

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 17th October 2024, 7.30PM @ Scorton Chapel

Present: Cllrs Elliott, Collinson, Stephen and Atkinson, Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker, the clerk and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies:

Cllr Gledhill

Cllr Thompson

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Police report:

None

RESOLVED: That the clerk should contact the police to find out when they could attend a parish council meeting.

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

SpID

The clerk explained account update:

Bal @ 4th Sept is £40,524.75

Potential remaining expenses is £17,492.90

Estimated remaining funds at the end of the year are £23,031.85 which comprises of:

£900 remaining biodiversity grant LCC

£1,798.50 PrOW grant LCC

£20,333.35 other reserves (to include potential replacement play equipment)

Therefore if the PC wanted to purchase a SpID, this could potentially be afforded.

The PC discussed the feedback from the social media post concerning the purchase of a SpID. It was confirmed that 81% were in favour of having a SpID device.

RESOLVED: That the PC will consider the potential costs of play equipment after receipt and consideration of this year's play inspection, which will take place in December. This will determine further consideration of SpID purchase.

20/00182/FUL WC Planning Enforcement

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 20th September further to WC Enforcement's recommendation to raise awareness of the misleading signage (signage directing traffic to the left when it is two way):

"We have not been consulted on the sign although, as there is no section 278 agreement in place and the sign is to be placed on private land rather than highway, we would not have any comment to make or raise any objection. Should the parish have any concerns about the sign, this must be raised with Wyre Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority."

Lancashire Community Orchard Grant

Cllr Elliott will deal with the application next week.

Parking Sign (Wyresdale Crescent)

It was noted that 9 out of 10 residents supported the signage.

RESOLVED: That the clerk should respond to the member of the public that while there is no resident permit scheme enforceable, the signs are in situ to discourage village hall users from parking there and as such, they will remain.

Highways contacts & "Love Clean Streets" APP

The clerk reported the further response to clarify whether officers are allocated to certain areas. It has been confirmed that the team don't currently work any single district so are able to deal with all areas.

The clerk has queried with Paul Rigby (LCC Parish Champion) the request for clerks to use the app as she felt this was unsuitable for PC's to use due to lack of accountability. He received a response on the 23rd September from Sarah Scott (Highways Operational Support & Liaison Manager) which he forwarded to the clerk. She has stated that they will be logging simple enquires on their Highways Asset Management system. Once logged, they will provide the Clerk with the Customer Reference Number and the timescale for completion, along with the telephone number of our Customer Services team who can provide updates or record further comments and actions on the PC's behalf.

Grid (outside number 24, the Square)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 20th September following a report that this grid does not go anywhere in one direction. They have stated that they will investigate the concerns raised and should further works be necessary, they will be ordered and works programmed. Highways is not in a position to advise on when the works would take place.

Faded white lines near Gubberford bridge

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 20th September which states that the lines have been inspected and they agree that they would benefit from their intervention. Works will be undertaken as soon as they are able to refresh the road markings.

Plastic bollard near Gubberford Bridge

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 20th Sept which states that they will arrange for removal as soon as they are able.

It was noted that this has been removed.

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

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 20th September which states that the hedge was inspected on 16 Sept 2024 and that their inspector was unable to identify any issues at the location therefore, no further action is planned at this time.

Cllr Atkinson has circulated images to the PC today of the issues raised.

RESOLVED: That the clerk responds with these images for Highways to revisit and address.

6. Open forum:

The first 2 items below were raised by email prior to the meeting.

LCC Rd closure - Night time closure of the railway bridge on Station Lane (Oct).

A member of the public stated that the TTRO says pedestrian access will be maintained. He would like confirmation from LCC that this must be made clear to the operatives working on the bridge because in the past, cyclists and pedestrians have been turned back at the railway bridge on Gubberford Lane when the closure was only for motor vehicles. In this case, there is no reasonable alternative for a person walking home from the pub.

The clerk has queried this with Highways in order to clarify for the meeting. Highways has responded. Refer appendix 2.

RESOLVED: That the clerk should respond to express the PC's concern over the lack of co-ordination in regard to road closures especially when there is more than one going on in the parish.

Work at the river bridge (Station Lane)

A member of the public has requested clarification as to what is happening at the river bridge. He confirmed that months ago there were signs saying it would be subject to traffic light control for 7 weeks and some signs went up for road works. He uses that bridge twice almost every day and he has never seen the traffic lights operating but very frequently, there is a truck parked there with two temporary traffic lights on the back. It seems to be there ages but they are never used.

The clerk has queried this with Highways in order to clarify for the meeting. As above, refer appendix 2.

Millennium Way steps (near Ashcroft)

A member of the public reported during the meeting that these are in need of repair.

RESOLVED: That the clerk contact Alison Boden (Wyre Council Coast and Countryside manager) to request her to arrange for volunteers to undertake repairs.

7. Playing field:

Accessible charitable funding

Discussion on options following research on charitable foundations of large companies (e.g. United Utilities) deferred.

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items discussed:

Garstang Town Council – Section 106 monies

RESOLVED: That the clerk should reply to Garstang Town Council indicating that the PC are interested in being involved and to copy in Cabus PC. The clerk was further authorized to forward to Cabus PC, Nether Wyresdale's Issues and Options response after they shared theirs on 19th September.

LCC Treescapes – Tree planting (email 15th October)

The clerk read the introductory email further to communication with Alison Boden concerning tree planting (the land that lies between the M6 and Gubberford Lane, behind the school and St Peter's Church.)

