

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
On MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 2019 at 7.00pm**

Present: Chairman: Councillor K Budden
Parish Councillors: M. Archer, J. Bolton, L. Leak, G. Parkinson
2 L.G. Electors

Apologies: Cllr Bell & Cllr Wilson

OPEN FORUM

PACT (Police and Communities Together) – Crime figures for May, June and July 2019 were tabled;

May: 0 anti-social behaviour calls (4 in 2018) and 12 crimes recorded (13 in 2018) – Criminal Damage & Arson (St. Michael’s Close - under investigation); Other Theft x 3 (The Nook and Petrol Station Coastal Road x 2– under investigation); Violent & Sexual Offences x 8 (Whin Drive x 3, Lowlands Road x 2, The Green, Brookfield Close, Greenwood Avenue - under investigation).

June: 5 anti-social behaviour calls (2 in 2018) and 10 crimes recorded (9 in 2018) -Burglary (Beech Tree Close – under investigation); Criminal Damage/Arson x 2 (Lancaster Road and The Green – under investigation); Other Crime (The Nook – under investigation); Other Theft x 2 (Orchard Avenue – under investigation); Violence and Sexual Offences x 4 (Meadow Drive, Lowlands Road, The Green and Church Brow – under investigation).

July: 6 anti-social behaviour calls (4 in 2018) and 5 crimes recorded (15 in 2018) – Burglary x 2 (Westfield Drive and The Shore – under investigation); Other Theft (Recreation Area – under investigation); Violent and Sexual Offences x 2 (Chestnut Avenue and Church Brow Close – under investigation).

PCSO Paul Shepherd was invited to attend a meeting but there has been no response so he will be invited to the October meeting.

Matter raised by members of the public

The proposed planning application at Wordsworth Avenue to change the use of a dwelling to supported living accommodation is causing great concern to nearby residents and a LG elector voiced those concerns to the parish council in the hope that it can persuade the Planning Authority to reject this proposal. Members took on board these concerns and will incorporate them within their response. Whilst the parish council is sympathetic to the needs for such accommodation, it does feel that the village, with Chestnuts and Thorntindale being used as such, it does have its fair share.

Brian Crawley of the Thwaite Brow Management Team gave his latest report. One day in June the group carried out an experimental ‘flame curtain pyrolysis’ in the upper area of the wood and did a very successful conversion of much of the left over brash from the coppice coupe in the wood to a mix of barbecue charcoal and biochar. Work has started on replacing the fence along the bottom part of the track. The last stack of felled timber from last season has now been taken out of the wood and the group is now planning the new season’s work comprising of the installation of 6 more bird boxes, felling 2 more coppice coupes close to the canal, continuing with some more thinning in the lower part of the wood and labelling some old and notable trees. The coppice coupes will be quite demanding due to the ownership situation with the Canal and River Trust and Brian is currently talking to a number of people about the work.

To consider Lengthsman’s Report for July and August

- The bus shelter at the bottom of St. Michael’s Lane was cleaned out and the hedge cut right back.
- The new basket swing was put up with help from Cllr Budden
- The new rubber surface was laid under the basket swing but not properly and therefore City Council will return to relay the surface after the summer holidays.
- Mike started to unblock the drain at the car park and United Utilities finally cleared it.

- The lines on the football pitch were sprayed with weed killer and weeds were sprayed around the car park and tennis courts as well as from Bowker's to the Blue Anchor. The weeds from the Blue Anchor to the phone box were dug out and cleared away, the inevitable regrowth was sprayed.
- The ivy was cleared off the walls.
- The bus shelter near the phone box was cleaned out and the hedge cut back.
- Weeds have been sprayed around the Old Boy's School area of St Michael's Lane
- Strainer and intermediate fence posts were obtained to continue the fencing in Thwaite Brow Woods.
- Mike has dealt with several incidents with the public toilet. The most serious was some-one setting fire to it. The police were informed and suggested a cctv camera under the canopy. The lock on the door has been giving trouble again, though this time it is the part that fits in the door frame and not the part in the door. An engineer visited and once he understood the problem, between them they adjusted it as best they could. He advised replacing it with a coin operated device.
- Cllr Budden assisted with putting the goal posts back up prior to the first match of the season. The following day City Council cut the grass leaving mountains of grass clippings which Mike cleared along the lines with his mower and blower.
- Mike looked at the footpath from Sandside to Mill Lane which has been reported to the PROW at County Council along with the footpath from Shelley Close to Mill Lane.
- The rest of the month can be summed up as endless grass cutting, litter picking, volunteer work party in the woods, clearing the Pinfold and hedge cutting.

Environmental Matters

Cllr Leak expressed her dismay at the vast number of weeds growing along our roads which everyone agreed. The parish council feels very frustrated at the lack of maintenance shown by County and the clerk was directed to contact County Councillor Morris on the subject. Mike also reported that the telephone kiosk on Slyne Road is being disconnected. Cllr Bolton suggested it could be used to house a defibrillator. The clerk will make enquiries with BT Openreach.

To receive any Declarations of Interest – Cllr Archer Planning Application No. 19/00858/FUL. Cllrs Parkinson and Bolton *Proposed Shelter at the Bowling Greens*.

