

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
On MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2017 at 7.00pm**

Present: Chairman: Councillor M Craddock
Parish Councillors: M. Archer, T. Bell, B. Bond, K. Budden, G. Gibbs, A. Kay, L. Leak, S. Lomax, F. Ryan
City Councillors: S. Rogerson & M. Thomas
Police Inspector Bell and Sgt Jackson. Sean Sonander (Rinicom)

Apologies: K. Budden gave his apologies as he was unable to attend at 7.00pm.

OPEN FORUM

PACT (Police and Communities Together) – Police representatives attended at the request of the clerk to discuss the recent increase in crime around The Green area and the crime types that are recorded on-line. Inspector Bell assured the council that whilst the figures show a high number of violent and sexual offences, they are at a very low level. He gave one example where eggs had been thrown at a person. There are no sexual offences recorded in this parish although a big issue nationally is where young people are taking inappropriate pictures and showing them on the internet which is also included within this category. The Police are working with schools and parents to combat this problem. It was pleasing to note that whilst crime rates have increased in some areas, Lancaster and Morecambe has seen a reduction. It was confirmed that there are on-going issues at Chestnuts and the Police are working with the people there to try and resolve issues. The 101 response has now been transferred to Hutton. Inspector Bell explained the advantages of social media where information can be shared. It was confirmed that the categories under which crimes are recorded are a national statistic and therefore will not change. The Chairman thanked Inspector Bell and Sgt Jackson for attending the meeting to re-assure members of the crimes recorded in the parish.

Matters raised by City Councillors – Regarding the green waste collections, Cllr Thomas explained that the City Council's 2016-2017 Budget included the funding of the green waste collections until the end of December 2016. Thereafter the service becomes a subscription service only. The Council tax covers the funded services, not the rest. The question was raised as to what happens if no permits are sold which could not be answered as the scheme has only just been introduced but it will be monitored over the next several weeks.

Matters raised by Members of the Public – Sean Sonander, Managing Director of Rinicom in Lancaster attended the meeting to explain his request to test his equipment over the beach area in Bolton-le-Sands. His company is developing drone detection technology to help protect against drone threats around prisons, airports etc. Testing is done by flying drones far from their cameras so that they can properly test their camera system. Government certified pilots only are used who fully comply with all drone flying safety regulations. The council felt that the beach area at Morecambe Lodge would be more appropriate, away from the residential properties, and Cllr Budden proposed the parish council grant a twelve-month permit from the 10th of February to allow testing at Morecambe Lodge. Seconded Cllr Bond – carried.

James Rafferty of Monkswell Drive/Avenue informed the parish council that his boundary wall adjacent to land mown by Mike from time to time, was in a dangerous condition and will be replaced by a fence. The parish council felt this was not a decision for the parish council but it would continue to maintain the grassed area for the benefit of residents there.

To consider Lengthsman's Report for January – With the help of Keith and David Budden the Christmas tree was taken down and the lights put away for another year. The Thwaite Brow Woods group have opened and repaired an old route through the woods. The CCTV footage was examined by the police as there had been extensive damage at pre-school. Two of the wooden bin liners were modified so that a front panel could be replaced on one of them. On two Sunday mornings, Mike litter picked which included Main Road. He also spiked some areas of the top bowling green where water was standing as there was to be a bowling competition later that day. He cleared the drain between the gents and ladies' toilets. On Fridays, the football pitch is litter picked in case of a match at the week-end and he managed to roll the pitch. He picked litter in the wooded area of School Croft and over the car park wall down to the canal. Moles were gassed; Mike will level out the mole hills to see if a follow up with traps is needed. Cllr Leak expressed her concern at the time Mike must spend picking up litter in the village. To make those aware of the problem, Cllr Budden suggested the litter be bagged up and photographed and an article placed in The Messenger showing how much litter had been collected during the month. Cllr Ryan also suggested the children be encouraged to design a poster as a competition and will take the matter up with the school.

Works for Mike:

- Graffiti to be removed in the bus shelter opposite The Royal.

Environmental Matters – Cllr Lomax asked the clerk to chase up the road signs at St. Nicholas Lane.

To receive any Declarations of Interest – None.

Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2017 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Ryan – seconded Cllr Lomax.

