

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the Teleconferencing PC meeting of 25th March 2021, 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs Cottle, Atkinson, Drinnan and the clerk. Cllrs Kenyon and Hantom were present up to and including item 12 due to the phone link cutting out. They were unable to dial in to the remainder of the meeting.

1. Apologies:

Cllr Collinson

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Approved by the PC and signed as a correct record by the clerk on behalf of the PC.

4. Matters arising (from previous meeting/s):

New website

Cllr Cottle confirmed that the website is not up and running yet but progress has been made and he hopes to make further progress in the next few days. The Clerk said she would need the web address to include on the Exemption Certificate of the Annual Return. Cllr Cottle agreed to email her the details.

Request for bench (Millennium Way)

The clerk stated that this was further to a request made by a member of the public last year, as per discussion at last October's meeting. As the Millennium Way improvements are not yet complete, it was agreed that this should be deferred until July.

Village enhancement

Cllr Drinnan has requested an invoice from LCC twice but he has not yet received one. He is also awaiting Forest of Bowland funding (£1500). He will follow up on both of these outstanding issues.

B4RN

Cllr Atkinson confirmed that it is now up and running. There are still issues with the connectivity to the Church which is currently ongoing. The PC will make further enquiries and discuss at the next meeting.

Millennium Way audit

It was confirmed that work has currently stopped due to Covid but it is anticipated that things will hopefully restart and the end of March. The wood supply is now in a depot for security. Further progress will be discussed at the next meeting.

Request for dog bin (Snow Hill Lane)

It was confirmed that the bin is now in situ adjacent to the stile for access to Nicky Nook. It is being emptied once a week and in between by the lengthsman.

Parking issues/traffic on the village

Cllr Cottle has arranged to meet Mark O'Donnell (Highways) on 7th April at 10AM. Cllr Drinnan stated he would also try to attend. He will also discuss village enhancement. Other cllrs were invited to attend.

Forest of Bowland Wildflowers for the meadows campaign

The clerk stated she had forwarded the email to Cllr Cottle on 3rd February. Cllr Atkinson requested this to be circulated to all. The clerk stated she would send it but that it only contained contact details and no further information. Cllr Drinnan will also ask Mark O'Donnell for a contact in order to get LCC to alter the mowing contract to allow more wildflower growth.

Signage (near the arch, Scorton Hall Park)

The clerk reported the response from Highways to change signage on 12th Feb as follows:

"We are not aware of conservation zones having different signing requirements to those set out in the Traffic Signs Regulation and General Directions 2016. In light of your concerns, however, we recently inspected the location to check the signs. The signs have placed to effectively notify traffic from both directions and they serve that purpose. Removing the left hand sign may lead to right turning traffic making a maneuver before realizing it is a cul-de-sac. We will not remove the left hand sign at the moment, but should they be damaged beyond repair or reach end of life we will not replace it."

Gully cleaning (request for map and clearance of drain Long Lane)

The clerk reported the response from Highways (12 Feb) as follows:

"We will inspect the gullies on Long Lane, from Park Gate to Cleveley Bank Lane, and raise an order to cleanse the blocked gullies. Unfortunately, we do not hold any maps of our drainage network. Historically, we visited every highway gully in Lancashire every 12 months as part of our gully cleansing programme. However, as many of these gullies were clear, our jetting crews often did not need to carry out any work. To make our service more cost effective, we developed a new cleansing programme based on officers' considerable local knowledge, the findings of our jetting teams, and reported problems.

We now attend highest priority gullies every 12 months. These are gullies which are normally full, or close to full, at the annual clean, or which have a history of blockages. We attend the next highest priority gullies every 24 months - these are gullies that benefit from routine cleansing as they are likely to block if not cleansed after this period.

The remainder of the county's gullies, such as Long Lane, no longer receive routine maintenance. This is because historically they never had any reported blockages or needed cleansing. Of course, we will still attend these gullies on a reactive basis when notified of any blockages. The priority order of our cleansing programme is not fixed, and we continue to monitor its effectiveness. Should local conditions change, we will change the priority of any gully where necessary."

