

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
On MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2018 at 7.00pm**

Present: Chairman: Councillor K Budden
Parish Councillors: M. Archer, R. Bond, M. Craddock, L Leak, S. Lomax, P Wilson.
City Councillors: M. Thomas & S. Rogerson
1 L.G. Elector

Apologies: Parish Cllrs Bell, Kay and Ryan.

OPEN FORUM

PACT (Police and Communities Together)

Crime figures for December had not been published on-line and were therefore not available for this meeting. At the previous meeting, the Police was asked for clarification of the wording ‘unable to prosecute suspect’ and the following response was received “If we are unable to prosecute, this would suggest there is insufficient evidence in the case, this could be a lack of evidence linking a suspect to a crime, an aggrieved refusing to co-operate with the police or the suspect being under the age of prosecution.”

Matters raised by members of the public – Mrs Harris attended the meeting to update the parish council on the proposed restricted byway order which unfortunately has not moved on since neither City Council nor County Council would co-operate. Cllr Rogerson will take up the matter for Mrs. Harris to try to arrange a site meeting between the two authorities to try to resolve the issue.

An e-mail from Mr & Mrs Rodwell from The Shore expressing their concern at the state of this area of the village was tabled. Cllr Craddock agreed that more attention to this area should be focused as it is a very pretty and busy part of the village. The clerk confirmed that a new street sign is on order with Lancaster City Council and should be replaced some time this month. She has asked for new bins, reported the poor road surface and pot holes and asked Mike Ashton to re-instate the finger post. Complaints had also been received about a dog training exercise taking over part of the shore and stopping members of the public from walking from St. Michael’s to Mill Lane, a matter the clerk has already e-mailed the person concerned.

Matters raised by City Council – Cllr Leak expressed her concern regarding the loss of the Education subsidy from the S106 Agreement from the development on St. Michael’s Lane. Cllr Rogerson will liaise with the Planning Department regarding parish councils being consulted on such variations to planning applications. Cllr Thomas also explained that the Community Payback could not carry out works along the highway due to health and safety reasons.

To consider Lengthsman’s Report for January – Mike tabled his report and explained that he is trying his best to try and sort out the football pitch and is using different methods to re-instate it. The gate at Town End has been re-instated. He has worked with the volunteers at Thwaite Brow to ensure the nesting boxes are cleaned and ready for use in the spring. A metal cap that had been made to cover the hole in the ground to hold the Christmas tree was painted. He made and fitted a new seat at Whin Grove, painted the door at the Gents toilet and has collected all the keys for handover to Lancaster City Council. He has cut some lower branches from the cherry trees at Whin Grove which were damaging the bus shelter. The clerk was directed to write to the appropriate authority regarding pruning them. The car park at the Old Boy’s School was cleared. With regards to the recent playground report, he has investigated topping up the woodchip and offered to collect 40 bags that are required.

Cllr Bond commented on the state of the football field, which was initially caused by a wagon delivering top dressing to the bowling green but as the driver was instructed by the greensman to use that entrance, the parish council was unable to pursue the matter with the contractor concerned.

Cllr Archer proposed that Mike Ashton purchase the woodchip and sand required for the recreation area – seconded Cllr Craddock.

Whilst the electrical contractor was working at the sports pavilion he pointed out that the emergency lights should be replaced, and it was agreed that this item be added to the contract.

Environmental Matters

Cllr Leak reported that a pile of debris has been left at the junction of Grange View. Cllr Budden will investigate and arrange for it to be removed.

The clerk was directed to write to the cricket club to ask that the hedge be cut back to the tarmac.

Members discussed the long-term parking of vehicles on the car park at the recreation fields. Members were asked to consider the wording for a suitable sign to be discussed at the March meeting.

To receive any Declarations of Interest – None.

Minutes – Cllr Craddock proposed the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd January 2018 be accepted as a true record – seconded Cllr Archer.

7076 Any Matters arising from the Minutes:

Open Space Contribution – Prices to provide grass matting for the trim trail were tabled and it was decided that the S106 contribution should be used solely for the trim trail and grass matting and that the parish council will look to upgrade the swing. Cllr Craddock proposed that this item be moved forward – seconded Cllr Bond – all in favour – carried.

Asset Maintenance Checklist – Cllr Leak devised a list and each councillor was asked to look at their individual area – deferred until March.

War Memorial Refurbishment – The clerk reported that the contractor has re-laid the flagstones in question to provide a more adequate fall.