Minutes - The Minutes of the meetings held on 1st July and 5th August 2019 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Parkinson – seconded Cllr Archer.

7217 Any Matters arising from the Minutes:

War Memorial Refurbishment – Cllr Parkinson stated that the work carried out so far is totally unacceptable and discussions between the Architect and Contractor are on-going for a satisfactory result.

Proposed Shelter at the Bowling Greens – Details were submitted by the Bowling Club of the type of structure they were considering. Members discussed the proposal and felt more clarification was necessary as to whether planning permission is required and the proposed 'finish'. Whilst there was no objection to the shelter, it was felt that a decision could not be made at that time due to an insufficient number of council members who had not declared an interest being present.

7218 Casual Vacancy – Mr Paul Kitching tabled his interest in joining the parish council. Cllr Archer proposed he be co-opted onto the parish council with effect from October 2019. Cllr Bolton seconded – carried.

7219 Grounds Maintenance 2019/20 – Dates were submitted by City Contract Services as to the number of cuts various areas around the village have received. Members were still not satisfied with the level of service received and the clerk will set up a meeting between Cllr Budden, Cllr Leak and the Grounds Supervisor. In the meantime the clerk will ask for details of when future cuts are to be made in order that they can be monitored.

7220 Christmas Tree 2019 - Permission to be sought from Abbeyfield for the tree to be erected on or around 29th November and to come down around the 3rd of January 2020. To be lit from 3pm – midnight.

7221 Remembrance Sunday 10.11.2019 – The clerk confirmed that the road closure notice has been sent, the wreath has been ordered and Cllr Parkinson proposed a donation of £100 be made to the Royal British Legion at the October meeting. Seconded Cllr Archer – carried.

7222 Annual Assets and Open Spaces Inspection – Cllrs Leak and Archer inspected the Recreation Area and made an extensive list of works required around the area which Mike will tackle as and when weather and time allows. Cllr Leak suggested applying for the Parish Champion Grant towards the cost of a notice board to be placed on the outside of the Community Centre for use by the parish council only. Cllr Archer suggested precepting money each year towards the cost of resurfacing the tennis courts which members agreed.

7223 Accessible Toilet Door and Camera – Referring to various incidents of vandalism recently at the public toilet, it was suggested that cctv cameras be fitted outside the toilet to cover the door. A price from Crystal Alarms was sought and Cllr Archer proposed that 2 cameras be fitted together with a new 8-way DVR to cope with the added cameras together with the power supply at a cost of £1400.00. Seconded Cllr Parkinson – carried.

7224 To receive reports by members

Bowling Greens Management Committee – Cllr Archer reported that work has started on the new irrigation system. Alan has completed the end of season works on the main green.

7225 Correspondence

Bowling Club – A letter from the club was tabled. The outstanding work to the support boards and gullies is in hand.

Local Residents have offered to plant wildflowers around the village. The parish council did not have a problem with this but pointed out that land may be under the jurisdiction of either City or County Council. Therefore it was suggested a list of areas be provided in the first instance.

Lancashire County Council has applied to the Magistrates' Court to stop up Detern Lane as a highway although it will still remain open to everyone with the exception of motor vehicles for access to the shore by walkers, hikers, cyclists, horse riders etc.

Acute Medical Unit requested to use the playing field on 5th October which was granted.

Heritage Walk organised by Robert Swain to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the opening of the Lancaster Canal from Preston to Kendal was a success and raised a grand total of £199.86 for the Lancaster Canal Trust. In addition there was a generous donation for Canal and River Trust for their work on the Lancaster Canal.

7226 To consider for approval the payment of the accounts.

Accounts Payable

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

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount / Description
924	M. Ashton.	£924.00 Parish Lengthsman x 3 parishes
925	P. Bradley	£623.42 Clerk's Salary + petty cash
926	HMRC	£62.00 PAYE
927	A Swindlehurst	£200.00 Greensman
928	Glasdon	£91.00 Plaque

T & C Planning

Application No: 19/00858/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of existing farm buildings and change of use of agricultural land to site 8 static caravans for holiday accommodation

Site Address: Red Bank Farm, The Shore, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: No adverse comment

Application No: 19/01006/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of dwelling (C3) to supported living accommodation (C2)

Site Address: 41 Wordsworth Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: The parish council feels that this village has accommodated quite a number of these children and whilst we understand the situation, we do not feel this is an appropriate accommodation for this purpose. The residents within its close vicinity are in the main elderly and feel very vulnerable. We understand there have been several objections made to this proposal which have been forwarded to the planning department which this parish council supports.

Application No: 19/01053/VCN

Proposal: Demolition of various buildings, erection of glasshouse and open sided canopies, construction of car park and associated landscaping (pursuant to the variation of conditions 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 on planning permission 18/00639/FUL to amend the approved drawings, site layout, construction method statement, the removal of polytunnels, hard and soft landscaping and off site highways improvement).

Site Address: Bay View Nursery and Garden Centre, Mill Lane, Bolton-le-Sands

Comment: No adverse comment

Signed..... Chairman

7th October 2019