

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
On MONDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2020 at 7.00pm**

Present: Chairman: Councillor K Budden
Parish Councillors: M. Archer, T. Bell, J. Bolton, P. Kitching, L. Leak, P Wilson.
City Councillors: M. Thomas
Local Govt.Electors: Brian Crawley of the Thwaite Brow Woods Conservation Project

APOLOGIES Cllr G. Parkinson

OPEN FORUM

Cllr Budden welcomed Cllr Thomas to the meeting and told members that Cllr Thomas was the Mayor elect from May 2020. Cllr Thomas was congratulated by the council.

PACT (Police and Communities Together) – Crime figures for November and December 2019 were tabled. November: 3 anti-social behaviour calls (6 in 2018) and 6 crimes recorded (17 in 2018) – Burglary – Meadow Drive - under investigation. Criminal Damage and Arson – Whin Grove – under investigation. Violence & Sexual Offences x 4 – Ruskin Grove x 2 (further investigation is not in the public interest), Packet Lane and Cherry Tree Close – unable to prosecute suspect.

December: 2 anti-social behaviour calls (3 in 2018) and 7 crimes recorded (7 in 2018). Other Crime – Greenwood Avenue – under investigation. Violence and Sexual Offences x 3 – Ash Tree Grove (further investigation is not in the public interest), The Green and Church Brow – under investigation. Criminal damage and arson – Petrol station Coastal Road – under investigation. Burglary – The Green – under investigation. Vehicle Crime – Whin Drive – under investigation.

Cllr Bell reported on the meeting with the PCSO. The outcome was basically that they were short on resources but to encourage everyone to report any crime as this would highlight any problem to the police.

Matter raised by members of the public

Brian Crawley gave an update report on the Thwaite Brow Management Plan. Contractor Sam Robinson was able to cut the 2 coppice coupes which were planned for this year. Organising the job was a bit of a problem as the 2 coupes were on the area of land next to the canal which is owned by the Canal & River Trust they had to comply with their conditions. Louise Belcher and Brian met Diane Rollin, the north west area ecologist from Wigan, and Angela Parkinson-Green, the new Lancaster Canal Manager from Galgate. Gail Armstrong, the local Bat Lady from Silverdale, came to do a bat survey and provide recommendations of good practices for safe working. Method Statement and Risk Assessment were prepared for the job and qualification details and insurance cover for the C&RT were supplied. Notices were put up prior to the work to warn users of the wood about the disruption to access and the work was carried out successfully. Sam's payment for the work is the timber which he has taken away. It is now the job of the Conservation Group volunteers and Mike to tidy the brash and erect the deer fencing so that we can claim the funding from the Countryside Stewardship Rural Payments Office.

Matters raised by County and City Councillors –

Cllr Thomas had nothing to report. Cllr Budden reported that Lancaster City Council had received further planning applications for student accommodation. However, the Planning Committee has asked for a report to be carried out to ascertain whether or not there is still the need for this, as there appears a large number of buildings have already been developed purely for students.

Cllr Kitching asked the Chair if he had made enquiries regarding the Co-op development. Cllr Budden responded saying that he had spoken to the Enforcement Officer who said she would visit the site and the houses affected by the excess water. As he had not heard anything back, he would chase the matter up.