Litter Pick – Cllr Wilson reported that he has spoken with the Cubs who are happy with the idea of such an event and will arrange an annual Spring Clean to assist with the problem of litter.

7077 Bowling Green's Management Committee – It was agreed that a meeting will be held in the Library at 2.30pm; date to be confirmed

7078 Annual Assembly – In view of the timing of Easter, it was agreed the Annual Assembly be held in April this year.

7079 Promoting the work of the Parish Council through social media – Deferred.

7080 Promotion of the Post Office and Library – Deferred.

7077 To receive Reports by Members

Parish Lengthsman Scheme – Cllr Budden reported on a recent meeting held between the three parishes where it was suggested the Lengthsman's rate should be increased to £14.00 per hour. All three parishes value Mike Ashton's work whom they feel is multi-talented. Cllr Craddock proposed this increase take effect from the 1st of April 2018 – seconded Cllr Bond – carried.

Village Hall – Cllr Bond reported that 30 people attended the meeting. A new Secretary has been appointed. The Committee has sufficient members to continue.

7078 Correspondence

Banijay UK is developing an exciting, new programme for a major UK Broadcaster and requested the help of parish councils to get the word out to residents. The idea behind the show is that they will be funding numerous public art projects around the country and they want the public to nominate their own village to win the chance of creating a new landmark for their community. The correspondence will be forwarded to the Art Society.

Tennis Club – Brian Forrest is no longer Secretary.

Catherine Spreckley - who runs the Bolton le Sands Guide unit asked for the code to the padlock to assist her when she is running the unit alone to which the parish council agreed.

David Ferguson – wrote to advise that the ivy he reported some time ago has now been removed and asked if he could remove the branches that were left on the grass at Whin Grove, but these have already been taken away off site.

Ladies Football Team - Due to the worsening condition of the pitch at Bolton-Le-Sands, the Ladies Team will no longer be using it and asked for a refund to which the parish council agreed.

Anonymous – Request for fireworks letter to be passed onto the Bonfire Committee.

Animal Welfare – Again a letter with no address but signed K Brown – asking for the parish council to stop children smashing all the duck’s eggs on the Lancaster canal. The clerk was directed to forward this onto the Canal and River’s Trust.

7079 Accounts Payable

Councillor Archer proposed the following accounts be paid. Seconded by Councillor Craddock - carried.

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount / Description
739	M Ashton	£846.21 Parish Lengthsman / 3 parishes.
740	P. Bradley	£580.08 Clerk’s salary + petty cash
741	Lancs. City Council	£3373.20 Grounds Maintenance
742	L/C Data Solutions	£93.60 Web-site Hosting
743	Bowling Club	£100.00 Mike Rigby Tournament
744	A Swindlehurst	£200.00 Greensman
745	Travis Perkins	£57.60 Misc repair materials
746	Zurich Insurance	£106.40 Insurance for Thwaite Brow volunteers
747	HMRC	£52.20 PAYE

7080 Precept for 2018/2019 - The Budget for the coming year was discussed and agreed. The parish council felt a 2% increase was in order this year and Cllr Archer proposed a precept of £32,535.14 to cover the cost of works carried out by the parish council around the village – seconded Cllr Craddock – carried.

T & C Planning:

Application No: 17/01541/VCN

Proposal: Widening of vehicle entrance, alteration to extend driveway and creation of 8 car parking spaces to the rear.

Site Address: Christ Church United Reformed, Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: No adverse comment.

Application No: 17/01583/OUT & 17/01584/FUL

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of 2 x 3-bed dwellings and alterations to existing access and change of use and conversion of 2 existing barns to 3 x 2bed dwellings.

Site Address: Hawkshead Farm, 1 The Nook, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: Members were concerned about access and egress to the site as it is in close proximity to the very busy junction and there are already highway issues relating to the school.

Application No: 18/00013/FUL

Proposal: Erection of two 2-storey detached dwellings and a single storey detached pool house with associated internal roads and landscaping

Site Address: Land rear of The Dell, 91 Coastal Road, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: The parish council had no objection to the proposal but asked for a condition to be placed on the decision to ensure the pool be for private and domestic use only and not for business use.

Application No: 18/00024/FUL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of a detached garage and creation of driveway

Site Address: 10 Chestnut Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands.

Comment: No adverse comment

Application No: 18/00073/FUL

Proposal: Proposed front porch

Site Address: 1 Gordon Cottages, Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands.

Comment: No adverse comment.

Signed..... Chairman

5th February 2018