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Public Conveniences – It was confirmed that Lancaster City Council will contribute £3046 pa to the public toilets. However, a meeting is to be scheduled in the near future to discuss whether the toilet adjacent to the Community Centre could be made accessible to all.

Bolton-le-Sands Library – The clerk still cannot get a response from County Council and it was suggested under the Freedom of Information Act, the answer as to why the library closed after spending £238,000 on refurbishment should be made public.

Hand Driers at the Pavilion – Cllr Archer will liaise with the Committee on this matter.

6994 Sound System at the War Memorial – Members were happy to go ahead with the sound system organised by Cllr Craddock.

School Croft – A 90-year lease was signed on the 1st March 1998 with the Trustees of the Old Boy's School. Whilst it is acknowledged the land is abused by a minority of dog walkers, there is little the parish council can do to stop it. Cllr Bell reminded the council of the suggestions made when the land was taken over, such as making a pathway to try to keep people away from roaming the grassed area. Members were asked to make suggestions to improve the area.

6995 Insurances – The clerk will issue all members with a list of items insured.

6996 Request from Bowling Club to manage the Bowling Greens

A proposal was placed before the parish council by Bolton-le-Sands Bowling Club: "To consider handing over total responsibility for management of the bowling greens to Bolton-le-Sands Bowling Club." It was felt further discussion was required with the Bowling Club and this matter will be discussed at the Bowling Green's Management Committee meeting on 15th February.

6997 Morecambe Bay Coastal Community Team Update – The Government has backed the Morecambe Bay Coastal Community Team proposal. Coastal Community Teams are supported by Government to help revive coastal areas and to develop and deliver plans for future economic growth. The award means that £10,000 will be granted to help partners in Morecambe Bay set up the Team as the economic plan needs to be published by 31st March 2017. The new team for Morecambe Bay will be led by Morecambe Bay Partnership and South Lakeland District Council.

6998 Application for a Definitive Map Modification Order – Packet Lane – The Regulatory Committee considered the application for a byway to be recorded across the Packet Boat car park and after considerable discussion, it was agreed to accept the recommendation to make an Order to record the route as a restricted byway. Due to insufficient written evidence, a byway for vehicles could not be considered. The implications of this are that if the Order is confirmed the public will be able to use the route on foot, bicycle, horseback and with non-motorised vehicles. Unless an appeal is submitted, a legal Order will be made and advertised which will allow a six-week period for any comments or objections to be lodged. If no objections are received, the County Council will confirm the Order and talk to the landowners about the work required to open up/provide a route. Cllr Ryan was thanked for all her efforts.

6999 To receive Reports by Members

Pavilion Committee – The football club has been advised that for any future charity games, they should request permission from the parish council. The cleaning of the facilities has been resolved. The tennis club asked for the lines to be painted again on the courts and if they could be made thicker. It was established that the Scouts have changed the locks to the connecting doors causing a problem for Mike Ashton when he needs to gain access for alarm procedures.

Community Centre Management Committee – Three new windows and a door have been installed. The Treasurer’s report was good. The council was reminded about the yellow lines on the car park and the clerk will consider that. A request for wi-fi provision was put to the council. The parish council has no objection if the committee wishes to install a telephone line and broadband.

7000 Correspondence

Cllr Bell proposed permission was granted for the Sefton Ramblers to hold their event on the bowling greens on 22nd February – seconded Cllr Leak.

The Grounds Maintenance quotation was accepted from Lancaster City Council. A price for plantain treatment in May and white lining of the tennis court were requested.

7001 Finance:

Approval for monies to be transferred from the Reserve Account to the Current Account was given to pay the following:

Accounts Payable

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

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount / Description
608	M Ashton	£1057.36 Parish Lengthsman x 4 parishes
609	P Bradley	£518.52 Clerk’s wage + postage
610	HMRC	£56.40 PAYE
611	A Swindlehurst	£200.00 Greensman
612	LDS	£102.40 Domain hosting and renewal
613	Travis Perkins	£4.28 wood
614	United Utilities	£12.71 Water standing charge at the bowling greens
615	Zurich Insurance	£104.50 Charity Insurance Thwaite Brow Woods

Signed:..... Chairman

6th March 2017