

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
ON WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Chairman: Councillor K Budden  
Parish Councillors: G. Gibbs, L. Leak, S. Lomax, F. Ryan  
City Councillors: None

**Apologies:** Cllrs Archer, Bell, Bond, Craddock & Kay.

**OPEN FORUM**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of this new year and advised that the Christmas tree has been removed from Bolton Lodge.

**PACT (Police and Communities Together –**

Crime figures were tabled;

**October** – 7 anti-social behaviour calls (9 in 2015) and 9 crimes recorded (10 in 2015). Violence / Sexual Offences x 2 (The Green – unable to prosecute suspect & investigation complete, no suspect identified); Vehicle Crime x 2 (Alpine View and St. Michael’s Crescent – investigation complete, no suspect identified); Public Order x 2 (Main Road – investigation complete, no suspect identified and Town End – unable to prosecute suspect); Criminal Damage & Arson (The Rise – investigation complete, no suspect identified); Burglary x 2 (Hillcrest Avenue & Hawthorn Road - investigation complete, no suspect identified).

**November** - 7 anti-social behaviour calls (6 in 2015) and 6 crimes recorded (10 in 2015). Violence / Sexual Offences x 2 (The Green – unable to prosecute suspect, & Bridge Croft – Offender given caution); Other Theft (Church Brow Close – local resolution); Criminal Damage & Arson x 2 (The Green – under investigation and local resolution); Burglary (Beech Tree Close – investigation complete, no suspect identified).

**Matters raised by City Councillors** – None.

**Matters raised by Members of the Public**

A member of the public did ask if the green waste bins will still be collected without signing up for this collection between now and the end of March. The clerk made enquiries with Lancaster City Council who could not answer this question and was advised to contact the local ward councillor. This she did but has not received any response.

**To consider Lengthsman’s Report for December**

- The Woodland Management Plan has been submitted for approval.
- The Christmas tree was collected, erected and dressed with lights.
- Removal of the litter and bags of dog mess from the bin that had been knocked over at School Croft. *The parish council agreed that this bin should be moved to the barrier.*
- Bench at St Michael’s Lane and bus shelter at Stewart Longton’s Caravans were repaired.
- Litter picking around the playing field, play area, bowling greens and centre of the village.
- Clearance of broken glass from the goal mouth, behind the scout hut, tennis courts and Packet Lane.

Mike reported on recent works within Thwaite Brow Woods which included extending the new path. He also reported on a fire within the woods where the fire brigade had attended. He also reported on the poor state of the changing facilities within the sports pavilion and that on Boxing Day, the football pitch was again used for a full-blown football match. *The parish council was annoyed that the changing facilities were being abused and the clerk was directed to write to the Management Committee advising them that if the various clubs are unwilling to clean these facilities, they will be charged £30 per session. Bolton-le-Sands Football Club will be contacted regarding the extra match.*

**Works for Mike:**

- Litter pick both sides of the A6 from Mill Lane to Whin Grove and sweep the leaves from outside the utilities building.

**Environmental Matters**

Lancashire Highways will attend to the manhole on Pasture Lane and the debris from hedgecutting along Slyne Road.

The Community Payback Scheme will clear the encroachment under the hedges from the traffic lights at Coastal Road to the cricket field some time in January.

To receive any Declarations of Interest – None.

**Minutes** – The Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Gibbs – seconded Cllr Leak.

**6988 Matters arising from the Minutes:**

*Public Conveniences* – A letter from Lancaster City Council was tabled advising that it will be reducing its financial contribution to the operation of the toilets in the village as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. Two options were offered; both parties enter into a new lease or the conveniences would be closed and moth-balled. Discussion took place and various suggestions put forward ie only opened April – September but without knowing the financial contribution it was difficult for the council to make a final decision. The clerk had written to ascertain the reduction, but the person dealing with this matter was on leave until 9<sup>th</sup> January. One suggestion was to make the current accessible toilet adjacent to the community centre, accessible to everybody. This suggestion was accepted as a possibility by those present and the clerk was directed to write to the City Council accordingly. Cllr Lomax proposed, seconded Cllr Gibbs that a decision be deferred until a response is received from City Council and a decision on the current conveniences and the lease be made in February.

*Bolton-le-Sands Library* – Awaiting a response from County. It was noted in “The Visitor” that because there has not been an interest shown by a community group to use the building, County Council will be putting the site up for sale. It was reported that Pre-School had made an approach but had received no response. The clerk will write accordingly.

*Remembrance Day Service 2017* – Cllr Craddock has made enquiries with regards to a sound-system and will report his findings at the February meeting. In the meantime, with regards to the refurbishment of the Memorial Stone, the Specification has been forwarded to the War Memorials Trust by Cassidy + Ashton and await their comments and approval.

*Hand driers – Sports Pavilion* – Deferred. Cllr Budden will make enquiries with a local electrician.

**6989 To receive Reports by Members**

*Bonfire and Fireworks Committee* – The AGM will be held in the not too distant future and Cllr Budden will mention about the use of quieter fireworks.

**6990 Correspondence**

*Lancaster City Council* – invitation to the City Council’s Budget & Performance Panel.

*Lancaster City Council* - TPO No. 591(2016) 28 St. Michael’s Lane, Bolton-le-Sands.

*Morecambe Bay Partnership* – Briefing note (Coastal Community Teams and Morecambe Bay) – The Government issued a call for additional Coastal Community Teams to be set up around England and this presented an opportunity to set up a Team to represent towns and villages around Morecambe Bay. An Expression of Interest has been submitted to Government regarding its support for the principle of setting up a Morecambe Bay Coastal Community Team.

**Finance:**

**6991 Donation to Abbeyfield** – Cllr Gibbs proposed, seconded Cllr Ryan that a donation of £80 be given to the residents of Bolton Lodge to cover the electricity usage for the Christmas tree lights. It was also mentioned that the sleeve should be replaced this year.

**6992 Accounts Payable**

Councillor Lomax proposed the following accounts be paid. Seconded by Councillor Leak - carried.

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount / Description
599	M Ashton	£1092.00 Parish Lengthsman x 4 parishes
600	P Bradley	£511.72 Clerk’s wage
601	D Mason	£250.00 Cleaner at the toilets
602	HMRC	£56.60 PAYE
603	A Swindlehurst	£200.00 Greensman
604	N Berry	£1338.00 guttering replacement at the pavilion

605	Village Hall	£5.39 electricity charges
606	OBS	£81.00 rent
607	Friends of BLS	£80.00 donation for Xmas tree

**IN COMMITTEE**

**6993 Precept for 2017/2018** - The Budget for the coming year was discussed. The parish council is able to continue with a 0% rate increase which has remained the same for the last nine years. Cllr Lomax proposed a precept of £30,715.20 – seconded Cllr Gibbs – carried.

**T & C Planning**

Application No. 16/01401/FUL  
 Proposal: Erection of a part single and part 2 storey rear extension.  
 Site Address: 37 Wordsworth Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands  
 Comment: No adverse comment but asked that neighbour’s comments be taken into consideration.

Signed:..... Chairman

6<sup>th</sup> February 2017