Tithebarn Lane repair

Further to an email from Cllr Collinson, the clerk reported the response from Highways (Peter Agland) on 24th March which states that he has discussed this with the operations engineer for the area and they have not had chance to meet with Cadent yet, but they will be in touch with Cadent this week to arrange a site meeting as soon as possible.

5. Open forum:

Bench (Higher Lane)

The PC discussed a complaint from a member of the public which was sent to Highways & CC Clerk and Cllr Cottle. Cllr Cottle confirmed the bench is in situ as previously approved by Highways.

Letter from Dolphinholme Resident's Association re Wyreside Hall.

See planning item 10.

Children's play area

The PC discussed concerns raised by a member of the public regarding the flooring near the slide and puddle near the bench. Cllrs Cottle and Kenyon attended on Friday and concurred that the issues raised need addressing. Cllr Cottle will liaise with Mark Billington at Wyre Council to see who they would use to rectify the situation. He will report back at the next meeting.

Litter and bins

The PC discussed concerns raised by a member of the public regarding overflowing rubbish from bins near the Spar and playing field. The clerk confirmed that the email had been sent to her on 3rd March. Cllr Cottle stated that since then, extra bins have been installed at various locations which he specified (an extra 6-7). Several residents have also been litter picking. The clerk was requested to contact Wyre Council to see if they can supply extra litter picking equipment (at least 6) which could be kept in the shop. The clerk stated she would contact Sandra Byrne.

The PC stated that if this could not be provided, they would be happy to consider buying some for the village once prices established.

6. Playing field:

Progress report (including potential replacement play equipment)

Deferred until next meeting as Cllr Collinson absent.

Cllr Cottle stated following a report from a member of the public, he had requested the lengthsmen to stabilize the totem pole (which he had cordoned off for safety). The lengthsmen was unable to do this as parts of the structure were rotten, therefore it was removed.

Soccersixes project

Cllr Cottle explained that he had received an email from a member of the public requesting hire of the MUGA on certain dates. He confirmed he had responded by stating that the PC do not normally hire out and people use it on an ad hoc basis. He asked the PC if they agreed with the response he had given. The PC concurred, by reason of the fact that it may stop members of the community using it when they want and it would also create more parking issues.

Old Holly Farm play equipment

Cllr Kenyon confirmed he had made enquiries and is awaiting a response to see if the PC could obtain some suitable items.

7. Bikes & Barrows:

This year's event

Cllr Cottle stated that although not definite, there is an idea to provisionally have an event on 4th September to celebrate the end of lockdown.

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Wyre Cllr Jonny Leech sent the following update via the clerk on 23/3 as below:

“Wyre Council have been busy getting as much organized as possible for coming out of lockdown in stages. They continue to support the NHS (through the use of both the Little Theatre and Civic Centre as vaccination hubs) and local businesses (through facilitating the business grants, currently £41m has been awarded to Wyre businesses).

The annual budget was agreed at last week's full council meeting and we are pleased to keep increases in council tax low at £5 for the year for a Band D property, less than 10p per week. Keeping us as one of the lowest charging borough councils in the whole of Lancashire. This was intentionally kept low to try and help residents who may experience increases in other bills or have struggled financially these last 12 months due to covid.

All of the YMCA facilities are due to be reopening in May which is excellent news and something we have been working hard on. The Poulton YMCA Sports Hall however will remain not open to the public as a gym as it will be used as a lateral flow testing centre for those people that need a negative test result to go to work. This is a great resource that we have within the borough and please let other residents know that they can use this facility.”

10. Planning:

21/00227/FUL - Erection of one detached dwelling (design amendments following reserved matters approval 19/00759/REM) @ Lake View, Sandwell Brow Scorton (plus amendment).

The Parish Council has no objection or comments to the above.

11/00839/FULMAJ (Wyreside Hall)

Also see item 5.

Cllr Hantom explained the background and the fact that the hall has applied for a liquor license (served from 7.30AM). Various objections have been submitted, particularly concerning the conditions applied which states that certain Highway works needed to be undertaken prior to the business starting (including redirection around Wagon Rd). Cllr Cottle confirmed that until said works were complete, "no part" shall be open for trading. It is noted that there have been several functions held at the hall therefore, it is trading in a limited way. The Licensing Committee has referred the matter to planning enforcement who has concluded that unless the building is occupied, they can't take any action. It was suggested that Planning should attend to observe for themselves the current status.

