

PARISH OF NETHER KELLET
Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at
Congregational Church School Rooms on Wednesday 2nd May 2018 at 7-00 pm.

Present: Councillor Mr David Whitaker - Chair
Councillor Mrs Judith Bentham
Councillor Mr Nick Johnson
Councillor Mr Chris Halhead
Councillor Mr George Smith
Councillor Mr Peter Riley
Councillor Mr Ian Williams

In attendance: County Councillor Mrs P Williamson and one resident

18013 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received from City Councillor Mr J R Mace

18014 **MINUTES:** It was **RESOLVED** that, subject to minor amendments, the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th April 2018 be approved.

18015 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** There were no declarations of interests or dispensations in respect of items on the Agenda.

18016 **ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION & INFORMATION ONLY UPDATES:**

Public discussion: None

Clerks report: The Clerk presented the schedule of correspondence received in the last month which included the three consultations set out in Agenda 18022.

County Councillor Williamson had written to Members to bring to their attention Warton Mire, also referred to as the 'Salisbury Enterprise Zone Development Update'. It was reported as part of the planning permission the ecological assessment required identification of a site to attempt to relocate/redirect migratory birds. As the preferred site Warton Mire will attract a significant amount of investment to acquire the site and undertake infrastructure work to encourage migration of ground nesting birds to the site. The scheme has the potential to draw in up to £500k for the local economy.

Councillor Williamson had also reported that Lancashire County Council have provided an updated and easier to understand highways policy that includes detailed information for the most common defects or hazards including a clear definition, photographs, risk impact ratings and associated investigation criteria, as well as risk matrices and recommended actions.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk's Report be noted.

Members updates on issues arising since the last meeting:

- a) **PACT:** Nothing to report
- b) **ProW:** It was reported that footpaths are now drying out. A sign that had rotted has now been replaced by Cllr Halhead.
- c) **Twinning Association:** This was as reported at the Annual meeting including two fund raising events in January and March and the twinning association being grateful to County Cllr Williamson for advising on suitable grant funding for their activities. Plans for the rest of the year were outlined.
- d) **LALC:** Nothing to report
- e) **Quarry Matters:** Nothing to report
- f) **Fly-tipping:** There have been two fly-tipping incidents, including one where a crime number has been issued and a witness statement provided by Cllr Smith to the City Council enforcement officer and the incident pursued. Feedback on any action will be provided.

The Parish Lengthsman was initially asked to deal with a large tree stump that had been

fly-tipped on Dunald Mill Lane, but this was regarded as being too dangerous to deal with and so was referred to Lancaster City Council to deal with.

- g) **Village Hall:** As was as reported at the Annual meeting. Arrangements have now been made for the box for B4RN to be located at the back of the Village Hall in a location that is acceptable to the Village Hall committee. The Village Hall is currently in a sound financial position and plans to spend funds in 2018/2019 for the benefit of the Village Hall are being put in place, including a number of events such as the planned filed day on 16th June.
- h) **Projects:** Parish information board was being discussed in detail at Agenda item 18022 on the Agenda for this meeting.
- i) **BA4N:** As reported earlier the box for the BA4N connection has now been fixed on the rear wall of the Village Hall. Significant progress is now being made by volunteers to connect people to the fibre optic broadband network
- j) **Lodges Charity:** The Charity was being discussed in detail at Agenda item 18021 on the Agenda for this meeting as agreed at April's meeting of the Parish Council.
- k) **Lengthsman Report:** The grass at the playing field has been cut twice and the play area strimmed. The noticeboard was repaired and replaced at the beginning of April. Overgrown verges on Halton Road were dealt with by a local resident.
- l) **General matters:** There have been inspections of the play area by Lancaster City Council, Public Realm which has identified worn links on the swings that should be replaced as part of the arrangement with the City Council.

It was reported that Wickstead Playground are running a competition on so-called 'historic horses' and an offer to restore these. They have requested a photograph and supporting text of less than 50 words that will be worked up and provided by July. It was suggested that the local school be asked to be involved.

Curb stones opposite Londis are damaged and misaligned and require attention and the verges on Back Lane need cutting back and a hedge on Timpany Lane is so overgrown that it is causing pedestrians to walk into the road. Potholes on Back Lane also need addressing.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members updates be noted and that follow-up action be taken as required.

18017 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS/TRAFFIC ORDERS:**

Application No:	Description:
18/00384/FUL	Demolition of existing outbuilding, side wall and covered storage area and erection of a single storey side extension

It was **RESOLVED** that no representations be made regarding the above planning application.

18018 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

100812	Mr R Bailey, Parish Clerk's Fees and Expenses – April 2018	£259.62
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It was **RESOLVED** that the above account(s) be paid.

18019 **PLANNING AUTHORITY DECISIONS:** Members considered the up-to-date position on decisions of the planning authority (Lancaster City Council) on planning applications previously deliberated.

It was **RESOLVED** that the decisions of the planning authority be noted.

18020 **PARISH INFORMATION BOARD:** Members discussed developments in establishing a parish information board and discussed a series of photographs of landmarks and properties around the village of local interest and heritage that would be incorporated on the completed information board.

Two possible companies have been identified who are capable of producing the information board and quotations from each of these will be obtained and brought to Members attention in due course.

After some discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that developments towards establishing a parish information board be noted and that the chosen points of local interest and heritage be incorporated within the final product.

18021 **LODGES CHARITY:** Members discussed the origins and charitable status of the Lodges Charity which is registered with the Charities Commission, with nominated Trustees.

The account has not been dormant for many years and there was a discussion about the original terms of reference and constitution for the Charity, which appear to have been based on payments being made to 'residents of the parish in times of need at the discretion of the Trustees'.

There was a suggestion that the constitution changed several years ago and had not been updated since. It was then **RESOLVED** that research be carried out to establish the current terms of the Lodges Charity with a view to the future of the Charity being further discussed at a later date.

18022 **CONSULTATIONS:** Members considered the following consultations:

- a) **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI):** This document, which forms part of the Local Plan 2011 – 2031, sets out how and when, the planning authority will engage with the community and other key stakeholders on planning applications. It has been revised to reflect changes in legislation in relation to neighbourhood planning and development management practice over the last few years and several other clarifications including a summary of how the Council now provides pre-planning application advice.
- b) **Community Transport:** Community transport in Lancashire is provided for eligible people who are not able to use mainstream public transport, including Dial-a-Ride, group transport, community car schemes, day trips and volunteering opportunities. It is proposed to reduce funding for this service by a third.
- c) **Disabled NOWcard:** Proposed changes to disabled person's NoWcard scheme which allows free bus travel for NoWcard pass holders from Mondays to Fridays between 9.30am and 11pm and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays. The scheme also allows holders of a disabled person's NoWcard to travel at a 50p flat fare on journeys on local bus services that begin before 9.30am - Mondays to Fridays and it is proposed that this be increased to £1.

Members discussed each consultation. It was acknowledged that like many councils across the country, Lancashire County Council, faces significant financial challenge due to funding cuts by Government, rising costs and the rising demand for the services they provide. In respect of the proposals to increase the cost of the Disabled NOWcard and cutting the funding for community transport, however, Members considered that these would have a negative impact on essential services provided to the most vulnerable in our communities and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk submit comments to Lancashire County Council in response to the consultations.

18023 **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Wednesday 6th June 2018**. Members suggested that items for the next Agenda include maintenance of parish benches and playing field and the purpose of the Land Purchase account.

The Parish Council meeting closed at 8:35pm



Clerk of the Council Date:

Chair

Date: