting that he had taken Charlie Edwards on a tour of the area recently to show him the condition of the roads, not only in Newburgh, but also in Rufford, Lathom and Burscough. It is hoped that the details contained within the report put together by the Roads Investigation Working Group will help to highlight the main issues which need to be addressed.

County Cllr Bailey confirmed that he speaks to Charlie Edwards on a daily basis and had recently sent the Clerk updated contact details for the best ways to report Highways issues. One of the issues raised by residents related to the speeding on Cobbs Brow Lane which has been a problem for a long time.

056/21

PLANNING

a) Applications to be considered:

2021/0593/FUL - Proposed single two storey four bedroom detached dwelling house at Ivy Cottage Farm, Back Lane, Newburgh - No comment.

Cllrs Citarella and Cllr O'Keefe were put into the waiting room at this point. Cllr Moore took the Chair.

b) To receive an update on the planning applications relating to the Eden Tea Room and Galleries site and agree any actions

It was confirmed that a new planning application, 2021/0626/CON, had been submitted in relation to the conditions detailed in a previous application and concerned the seating, lighting and parking bays on the site. The planning officer had been contacted and confirmed that this application could not be considered as part of any other applications in relation to the hardstanding, which had previously been refused. Following discussion, it was resolved that the Parish Council would make no comment at this stage and would wait for the proposal on the hardstanding.

Cllrs Citarella and O'Keefe were admitted back into the meeting at this point. Cllr Citarella resumed as Chair.

057/21

WORKPLAN

a) To receive a verbal update from the Road Investigation Working Group and agree any actions.

Cllr O'Keefe told the meeting that she had noticed that three container lorries had stopped outside her house in one day in order to replace one of their wing mirrors which had been pushed in during some incident. She offered to make enquiries if the same thing happened again to try to find out what had happened. It was suggested that the problem could be due to overhanging branches on Ash Brow which may need to be cut back. Councillors confirmed that speeding along the main road was a major ongoing problem in the village and made walking to Parbold a dangerous task.

As previously confirming during the public discussion part of the meeting, copies of the report from the Roads Investigation Working Group had been circulated to Borough Cllr Pope and County Cllr Bailey, who were thanked for putting the report forward to the relevant officers at Lancashire County Council. It is hoped that a reasoned analysis response will be received from Lancashire County Council in the near future.

b) To receive a verbal update on flooding issues in the village and agree any actions.

It was confirmed that progress has been made regarding the surface water drain from the school, which has now been cleared. In addition, a camera survey commissioned by the local Lancashire County Council Highways engineer has revealed heavy build ups of limescale, which have accumulated over many years. Work is due to take place at the end of June to try to clear the deposits. Work has also been done on the A5209 to check and clear the five drains which converge on the culverts by the Timbers. More excavation work is due to take place on a gully at the bottom of Smithy Brow to try to understand the source of the flood that affected the Post Office. Borough Cllr Pope and County Cllr Bailey were thanked for their efforts in recent weeks in helping to progress the issue at Lancashire County Council and the Parish Councillors also expressed their thanks for the work of the local Highways engineer for the work which has been carried out. It is hoped that a meeting with representatives of Lancashire County Council will take place once some of the outstanding works have taken place.

058/21

TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON DISTRIBUTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND PAMPHLET REGARDING THE WOOD AND FIELD AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS

It was confirmed that arrangements had been made with the Parish Councillors to distribute the annual report and pamphlet regarding the Wood and Field over the next few days. It is hoped that the pamphlet will prompt much interest from residents to be involved in a village management organisation to run the Wood and Field site in the future. All Parish Councillors have been given an information pack to pass on to anyone who contacts them to ask for further details. It was also confirmed that the name of "Appleton Fields" had been suggested to Mr Appleton (a member of the family who had kindly gifted the site to the Parish Council) for the site and he was happy with the proposal.

059/21

TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO RESPOND TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION CONSULTATION REGARDING WARD BOUNDARY CHANGES TO WEST LANCASHIRE WHICH PROPOSES TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCILLORS FROM 54 TO 45.

Councillors were informed that the Chair and Clerk had recently attended a presentation given by the Local Government Boundary Commission regarding proposed ward changes in West Lancashire. The Commission had consulted with the local political groups and were proposing to reduce the number of Borough Councillors from 54 to 45. All interested parties including Parish Councils and members of the public were encouraged to take part in the consultation and submit their views on the proposal. The closing date for comments is 2 August 2021. As there was a chance that the current Newburgh Ward may cease to exist in its current form (Newburgh Parish and Lathom Parish currently make up the ward) it was resolved that an informal meeting would be arranged for the Parish Councillors to consider whether to submit a comment supporting the current ward boundaries.

060/21

FINANCE

a) To agree Accounts for Payment for June 2021, Schedule attached.

The Accounts Schedule for June 2021 was approved for payment. Payments will be made electronically wherever possible.

The meeting ended at 7.35pm.

Schedule of Accounts for Payment – June 2021

Ref No	Payee	Amount
n/a	1&1 website charges	£ 11.99* Direct Debit
n/a	NEST Pension Scheme	£ 49.17* Direct Debit
240621	Mrs S Jones – June salary and expenses	£ 694.12
240621	Mr C Moore – Field and Wood booklet expenses	£ 41.98
240621	Mr J Horrobin – play area maintenance	£ 22.00
240621	AMK Signs – signs for wood and field	£ 54.00
240621	RM Services – grounds maintenance	£ 120.00
	TOTAL	£ 993.26