The PC decided upon the following action:

Cllr Drinnan requested Cllr Hantom to supply evidence that the venue is operational and provide examples, with a view to making a submission to Wyre Council expressing this. Once Cllr Hantom has supplied the relevant information, Cllr Drinnan will:

- ❖ Put something in writing so that Ellet PC can discuss at their meeting next week.
- ❖ Circulate comments to Nether Wyresdale PC for their consideration prior to submission to Wyre Council.

11. Decision notices(status):

16/00396/DIS2 – (Erection of two detached dwellings with GG's @ Wyresdale House, Sandwell Brow, Scorton. Approval of details reserved by condition 3 {drainage} & 5 {gas protection measures} **SPLIT DECISION**

19/00600/DIS – (Reserved matters application for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 1 detached dwelling {following outline application 16/00396/OUT} @ Plot 2 Wyresdale House Sandwell Brow Scorton. Agreement of details reserved by condition 03 {boundary Treatments} on application 19/00600/REM.) **Accepted**

20/00519/FUL – (Erection of a detached managers/owners accommodation in connection with Caravan Park, erection of reception and garage/storage building for Caravan Park, works to create additional touring caravan pitches and works to allow siting of shepherd hut holiday accommodation @Fell View Park Sykes Farm Long Lane Scorton)
Permitted

21/00051/COUQ – (Prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to 2 Dwelling houses under Class Q of the GDPO @: Dolphinholme House Wagon Road Dolphinholme) **Refused**

12. Highways:

Grizdale Bridge (Harrisend Fell)

Further to an email from Cllr Atkinson, the clerk reported the response from Highways on 19/3 which states that they are currently waiting for tender returns from contractors to carry out the repairs. They anticipate the repairs will be undertaken by summer 2021. They have assured the PC that every effort will be taken to minimize the length of time the road will be closed.

Wagon Rd surface deterioration (from junct. Tinker's Lane to Wyreside Hall)

Cllr Atkinson said that the road surface is in a bad state and there is continual flooding and mud on the road. The PC asked the clerk to contact Highway to request repair of the road surface as well as the reinstatement of the ditch which will alleviate standing water issues. The clerk to report to Highways.

Higher Lane rd crumbling (between Throstle's Nest & junct with Keeper's Lane)

Cllr Atkinson stated that the road surface is in a bad state. The clerk was asked to report to Highways.

Damaged trees (motorway embankment, Cleveley Bank Lane near junct of Long Ln)

Cllr Atkinson reported that trees from the motorway embankment are potentially dangerous. It has been noted that there have been instances of trees falling down on the highway and some of them are splitting. The clerk was asked to report to Highways.

Pothole near Barn entrance

Cllr Cottle confirmed he has reported this to Highways and noted that although the status indicates no action taken as yet, someone has done some repair work. It is not known who has undertaken this.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the latest time sheets via email.

Jobs to be done

None

Lengthsman contract 2021-22

The clerk stated she had suggested to Cllr Cottle a slight amendment to appendix 2 to state “visually inspect play area equipment weekly” and suggested that the lengthsman include on each of his timesheet playground checks x 4 (or 5 dependant on whether 4 or 5 week month). This would save filling out a separate sheet and ensure compliance with the insurance conditions.

Cllr Cottle stated that the lengthsman was concerned about having weekly checks in his contract because he felt if he missed a check, he thought he may be liable. The clerk suggested fortnightly. This was agreed, therefore the clerk will email the details & contract to him including the request for him and Cllr Cottle to sign the contract (which was approved by the PC). The clerk will also copy in Cllr Collinson.

PRoW scheme

The clerk stated that if the PC decide to join (when the letter comes from LCC in April), a separate form showing all PRoW jobs will require completion for submission to LCC in order to obtain the annual grant (now £500). The clerk will send the lengthsman a template he can use for this purpose in addition to the above.

