

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON-LE-SANDS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ON MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2015 at 7.00pm**

Present: Chairman: Councillor K Budden.
Parish Councillors: M Archer, B Bond, M Craddock, L Leak, S. Lomax, B Patrick, A Parker
City Councillors: Wild
Local Govt. Electors: 8
Police: PC Barnsley

Apologies: Cllrs Kay & Bell. Cllr M. Thomas

OPEN FORUM

PACT (Police and Communities Together –

Crime figures for May and June were tabled; May 3 anti-social behaviour calls (0 in 2014) and 6 crimes recorded (10 in 2014) – Violence and Sexual Offences x 3 (Beech Tree Close) Offender given caution, (Church Court & Wordsworth Avenue) unable to prosecute suspect; other theft x 2 (The Green & Whin Drive) investigations complete – no suspect identified; vehicle crime (Westfield Drive) under investigation. June 5 anti-social behaviour calls (7 in 2014) and 1 crime recorded (5 in 2014) – Criminal damage and arson (Lancaster Road) under investigation.

PC Barnsley spoke of recent crimes in the area and responded to the concerns raised by a resident anonymously regarding shots being fired in Thwaite Brow Wood. A local resident who owns land in the area next to the wood has a shot gun licence and has authority to shoot on other land near to the woods. He goes shooting in the morning and evening around the times described by the letter. As such there is nothing at this time the police can do regarding this but should the informant actually see people walking around the streets with guns, he would urge them to contact the police direct.

The clerk received a visit from the police regarding a bench on the shore that was damaged by a young person recently. In view of the fact that this person has never been in trouble with the police it was felt that the offence could be dealt with by way of a caution. The person concerned forwarded a letter of apology to the council and the bench will be repaired by the parent.

Matters raised by County and City Councillors – Cllr Thomas asked the parish council to consider any area within the parish that could benefit from the street clearance programme, Street Pride, should this be offered by City Council in the future. Areas highlighted were: recover pavement width alongside busy main roads, removal of the overgrowth of the grass verge from the traffic lights on Coastal Road to Pasture Lane, removal of the encroachment from under the hedges west of Slyne Road from the speed camera towards Slyne and to clear weeds and debris from the pavement alongside the A6 at Whin Grove.

Matters raised by Members of the Public – Members of the public voiced their concern with regards to the safety of users of Packet Lane now that the car park at the Packet Boat PH has been closed to the public. There has been unrestricted access across the car park since 1970. This access alleviated the problems when traffic meets on Packet Lane. Cllr Patrick commented on the parking outside the building on the corner with Packet Lane which makes it very difficult for cars to turn into the lane from the north. Unfortunately the police are unable to assist with this issue although suggestions were made to make it one-way south to north. The parish council will investigate every avenue with the relevant authorities to try to resolve the safety issue but in the meantime the chairman urged all members of the public to write individual letters to both the Planning Authority and County Highways with copies to the parish council. Cllr Thomas, in his absence, reported that he has spoken with Mark Cassidy of Lancaster City Council Planning Department on the access and it is thought the issue is a legal rather than planning matter. Cllr Thomas will keep the clerk informed of any developments on the planning application.

A member of the public did raise the issue of the piece of land on Church Brow and suggested some form of play equipment to be installed there for children who are not old enough to go into the village unsupervised. The clerk did raise the issue with Lancaster City Council who owns the land who said that unfortunately without external funding, it simply cannot happen.

A request to hold a camp fire on the shore by the Guide Unit on Thursday 17th September was granted. Cllr Craddock proposed – Seconded Cllr Bond – carried.

To consider Lengthsman's Report:

On the 27th of July, Mike invited the Police and they in-turn invited the Fire Brigade to join in the fun after two youths decided to set fire to what looked like the litter bin. He was informed it was "only" the picnic table. Names were taken and he hopes the two will have learnt their lesson. Two days later there was an enormous amount of litter on the play area, so much so he consulted the cctv but nothing showed.

- He has strimmed the hollows and sprayed parts to stop weeds spreading into a neighbouring garden.
- Sprayed the tennis courts, car park, parts of Main Street, Old Boy's School area, bowling greens etc.
- Trees between the school and playing fields have been pruned. A condition report was requested.
- The trees growing in the void next to the public toilets have also been cut down and the stumps treated with weed killer.
- The litter bin that was next to the shelter on the play area and acted as an aid to climbing onto the roof has been bolted down to a prepared concrete base away from the shelter.
- The new bench for the play area has now been installed.
- The goal posts have been put back
- The little heap of rubble at the Pinfold has been taken away.
- The path from Wordsworth to Monkswell on the A6 has been cut back and tidied up
- The new shackles for the basket swing are being prepared for fitting.

Works for his attention:

- ✓ Shape up the yew hedge at the War Memorial
- ✓ Tidy back the ivy at The Pinfold and Packet Bridge
- ✓ Tree next to the Teddy Bear bin has been broken and requires removal
- ✓ Cut back and reduce the height of the shrubbery between The Royal Car Park and The Green.

It was considered appropriate for Mike to purchase weed killer in the future and to present the bill for payment which will be equally shared between the parishes.

Terry Wilson has been approached to lift and relay the flags at The Pinfold, although Mike will do this work if Terry is too busy.

The clerk has had no response from County Highways regarding the marking out and lining of the car park at the playing fields but has been offered advice from Ian Robinson of Lancaster City Council and she will liaise with him accordingly. Cllr Craddock proposed a budget figure of £500 be ring-fenced for this work – seconded Cllr Bond – carried.

To receive any Declarations of Interest – None

Minutes – The Minutes of the meetings held on 6th July 2015 and 17th August were accepted as a true record – proposed Cllr Bond seconded Cllr Patrick – carried.

6868 Matters arising from the Minutes:

CCTV Coverage at The Play Area – It was confirmed that the CCTV camera has now been installed to oversee the play area.

Defibrillator Signage – Matter deferred although Cllr Lomax was not convinced the signage would be of benefit. It was noted, however, that the defibrillator at the Doctor's Surgery had been used making Cllr Craddock's work in providing these defibrillators worth while. It was also suggested that the location of the defibrillators be registered with Heartsafe.org.uk.

Designated Notice Board – Cllr Bond has liaised with the Village Hall Committee who has kindly offered to put up notices within their locked board for the parish council. Councillors' names and telephone numbers are on display together with the Meeting Agenda. It was also suggested that such details are contained within the Parish Magazine. It was felt that this would suffice for the time being as no preferred site was agreed and to place one at each end of the village would be too costly.

Dog Waste Bins – A waste bin was requested in the vicinity of the Londis Garage.

Parish Council Web-site – Information is continually placed on the web-site but Cllr Lomax felt that it could be improved, and suggested the use of different pictures around the village.

Bowling Festival 2016 – At a recent meeting of the Bowling Greens Committee, a request was received for the annual Bowling Festival to be held at Bolton-le-Sands in 2016. Provided the Bowling Club is allowed full catering rights Cllr Bond proposed that permission be granted on the understanding that the Green’s Committee receives a donation towards its funds in the sum of £100.00. Seconded Cllr Archer – carried.

6869 Remembrance Day Service (08.11.2015) - A road closure notice has been applied for. Cllr Budden will liaise with the vicar of Holy Trinity to arrange the service.

6870 Annual Christmas Tree and Switch-on – Permission from Bolton Lodge will be sought to site the annual Christmas tree on their forecourt as in previous years. The tree will be erected on or around the 2nd of December and be taken down on the 4th of 5th January 2016. Last year, the Housekeeper at Bolton Lodge provided refreshments. A Carol service was held at the switch-on. This was successful and a request to repeat this will be made. Cllr Bond proposed £50 is donated towards sherry and mulled wine – seconded Cllr Patrick – carried.

6871 To receive Reports by Members:

Community Playground Project – Cllr Leak reported on a Project Compliance Meeting she had with Entrust where it was confirmed everything was in order. From the meeting it was suggested a separate Asset Register be set up which is now in place.

Bowling Greens Committee – Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th of September were circulated prior to the meeting. It was suggested that the inspection visit by STRI should take place in July or August and the clerk will make enquiries. Concern was raised as to the on-going maintenance of the greens and the problems associated with the edges. A maintenance record will be compiled for next season and kept within the pavilion. It is understood the greens will close week commencing 14th September to allow the greensman time to carry out the end of season maintenance including seeding the scalped areas around the edges. The ash tree is causing concern and hopefully a report can be available for the next meeting. The Bowling Club confirmed it is happy for the proposed 2016 Bowling Festival to be held in Bolton-le-Sands provided it is given the opportunity to do the catering for the café and bar.

Sports Pavilion – Cllr Archer reported on a meeting he had with Alan Kilshaw regarding the facias and outside wooden surfaces which require attention. Cllr Archer proposed his price of £1200 be accepted – Seconded Cllr Craddock – carried. It was mentioned that after an evening match, the boiler had been left on which will be noted at their next meeting.

6872 Correspondence –

Lancashire County Council notified the parish council of intended highway works at St Michael’s Lane and Wordsworth Avenue.

Lancashire County Council notified the parish council of an application to record part of Thwaite Brow Lane and Mount Pleasant Lane including Public Footpath No. 10 and part of Public Footpath 9 as a public bridleway. The parish council raised no objection to this application provided extra maintenance will be carried out on these footpaths and asked will there be any additional funding available that the parish council can apply to? It was recorded that the footpath through Thwaite Brow Woods can become very muddy and often impassable for pedestrians where the footpath narrows.

Finance:

6873 Audit for the year ended 31st March 2015 – The audit has been completed. Cllr Craddock proposed and Cllr Bond seconded that the Annual Return has been approved and accepted by the council.

6874 Accounts Payable

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

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount / Description
427	M Ashton	£993.53 Parish Lengthsman (by 4 parishes)
428	P Bradley	£569.73 Clerk’s salary + petty cash
429	D. Mason	£254.12 Cleaner
430	A Swindlehurst	£200.00 Greensman
431	BDO LLP	£480.00 Audit fee

432	Lancaster City C.	£327.43 Grounds Maintenance
433	Agrovista	£544.80 Bowling green materials
434	Travis Perkins	£12.44 Misc.
435	Lloyd Bore	£954.72 Bat report

T & C Planning – None

Matters Raised for the October Meeting – Tennis Courts Surfacing (Leak).

Signed:..... Chairman

5th October 2015