

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 5th September 2024, 7.30PM @ Scorton Chapel

**Present: Cllrs Collinson, Elliott, Gledhill, Atkinson, Stephen, the clerk
and 3 members of the public**

1. Apologies:

Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker

Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner

Cllr Thompson

Police

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Police report:

None

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

Tree planting (Church field)

Cllr Gledhill stated he had attended a meeting at church. Several ideas have been put forward and there is the intention of approaching the diocese for funding. They will contact Alison Boden (WC) to get a ground plan.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed to take no further action regarding this for the time being.

SpID

Cllr Gledhill stated that the "Slow Down save lives" stickers are not having much impact on traffic speed. He again put forward the proposal of the PC purchasing a SpID from Elancity who has quoted £4,500 For 2 SpIDs (inclusive of software) & £5,300 with the poles. Cllr Gledhill also discussed the process of the police monitoring traffic.

The clerk explained the experience that both Nateby & Cockerham PC's have had and stated that one issue for Nateby was that they wanted to capture data but have been informed that Catterall PC had the same device as them but the police use data in a different way and the SpID data is not taken into account.

Following discussion, Cllr Gledhill requested the clerk to send him the contact details of the person at LCC who deals with SpIDs, Alan Cox.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed that due to the cost, that a notice should be put on social media "Scorton Life" to gauge opinion prior to purchase.

20/00182/FUL WC Planning Enforcement

The clerk reported the further response on 20th August from Wyre Council Enforcement about the misleading signage (signage directing traffic to the left when it is two way) and following submission of a photograph.

Enforcement do not have any particular problems with the signage as a whole. It is their opinion that the signage is in keeping with the local amenity. Having broached the subject with planning their understanding is that should an application seeking advertising consent be received, it would probably be viewed favourably by the council.

However, the sign that does cause some concern is the EXIT, Left Turn Arrow, sign facing drivers as the exit the car park which seems to imply the road is one way. Enforcement has confirmed that Highways should be notified.

RESOLVED: That the clerk notifies Highways as per Wyre Council's advice.

Flooding Long Lane (near junction of Cleveley Bank Lane)

The clerk reported the further response from Highways (Peter Agland) on 22nd July which states that Highways has now attended and jetted all the gullies around the junction. All were full and needed emptying but are running correctly except for one to the south of the junction which has a jammed lid. They will be repairing the lid shortly, and do not anticipate this to cause any flooding in the meantime.

Request for Highways contact for addressing wider Highways issues

The clerk reported that Highways has sent an email on 28th June with a list of contacts for all Highways district lead officers (circulated prior to meeting to Cllrs).

RESOLVED: That the clerk respond and request clarification of whether officers cover certain areas.

Lancashire Community Orchard Grant

Cllr Elliott has not actioned as yet. He intends to arrange a meeting with Cllr Collison. Deferred until the next meeting.

Cattle grid Harrisend Fell (Bleasdale End)

The clerk reported the further response from Highways (Andrew Huskisson) on 10th July which states that they were due to attend that day to clear the grid. It was confirmed that this had been done.

Gubberford Lane Hedge overgrowth

The clerk reported the response from Wyresdale anglers on 24th July confirming that the hedge had been trimmed.

6. Open forum:

Wyresdale Crescent parking sign

The PC discussed an email from a member of the public on 1st August querying this sign.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Collinson look into it.

White Lines near Gubberford Bridge

A member of the public reported that these were hardly visible. The PC noted that there had been a couple of accidents in that location.

RESOLVED: That the clerk should report this to Highways.

7. Playing field:

Accessible charitable funding

The PC deferred discussion on options following research on charitable foundations of large companies (e.g. United Utilities) until the next meeting.

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items discussed:

LCC/SLCC/LALC partnership working update

The clerk read details of the email of 28th June. Salient details as per appendix 3.

WC – Wyre Local Plan ambassador briefing 23rd July

Cllr Collinson reported the update on behalf of Cllr Thompson:

- ❖ In the first two options they either create a focus on the Fleetwood area and have a small number of developments on the A6 corridor or the reverse the above with more focus on the A6 and a top up in Fleetwood (an 80% - 20% split).

- ❖ Development in Scorton is likely to be limited.

WC – Planning reform issues and options

It was explained that Wyre Council has to have a 5 yearly review of the Local Plan. This consultation concerns a call for sites to be included for potential future development. Now that there is a new government with amended targets, it is necessary for Wyre Council to do a re-evaluation based on market needs. A member of the public has completed a review document which was circulated to cllrs to perusal. He stated that the PC had the option to endorse this and submit on his behalf as it would lend it weight. The document was emailed prior to the meeting by the member of the public to Cllr Elliott. It was noted that the deadline for response is 10th September.

RESOLVED: That this document be circulated via email to all cllrs who will have two days to read and make comment. Endorsement of this document will be considered and comments sent to the clerk for her to respond before the deadline (copying in Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker).

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker provided the following via email:

“Please accept my apologies for not being able to attend this evening meetings, I am taking part in a charity memory walk for Blue Skies at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, but will be available for Octobers meeting.

