

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
On MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Chairman: Councillor K Budden  
Parish Councillors: M. Archer, T. Bell, J. Bolton, G. Parkinson, and P. Wilson.  
City Councillors: M. Thomas, J. Wild  
County Councillor: S. Morris

**Apologies:** Cllr Leak

**OPEN FORUM**

**Thwaite Brow Woods** – Louise Belcher gave an update on the Management Plan. Last winter's 20% thinning operation has finished and about 40 tonnes of timber and all the baskets of wood fuel have been taken from the wood. It is believed that about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the planned work has been completed this season. The remainder may be next winter. The coppice coupe further up the wood has been cut and deer fenced. Some of the branch wood from both operations has been tidied releasing some useful firewood. The group are looking at various ways of dealing with the remainder. The 20 new birdboxes were examined with the cubs last month and most have got good bird activity. The claim of the capital grant money for the boxes and the deer fencing is in hand.

The group had another meeting with the Canal & River Trust Ecology Officer to discuss a plan for next season's coppice coupes alongside the canal which seemed to go well and they are now looking for a contractor to carry out this work along with some of the outstanding thinning work. They are also looking into the installation of 6 more wildlife boxes and marking some notable trees.

**PACT (Police and Communities Together)** – Crime figures for March 2019 were tabled; 4 anti-social behaviour calls (4 in 2018) and 11 crimes recorded (8 in 2018) – Criminal Damage & Arson x 5 (The Shore, Mill Lane x 2, Whin Grove, The Nook – all under investigation); Vehicle Crime (Rydal Road – under investigation); Violent & Sexual Offences x 3 (St. Michael's Lane, Church Brow Close, Ash Tree Grove – all under investigation); Drugs (Petrol Station, Coastal Road – under investigation); Public Order (Greenwood Avenue – under investigation).

A number of complaints have been received by individual councillors of young people congregating on land adjacent to Monkswell and at the recreation area drinking and using drugs. The clerk was directed to notify the police and request more patrols.

**Matters raised by City and County Councillors** –

Cllr Morris will continue to put pressure on County Highways to stop heavy goods vehicles from accessing the village via St. Michael's Lane. In the meantime he will make contact with Spar to request their drivers not to access the village via this route.

**To consider Lengthsman's Report**

- Spraying of the playing field has been a success.
- The lock on the accessible toilet door has finally been repaired with the assistance of McGaffigans who made a heavy-duty version of the insides of the lock.
- A stop tap cover in the pavement near to Holy Trinity was a trip hazard and has now been sorted.
- He has worked hard with the Thwaite Brow Group to clear the coppiced area completely.
- One length of the top bowling green edge has been replaced.
- Mike gave access to the decorator who has painted the toilets in the sports pavilion.
- Mike has liaised with the Dog Warden for more signage.
- Throughout the month litter picking has continued including the Right of Way along the railway.

**Other Environmental Issues:**

- Mike was asked to weedkill around the tennis courts and footpath from Wordsworth/Monkswell.
- Following on from the May meeting the clerk reported that she has notified City Council

regarding the state of the toilets in the centre of the village and tried to chase up the wet pout but no response.

- Playdale will carry out an annual inspection at a cost of £195. After which they will provide a quotation to carry out any remedial works required. The clerk mentioned this to Cllr Leak previously who felt Mike is quite capable of doing any repairs and sanding down any splinters that occur especially as the inspection is already carried out by City Council quarterly.
- Unfortunately, there is no exact mowing schedule as it changes with weather conditions and bank holidays although it was confirmed a further cut was imminent. The spiking has not been carried out nor the goal mouth reinstatement. Councillors were disappointed with this and asked that the spiking be carried out asap but to cancel the re-seeding of the goal mouths and for Mike Ashton to carry out this work. Cllr Archer offered some seed.
- The clerk was directed to chase up the remedial works at the war memorial.

To receive any Declarations of Interest – Min 7198 Cllrs Bolton and Parkinson.

**Minutes** - The Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Archer – seconded Cllr Parkinson.

#### **7198 Any Matters arising from the Minutes:**

*Sword Replacement* – Cllr Budden will provide the dimensions

*Irrigation System at the Bowling Greens* – Cllrs Archer and Bell and the clerk met with Anthony Rawlinson of Sandbach Irrigation Services who came recommended by STRI to discuss an automated watering system which would cost in the region of £6000. Mr Rawlinson was very knowledgeable and offered an extremely good back-up maintenance service which others had refused to do. Cllr Archer explained how the system would work and Councillors felt this was a very important part of the re-establishment of the bottom green. Other prices had been sought but were in excess of this cost and started at around £7500 fully fitted.

Cllr Archer proposed that the parish council engage Sandbach Irrigation Services to put an irrigation system in – seconded Cllr Budden – carried. **It was resolved that an order shall be placed and shall be funded by the parish council.** Cllrs Bolton and Parkinson declared an interest and did not take part in the vote.

*Heritage Walk* – Robert Swain furnished dates for the proposed walk. Cllr Wilson offered to create a poster which would be posted onto the Facebook page and also inserted into The Messenger to advertise the event. It was agreed that the walk should commence at 7.00pm and councillors offered to accompany Mr. Swain. The clerk to circulate the dates.

*Eco-Brick Project – School Croft* – Cllr Wilson is continuing progress on this project and is hoping to start collection of the filled bottles of plastic at the end of June.

#### **7199 To receive reports by members**

*Bowling Greens Management Committee* – Cllr Archer reported on the first meeting of the council's Green's Committee to which a representative from the bowling club was invited to attend. Cllrs Archer and Bell plus the clerk met with the greensman, Alan Swindlehurst. 5 members of the bowling club were in also in attendance. Alan gave a report of the work he has done but confirmed that warmer weather is required to assist with growth. The report from STRI was discussed and Alan was authorised to buy the top dressing needed, which he would start spreading fortnightly to assist with the recovery of the greens. The bowling club were invited to work with the parish council on the Greens Committee, a matter that will be discussed by the bowling club committee in due course.

Cllr Budden reported on the results of the recent planning committee meeting of the City Council where three applications were granted.

#### **7200 Correspondence**

*Proposed Certified Camp Site at land to the east of Hawkshead Farm* – Correspondence was received from a neighbour to the proposed application and the school regarding this proposed application to the Caravan and Camping Club. Both objected to the application on the grounds of public safety especially for those walking to school. The parish council supported these views and will write accordingly. The clerk explained that she has been in contact with City Council but unfortunately it cannot object as the Caravan & Camping Club have permitted development rights, however, the Planning Department has written echoing the concerns of residents. The clerk was authorised to forward these concerns to Cllr Morris for his assistance in overturning this application on highway grounds.

*2019 Firework Display* – A local resident expressed concern about the loud fireworks and asked for the letter to be passed to the Bonfire Committee for consideration.

*Parking on The Shore* – A visitor to the area asked for clarification regarding the overnight parking ban on the shore as he has parked there before when travelling to and from a family holiday home. A very kind offer was made by a local farmer to allow the unoccupied van to be parked overnight for a small charge.

*Jobcentre* – An e-mail had been received asking the parish council to consider adding a link to the local Jobcentre. Members felt that this would not prove useful and suggested he contact the local Library.

**7201 Annual Governance Statement** – The Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 was approved by Council and signed by Cllr Budden – Chairman.

**7202 Accounting Statements** – The Accounting Statements 2018/19 were approved by Council and signed by Cllr Budden – Chairman.

**7203 To consider for approval the payment of the accounts.**

**7204 Donation to WI** – It was resolved that a donation of £50 be given to the WI for their assistance in providing refreshments at the Parish Assembly

**Accounts Payable**

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

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount / Description
900	M. Ashton.	£1190.00 Parish Lengthsman x 3 parishes
901	P. Bradley	£616.37 Clerk's Salary + petty cash
902	HMRC	£61.80 PAYE
903	A Swindlehurst	£200.00 Greensman
904	Village Hall	£56.78 utilities for electricity and toilet
905	WI	£50.00 Donation
906	Danvic	£270.00 Overseeding at bowling green
907	Travis Perkins	£267.85 Wood and cement for remedial works at the bowling greens
908	T Wilson	£1800.00 Flagging works at the bowling greens

**T & C Planning**

**Application No:** 19/00587/FUL

**Proposal:** Change of use of shop and hairdressers (A1) to beauty salon and installation of new shop front.

**Site Address:** 1 Whin Drive, Bolton-le-Sands

**Comment:** The parish council was disappointed that this application is not retrospective as the works have been completed although it was felt the work had been carried out satisfactorily.

IN COMMITTEE

**7205 Casual Vacancy** – As there had been no applications received it was agreed to re-advertise on social media and newsletter for a closing date of 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

Signed..... Chairman 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019