To consider Lengthsman's Report

- Work on the fence at School Croft continues. The brambles have been cut right back and where possible pulled out. Straining posts and turning posts have been dug in.
- The Christmas tree was taken down and taken to the tip.
- He checked the new cctv cameras to see what the picture looked like in the dark. By pure chance drug dealing was caught on the cameras that night. Obviously being dark the type of car and its registration plate could not be identified sufficiently well enough for the police to be interested, so they were not informed.
- He put another coat of yacht varnish on the back rest of the bench that is being renovated at the bowling green and has now been fitted.
- The lights in the garage have seen better days, so he used one of the florescent fittings salvaged from the community centre to replace one of them.
- He was asked by a local horse owner about improving the situation for horses to cross the A6 at Whin Grove. He referred her to County but mentioned it to Keith at the time.
- They had quite a good session in Thwaite Brow with the volunteers, the weather forecast could not have been more wrong. They got another gate post dug in at the top of the wood, where they are putting a rustic hurdle where the contractor's machine went in to turn around. They also got some of the roadside sycamore laid and tidied up.
- He cleared out the path down the side of Jubilee Garage and out into Byron. The cutting back requested by a resident will have to wait until he can see if the householder has managed to cut their own trees back. They have pruned them on their side of the fence.
- On the 13th the bowling green top pavilion was broken into for the first time, recently at least. The dead lock had to be taken apart straightened and re fitted, it had been ripped off the door. A new hasp and staple complete with new padlock were also fitted for extra security. Later that week on the night of Friday 17th it was broken into again. The door was badly damaged, and the padlock had been smashed off, needless to say the deadlock was also damaged again. He was called out on Saturday to secure it for the weekend but by Monday the door was hanging off again. This time, beyond repair, he measured up, went for the timber and constructed and fitted a thicker more substantial new one complete with 2 deadlocks. The mess inside and the amount of cannabis packets, signs of attempted arson, firefighters around the area and the two gas cylinders badly burned in a fire. Not to mention the badly burned trees in School Croft, no doubt caused when the gas escaping from the cylinders was ignited. All this coupled with damage over the weekend to the disabled toilet door again, lead him to text a police officer to discuss the situation Mike attended the meeting between council members and the PCSO to highlight the situation.

Environmental Matters

None

To receive any Declarations of Interest – Cllr Archer declared an interest in planning application number 19/01473/FUL.

Cllr Leak pointed out that the December Minutes on the Village website was the 'draft' not the amended version.

Referencing the dispute issue of her need to 'declare an interest', Cllr Leak had contacted the Monitoring Officer for his advice and tabled an e-mail from which stated that in his view, 'there was no "pecuniary or other interests" here, and that 'it is a matter for a Councillor whether or not they participate in any matter'.

Cllr Leak questioned actions taken by the Greens Management Committee without reference to full Council and asked for a copy of their Terms of Reference.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th January were approved with 3 changes requested by Cllr Leak.

7256 Any Matters arising from the Minutes:

Adoption of the Payphone for use as a defibrillator housing – Cllr Bolton reported that she had spoken with a representative from Ricky's who have declined the offer of a defibrillator to be placed outside their building. Members decided to re-visit the need/siting of a new defibrillator at the next meeting.

Casual Vacancy – Deferred until March.

Grounds Maintenance – It was noted that a reduction in the price for 2019 for missed cuts had been given. A monthly cut on School Croft was agreed. Cllr Leak requested a price for cut and grass collection on the recreation field.

Scoring Shelter – Cllr Leak asked why the scoring shelter wasn't included in Matters Arising as this was still active. Cllr Archer explained that whilst the request had been agreed in principle, the Council was awaiting the outcome regarding shadows on the green and an update on the exact design and plan.

7257 War Memorial

Two quotes have been received for a new bronze sword which have been forwarded onto the insurance company and await their further instructions. Councillors were pleased this was moving forward. Cllr Leak asked if this would affect our insurance premium.

7258 North West Coastal Access – Silverdale to Cleveleys

Cllr Budden gave a report on this and expressed his concerns about the Scheme that he would like to be included in the consultation:

- How does it affect farmers who have grazing rights etc.?
- Do dogs need to be on leads?
- There will be more people so will this disturb the birds especially at nesting time?
- More people so more litter / provision of litter bins required. Who will be expected to pay, maintain and empty them?
- Who will be responsible for repairs and maintenance of the footpath.

7259 To receive reports by members

Sports Pavilion – Cllr Leak reported. The circuit board still hadn't been labelled. An offer had been made in-house to which all agreed. The Accounts are healthy, and enquiries are being made into the cost of replacing the lighting with LED lights. The corridor is being painted and an offer has been received from the football team who will paint the changing rooms. Cllr Leak asked if the parish council would supply the paint. The tennis club have asked that the broken window and paving slab at the front door be replaced and also to re-line the courts and to replace the existing nets. The Pavilion Committee are holding a Coffee Morning on the 20th February in the Community Centre to raise funds.

Community Centre Management Committee – Unfortunately Cllr Bell was unable to attend the meeting on 16th January but enquired if anything had been raised for the parish council, the response for which was no.