I have not had contact from any local residents with regards to issues in the Scorton area and so have nothing to feedback currently in that regard.

The main issue within Wyre at the moment is the current ‘Issues and Options Consultation’ for the Wyre Local Plan. Residents and Parish Councils are encouraged to complete and return by the deadline of September 10th. A link can be found here for the document:

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/downloads/file/1977/wyre-local-plan-issues-and-options-july-24>

As always, if any residents would like to get into I am available via email charlotte.walker@wyre.gov.uk or mobile phone on 07776 322 450.”

10. Planning:

Application number	Description	Resolved PC comments
24/00447/FUL	Retrospective application for the change of use of the first floor above garage from ancillary accommodation, to 2 self-contained holiday accommodation units (C3) and addition of external staircase @ Snowhill House Snowhill Lane Nether Wyresdale	The Parish Council note that this is a residential area close to the road and have concern about potential noise intrusion. They request a sound restriction to be implemented to protect amenity.
24/00716/FUL	Retrospective change of use of the first floor above existing garage, from ancillary home office into a studio flat for holiday accommodation. @ Snowhill Barn Snowhill Lane Nether Wyresdale	The Parish Council note that this is a residential area with a footpath running close by and have concern about potential noise intrusion. They request a sound restriction to be implemented to protect amenity.
24/00724/LBC	Listed building consent for the removal of existing render and replacement and infill of missing stonework to gable wall @ Old Mill House Wagon Road Dolphinholme	The PC has no objection.

11. Decision notices(status):

Application number	Description	Decision
24/00293/FUL	Proposed extension to existing garage @ Ash Lea Station Lane Scorton	Permitted
24/00257/FUL	Proposed conversion of existing domestic outbuilding to ancillary Annex @ Ashcroft Gubberford Lane Scorton	Permitted
24/00054/FULMAJ	COU of land to allow siting of up to 9 holiday lodges and construction of associated infrastructure. (Resub 23/00439/FULMAJ) @ Brook Lodge Oakencloough Road Nether Wyresdale Scorton	Permitted
24/00375/FUL	Replacement roof including new front and rear dormers, demolition of existing single-storey rear extensions and replacement rear walls @ Fellside The Square Scorton	Withdrawn
23/01157/FUL	Change of use of existing agricultural shippon to form dining hall (Class E(b)) with reception, bar, storage areas and two toilets @ Wyresdale Park Snowhill Lane Nether Wyresdale	Permitted

12. Highways:

Grid (outside number 24, the Square)

Cllr Collinson has been informed by the workers who clear the gullies that the gully in this location does not go anywhere in one section.

Plastic bollard near Gubberford Bridge (A6 side)

There is a bollard that has been in this location for at least 6 months and requires removal.

Overgrown hedge obscuring “Stop” signs & faded white lines Crosshill Crossroads, Long Ln

The hedge in this location is completely obscuring the signs on both sides. This is also compounded by faded lines near this junction causing a health and safety issue at the junction.

RESOLVED: That the clerk report the above items to Highways.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the time sheets etc via email prior to meeting on the date of receipt. She has requested but not received the invoice for August. Cllr Collinson confirmed that he is unavailable at present.

Jobs to be done

Installation of the new PC noticeboard.

14. Village Hall:

It was confirmed that they have a healthy bank balance. Information of who uses the hall will be provided.

15. Finance:

account update

The clerk provided the latest balance as at 2nd August as **£43,560.50**

Items approved for payment:

Lengthsman invoice August not received

Items paid:

Lengthsman invoice June - £976.50 (including £105 PRow) paid 19/08/24

Lengthsman invoice July - £1,190.07 (including £35.07 petrol) paid 19/08/24

Lengthsman invoice P/F grass cutting June and July (3 cuts per month) - £480.00
paid 19/08/24

Cllr Thompson noticeboard £2,185.01 paid 11/07/24

Item received:

Donation from Legend Fires (North West Stages) - £300.00 on 28th June

Items discussed:

Springfield Garden Hedge

RESOLVED: That arrangements will be made to cut same as last year.

Bikes & Barrows

It was confirmed that the funds have now been transferred to the Scorton Chapel account for use for community projects.

Change to AGAR 2023-24

The clerk explained the changes made. These were initialled by Cllr Collinson. Refer appendix 2. As a result of these changes, the external auditor will remove the “except for” matter (qualifications) and this will be changed to “other matter”.

16. Health & Safety:

No health and safety concerns raised.