14. Village Hall:

Update

Cllr Cottle stated that internal refurbishment is done. Externally, they are trying to sort out the car park and drainage. They hope they will be able to accept bookings soon.

15. Finance:

Account update

The clerk confirmed the latest balance is **£12,470.17** as at 1/3.

Item paid:

Cllr Collinson “no dog sign” playing field - £11.68 as discussed and approved at last meeting.

Items approved for payment (March):

Clerk stationery expenses – £11.89

Lengthsman invoice January- £350.00 paid

Lengthsman invoice February- £266.00

Paid. Cheque given to Cllr Kenyon for the lengthsman 19/03/21

Microsoft Office annual subscription - £20.00

Beckett Rawcliffe (Clerk’s PAYE & Pension admin) - £240.00

Items approved for payment (April):

Lengthsman co-ordinator fee 2021/22 - £75

LALC subscription - £181.63

Community Futures subscription - £30

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue – £100.00

Items to discuss:

Litter picking equipment – See item 5.

16. Health & Safety:

No health and safety concerns raised.

17. Points of interest:

Internal Audit review

The PC approved current arrangements.

Risk assessment

The PC approved the current format with no amendments.

Standing orders

The PC approved the current format with no amendments.

Financial regulations

The PC approved the current format with no amendments.

18. Date of next meeting: **6th May 2021 including AGM @ Scorton Chapel**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded @ 9.25PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

LCC – Parish & town council’s champion grant fund

LCC – Winter bulletin 22/1, 29/1, 12/2, 19/2, 26/2, 5/3

Community Futures – Information bulletin

NALC – Chief executive’s bulletin 22/1, 29/1, 12/2, 19/2, 26/2, 5/3

WC – LRF stakeholder bulletin issues 24-26

LALC – Wyre Area meeting zoom link

LALC – training timetable 2021

LCC – travel for life free online road safety presentation

Include – Solar benches info

LALC – Wyre Area police update x 2

Rural Services Network (RSN) – Rural bulletin 26/1, 2/2, 9/2, 16/2, 23/2, 2/3, 9/3

LCC – free online event maintaining traditional buildings

NALC – Coronavirus update

Jan Finch – FOB joint advisory committee report

LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts Feb & March

WC – Items published 29/1 links

WC – Schedule of executive decision 29/1, 1/3

Jan Finch – reporting incidents to police link

Jonny Leech – Vaccination update from Healthier Lancashire & South Cumbria

RSN – Rural Funding Digest Feb & March

NALC – Coronavirus update 5/2

Community Futures – Information bulletin Feb

WC – TPO no 10 fo 2020 land @ 8 River’s View Fold, Lower Dolphinholme

WC – Audit agenda, supplement & minutes 16/2 link

WC – Item published 9/2 link

WC – Cabinet agenda & minutes 17/2 link

LCC – Safety improvement works to footbridge M5 between juncts 32 and 33

LCC – County council elections event

LALC – EPC2-21 Model design code consultation

LALC – EPC1 -21 Right to regenerate consultation

WC – Wyre planning policy Feb 21 newsletter

WC – Licensing agenda & minutes 25/2 link

Community Futures – info bulletin

BC Shelters – Bus shelter info

WC – Overview & Scrutiny agenda & additional info 1/3 link

NALC – Coronavirus update 23/2

LCR magazine

WC – Flood Forum meeting 11/3

WC – Planning agenda & supplement 3/3 link

WC – Employment and appeals minutes 22/2 link

NALC – Star council awards 2021

LCC – Zero carbon communities

LALC – Training questionnaire

NALC – Coronavirus update

Highways England – M6 Turner’s Farm notification of works

WC – Items published 25/2 links

WC – portfolio holder decisions agenda 4/3 link

WC – Items published 1/3 links

Community Futures – Information bulletin

WC – Wyre Flood Forum agenda 11th March and prev minutes

WC – Council agenda 11/3 link

LCC – Trading Standards and safeguarding updates

LCC – Rd closure 3/3 Hazelhead Lane Barnacre x 2

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 3 4/3 links

WC – Press release: top marks for Civic Centre vaccination centre

WC – Taxi licensing policy

WC – Flood Forum Environment Agency proforma