Bowling Greens Management Committee – Cllr Archer reported on the committee meeting held on 16th January 2020. The Agronomist from STRI called at the greens last week and advised Alan, the Greenkeeper, to mow the main green twice that week to help with the moss. The annual STRI visit will be on 20th April 2020. The quote received for the replacement of the light visor on the floodlights was agreed but the Chair asked that within this we would expect that they would incorporate a check on all the light columns to ensure all other light visors are secure as this is the second one that has failed in less than 2 years – proposed Cllr Wilson, seconded Cllr Kitching – carried. Cllr Kitching also said it was worth checking what the manufacturer's guarantee was as it could be longer than the installers. Cllr Leak raised a couple of matters regarding the Greens Committee meeting which Cllr Budden would ask for the relevant information for the next meeting. Cllr Leak was given a copy of the Draft Minutes of the committee meeting and a set of Accounts. The clerk will circulate these to all councillors.

7260 Correspondence

From: Countryfile

The episode that featured Bolton-le-Sands foreshore at Red Bank was aired on April 28th 2019 and will air again as part of their compilation episode on February 16th 2020

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Two long service awards have been given to two residents of Bolton le Sands. Mrs Barbara Bainbridge and Mrs Jean Bannister for their (30 years plus) house to house collections. An amazing commitment. The total raised in the village this year was £1057.40 plus donations for wreaths. The Poppy Appeal 2020 will run from October 28th to November 11th.

Mr. Howard – burst tyre:

All information to be passed to Red Bank Farm who will contact Mr. Howard direct.

Bowling Club

Cllr Leak questioned if the parish council had received a communication from the Bowling Club. Cllr Bell acknowledged that an e-mail had been received on Friday late afternoon and had been circulated to the committee but that the communication had arrived too late for committee members to arrange a special meeting to discuss the issues raised and respond. It was pointed out that the council had agreed some time ago that any matter to be discussed at a parish council meeting must be received by close of business the Monday previous to allow time for the papers to be circulated.

7261 To consider for approval the payment of the accounts

Accounts Payable

Councillor Archer proposed the following accounts be paid. Seconded by Councillor Bolton – carried.

| Cheque No. | Payee | Amount / Description |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 967 | M. Ashton. | £817.99 Parish Lengthsman x 3 parishes + deadlock for top pavilion |
| 968 | P Bradley | £657.35 Clerk's salary + petty cash |
| 969 | HMRC | £62.00 PAYE |
| 970 | A Swindlehurst | £200.00 Greensman |
| 971 | BLS PCC | £250.00 The Messenger |
| 972 | LCC | £3114.00 Grounds Maintenance 2019 |
| 973 | K G Loach | £150.00 Fungicide for the bowling greens |
| 974 | MG Turfcare | £480.00 Hire of Air2G2 machine on bowling greens |
| 975 | Travis Perkins | £86.16 Padlock, cladding & bitumen |
| 976 | Water Plus Ltd | £7.96 Water charges at the greens |

T& C Planning

Application No: 19/01473/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural land, creation of access tracks and regrading of land to allow siting of touring caravans and associated works.

Site Address: Bay View Holiday Park, Detern Lane. Bolton-le-Sands

Cllr Archer left the meeting

Comment: The parish council strongly objects to this application as there are too many accidents already

along that stretch of the A6. These additional caravans would increase the number of vehicular journeys and members were very concerned about the potential re-grading of the ground to accommodate the caravans.

Application No: 19/01608/FUL - AMENDMENT

Proposal: Construction of a pitched roof to existing side conservatory, alterations to windows and doors and construction of a raised patio

Site Address: 18 Greenwood Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: No adverse comments but neighbours' comments to be taken into consideration.

Application No: 20/00076/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension, replacement of existing conservatory with a single storey rear extension, increase in height of existing roof and the creation of front and rear gables, installation of a new shop front and the installation of 2 new ducts on the side elevation.

Site Address: 30 Main Road, Bolon-le-Sands

Comment: The Planning Officer was asked to ensure that there is no encroachment onto the adjoining road/path.

Application No: 20/00085/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension and construction of a raised terrace

Site Address: 18 Ash Tree Grove, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: No adverse comments but neighbours' comments to be taken into consideration.

Signed..... Chairman

2nd March 2020