RESOLVED: That the clerk respond stating that the land referred to is in private ownership and that without a map, the PC cannot be more precise. No further action agreed.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker reported the following:

- ❖ Government changes will affect planning and the Local Plan. Housing targets have substantially increased and it will be possible for other councils who cannot meet their allocated housing targets e.g. due to land not being available, to dip into other areas land to facilitate this. As a result of these changes, motions have been put to the government raising objections.
- ❖ Another motion has been put to the government objecting to the cut in the winter fuel allowance.

10. Planning:

Application number	Description	Resolved PC comments
24/00674/FUL	Single-storey rear extension and new front porch @ Burnside Snowhill Lane Nether Wyresdale	No objection
24/00712/FUL	Installation of Air Source Heat Pump to side @ Street Farm Oakencrough Road Nether Wyresdale	No objection

11. Decision notices(status):

Application number	Description	Decision

12. Highways:

2 potholes Station Lane (near bridge)

This was reported prior to the meeting to a cllr. This will be looked into and once identified, will be reported via the "Love Clean Streets" APP.

Works near Kettlewell (opposite the Barn).

It was raised that the same hole has been dug up 3 or 4 times in the last few months. The reason for this is not known. It was also noted that the cobbles that were previously there have not been reinstated as they should have been and the area has been concrete filled instead. Cllr Collinson will send details to the clerk.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the latest time sheet etc via email prior to meeting.

Jobs to be done

The signpost at Sykes End as well as the installation of the PC noticeboard.

14. Village Hall:

It was reported that the village hall finances are doing well.

15. Finance:

account update

The clerk provided figures as at 4th October **£40,132.57**.

Items approved for payment:

PKF Littlejohn (external audit) - £252.00

Lengthsman invoice August (514.50) & September (£462.00) - £976.50

Lengthsman invoice August & September (P/F grass cutting) - £160.00

Lengthsman petrol invoice - £35.07

Springfield Garden Hedge (payable to Cllr Collinson) - £120.00

(All the above signed cheques except the one for PKF Littlejohn were given to Cllr Collinson.)

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pay all the above.

Items discussed:

Garstang Christmas lights donation

RESOLVED: That no donation is made. The clerk will notify Garstang Town Council accordingly.

Donation to Dolphinholme village hall (renovations)

RESOLVED: That Cllr Atkinson look into this and ask the hall to contact the clerk with the details.

16. Health & Safety:

No health and safety concerns raised.

17. Points of interest:

LALC – Wyre Area meeting

Cllr Elliot provided a report:

- ❖ He circulated the Climate Change Strategy Plan document.
- ❖ He stated that James Reilly, a parish councillor and owner of Easy Websites explained that cllrs are advised to use .gov.uk emails.

The clerk stated that the use of these emails will probably become mandatory and that there is a cost implication for changing of approx. £300 P/A (dependant on number of cllrs).

RESOLVED: To only change email addresses when it is mandatory to do so.

18. Date of next meeting: 28th Nov 2024 (PRECEPT)

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded @ 8.45PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

WC – Overview & Scrutiny agenda, supplement & minutes 2/9 link

WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 29/8 link

WC – Cabinet agenda & minutes 4/9 link

WC – Licensing minutes 20/8 link

WC – Planning agenda, supplement & minutes 4/9 link

Rural Services Network (RSN) – Rural bulletin 28/8, 3/9, 10/9,17/9

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 29/8 link

Ron Bailey – Campaign to increase safety of E-Bikes and scooters

WC – Items published 2/9 link

WC – Items published 2/9 links

WC- Schedule of executive decisions 2/9

WC – Flood Forum agenda for 5th Sept, minute and other info

LCC – Parish & Town Council conference 2/11

LCC – Commissioners fund

Playtime by Fawns – playground info

RSN – Rural Funding Digest Sept

LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts Sept

WC – Council agenda 12th Sept link

LCC – Autumn parish & town council newsletter

WC – Licensing agenda 17/9 link

WC – Press release: Independent review of Wyre Council

LCC – Parish & town council conference Sat 2nd Nov

WC – Audit & Standards agenda 24/9 link

WC – Rural Community Circular Economy fund

LCC – FOB natural landscape funding opportunity (diamond landmark trees)

LCC – Rd closure Station Lane 18/9-22/9

WC – Charlotte Walker – Rural Economy grant

Cabus PC – Their issues and options response

LALC – Wyre Area meeting info 25/9 and next years meeting dates (to Cllr Elliott)

APPENDIX 2

Highways reply 9th October re Open Forum items:

We work with district councils and utility providers, where appropriate, to try and reduce the impact any essential roadworks may have on residents, public transport, and the local economy. Regrettably, disruption is unavoidable at times.

Network Rail (NR) are responsible for maintaining the bridge on Station Lane. They are also responsible for ensuring that they do so safely, and without endangering highways users.

We have worked with NR to ensure that they keep disruption to a minimum. In this case, we have reluctantly agreed that pedestrians and cyclists will not be able to access the bridge between 10pm and 6am when the works are in progress. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Fortunately, this restriction will only apply on Saturday evenings between 5 October 2024 and 26 October 2024.

Turning now to the bridge over the river. The Environment Agency are completing urgent repairs to the nearby flood bank. They had started this work without notifying us, or seeking prior permission. They should have, as these works will have an impact on the adjacent highway. We have now instructed them to introduce appropriate traffic management to help keep disruption to a minimum.

Occasionally, as in this case, we may not receive sufficient advance notice of essential works affecting the highway. This limits our ability to prepare in advance and inform affected residents. Ultimately, we cannot prevent statutory undertakers (such as Network Rail and the Environment Agency) from carrying out essential works on or near the highway.

We do publish a countywide roadworks bulletin in Lancashire online to show when and where roadworks are taking place. This helps keep the county's residents informed of any possible disruption and enables them to plan accordingly. You can find this information online at: [Road works bulletin \(arccgis.com\)](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/road-works-bulletin/).