17. Points of interest:

None

18. Date of next meeting: **17th Oct 2024**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded @ 9.10PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

LCC – Crowdfund Lancashire library drop in – Garstang

WC – Flood Forum documents

Rural Services Network (RSN) – Rural bulletin 11/6, 18/6, 25/6, 2/7, 9/7, 16/7, 23/7, 30/7, 20/8

WC – Planning minutes 5/6 link

LCC – Lancaster Grand Prix 2024 road closures 28/7 x 2

WC – Overview and Scrutiny minutes 10/6 link

WC – Licencing agenda & minutes 25/6 link

WC – Funding Opportunity

WC – Audit and Standards minutes 11/6 link

WC – Planning agenda, supplement and minutes 3/7 link

WC – Press release: Audio ballot papers

RSN – Rural funding digest June & July

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

WC - Employment and Appeals agenda 8th July link

Sgt Elliot Jones – introduction

WC – Items published 1/7 link

WC – Schedule of executive decisions 1/7, 1/8

WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 9/7 link & decisions x 2

LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts July

WC – Wyre Local Plan ambassador briefing 23rd July

WC – Overview & Scrutiny agenda and minutes 15/7 links

LALC – Update including hedgerow management legislation

WC – Summer community fund

LCC – OPCC consultation

WC – Cabinet agenda 17/7 link & minutes

LCC – Bus service changes August & September

LCC – Summer community fund deadline 15/7

Lancs Fire & Rescue – hot topics

LCC – Community Energy Fund deadline round 3 1st September

WC – Flood Forum minutes 13/6

WC – Business awards 2024

WC – Audit and Standards agenda & minutes 23/7 links

LALC – Wyre Area meeting agenda 31/7 & minutes 24/4 sent to reps

WC – Press release: positive Futures in Wyre project

Ron Bailey – Safety of lithium-ion batteries, E-bikes & scooters

LCC – Rd closure Tithebarn Lane 19/7-23/7

WC – Employment and appeals agenda 29/7 link

Integrated radio systems – radios for emergency situations (no power or internet)

WC – Briefing note from chief executive

WC – Parish & Town Council survey 2024

WC – Licensing agenda 1/8 link

**Saltire Play – Design service and consultation on play equipment & safety
resurfacing**

**WC – Planning policy briefing packs for Local Plan consultation for planning
ambassadors**

WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 1/8 link

WC – Planning policy newsletter July

LALC – updates

WC – Press release: Local Plan issues and options 2024

LCC – Station Lane nightly road closures 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th, 20th, 26th & 27th

LCC – Rd closures Snowhill Lane 8/10 x 2

WC – Items published 1/8 links

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 4 1/8 links

WC – Issues and options & planning reform deadlines 10th and 24th September

LALC – conference programme and booking info

LALC – Planning for parish and town councils 17th September

LALC – Planning Policy newsletter August

LCC – Parish & town council survey reminder

APPENDIX 2

Explanation of amendment to the AGAR 2023-2024 in accordance with external auditor instruction

As per email 23rd August 2024, Nether Wyresdale Parish Council was informed that The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. A standing order as at the year end has been incorrectly included as a reconciling item in the bank reconciliation. The figures in Section 2, Boxes 4, 7 and 8 should read £4,335, £19,454, and £19,454 respectively.

This is in accordance with the Practitioners Guide 2023 which states:

“5.20. Direct debits and standing orders should always be accounted for on the date they clear the bank. They should never appear on a bank reconciliation.”

The PC were requested to ensure that amendments are corrected in the prior year comparatives when completing next year's AGAR.

Further to the above, the auditor was contacted due to the fact that in the Practitioners Guide 2023 it also states (page 7):

“Section 5 of the guide provides supporting information and practical examples to assist smaller authority officers to manage their governance and financial affairs and is **not mandatory.**”

In addition to which, the standing order referred to (£270.27), refers to the clerk salary which should have been paid on 30th March and would be a payment not subject to cancellation.

The auditor explained that it is a requirement for them to abide by the statement laid out in 5.20 and the PC was instructed to carry out the instructions in accordance to the original email with the addition that the original form should be amended, that the aforementioned figures should be crossed out and correct figures written next to them, that the clerk and chair should sign the changes and that the form be resubmitted by the 30th September.

APPENDIX 3

LCC/SLCC/LALC partnership working update 28th June

LOVE CLEAN STREETS

It was acknowledged that updates on reported items still leaves a lot to be desired. Phil Durnell, Director of Highways will be retiring shortly and the new Director will be tasked with making improvements a priority.

LCC HIGHWAYS

Concerns were expressed that some Highway matters still disappear into a 'black hole' and Parish Clerks need to constantly chase matters to get a reply. The Cabinet Member for Highways - County Cllr Rupert Swarbrick - was in attendance and stated that items are put on a work schedule where officers can provide updates - however it was acknowledged that in the specific example presented, the updates did not take place. It was stated that Love Clean Streets remains the preferred reporting method, however for more complex matters or matters which do not fall into the specified categories, he asked that Clerks be reminded to use the highway team mailbox.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR INVOLVEMENT WITH PARISHES

During the above discussion, it was acknowledged that some County Councillors are more supportive to Parishes than others. To help rectify this, it was suggested that 'Liaison with Parish Councils' is included on the training agenda for Member Development.

PARISH CHARTER

The Parish Charter is due to be refreshed and after the elections, you should receive a questionnaire asking for thoughts on how the Charter is working. Feedback is likely to be an Agenda item for the Parish & Town Conference to be held on the first Saturday in November.