

Barnacre-with-Bonds Parish Council

MINUTES

Of the Parish Council Meeting which took place virtually, via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 17th June 2020. 7pm.

1. Present: Parish Councillors Commander, Howell (Chair), Fennel, Forshaw, Ibison & 1 member of the public.
Apologies received from Councillor Gorst who has no access to the technology required and Councillor Marsh who was experiencing technical difficulties.
2. **Minutes from the meeting held on 22nd April** were approved as a correct record and it was agreed the Chair would sign the minutes when able to do so. Covid19.
3. **Declarations of interest** – There were no declarations of interest declared.
4. **Period of public discussion / chance to review Clerk’s report / receive updates from Police, Borough & Parish Councillors re meetings, groups, visits, training courses etc** - The meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm. Jeremy Duckworth, from Bleasdale estate was present and wanted the views / opinions of the Parish Council on the woodland in Calder Vale being used for mountain bike trails. This was discussed; there were comments on safety risks and although these trails cannot be seen from the footpath now, earlier in the year when the bluebells were out in full bloom divisions in the bluebells made by the trails were clearly visible. It was concluded that the Parish Council considered it was the responsibility of the landowner what happened on his land. Mr Duckworth thanked the Parish Council for the comments and informed the Parish Council that he would approach the Bluebell Teas committee for comments also.
Councillor Ibison reported that most of the unnecessary meetings at Wyre have now been cancelled. Great work from Wyre - A huge task of contacting people, ensuring everyone is safe in the Borough. B4RN update; great work by all volunteers in Calder Vale – the work in the village is almost there. Councillor Gorst had queried prior to the meeting if it was appropriate for B4RN to be connected to Helmsdeep, Long Lane given the ongoing planning issues. This was discussed and there is a legitimate business there so doubt there is any reason to say no to being connected.
Councillor Howell reported that he had been contacted by a member of the Parish over concerns with parking on Dimples Lane. Recently there was an issue with a parked car on the pavement and pedestrians had to go into the road to get around it. Clerk highlighted this to PC Chris Banks; is yet to receive a response. If this arises again members of the public should be advised to phone the non urgent police line 101, giving details of any registration numbers, times, dates etc. This will then build up evidence of the issue. LCC Councillor Shaun Turner also made aware.

Signed Date

Calder House Lane – The Mayor of Garstang, Liz Webster has been contacted in relation to a digger from the building site off Calder House Lane driving on the footpath. This has also been reported. All to be aware and again, report anything seen that should not be happening.

Garstang’s market town working group has been set up. Councillor Howell had joined the group. Wyre Council have a grant of £99k to assist with getting high streets open again. Garstang will be entitled to a proportion of this.

There have been talks of additional signage and using parking bays for queuing adhering to social distancing etc. It is a work in progress.

Meeting reconvened 7:34pm.

5. Woodland, Calder Vale being used as a bike trail

This was discussed in the adjournment and **it was resolved it was the responsibility of the landowner.**

6. MP letter re the maintenance of open space areas around Pasture Drive

A letter was received from Mr Ben Wallace MP asking the Parish Council if it would consider becoming involved to assist with getting the issue of the untidy area of open space at Pasture Drive. The area is not maintained to the standard required by residents. Mr Wallace has contacted Wyre Council, asking them to intervene to ensure that the land owner takes responsibility for the land but has been told that the Council have no powers to do so. He has also contacted the land owner on numerous occasions but has had no response. This was discussed and acknowledged that like Wyre Council, the Parish Council have no powers but **was resolved that the Parish Council will write to the landowner asking if he would consider more regular maintenance of the area (cc in Mark Billington of Wyre) Clerk will also reply to Mr Wallace and update him on the actions the Parish Council has taken.**

7. Planning applications

- a. Application 20/00368/COUQ – Prior approval application change of use of existing agricultural buildings to form four residential dwellings (under class Q of the GDPO) @ Howeth Farm, Bruna Hill. This was discussed and **it was resolved that the following comments be sent to Wyre planning; the PC considers this site falls within designated countryside as defined by the adopted Wyre Borough Local Plan. The policies within the Local Plan seek to prevent development within the countryside in order to protect its intrinsic open and rural character. The site has not been identified for development within the current Local Plan (2019 – 2030). Sufficient sites within the Borough have already been identify for housing to meet the Borough’s full objectively assessed needs for housing until 2030. The Parish Council is aware that Wyre Council can consider small windfall sites (unallocated) for development to support the Council's overall housing strategy but as this site is located within countryside it will have a significant impact on its rural characteristics and as a consequence cannot be considered a windfall site. Within the local plan Bowgreave is identified as a main rural settlement. However, it has been the subject of significant development pressure recently and the Parish Council considers that for this reason it is not appropriate to allocate any further sites for housing development.**

Signed Date

This site is adjacent to Brooklands and in close proximity to a small cluster of properties in Bruna Hill, but it does have open aspects and any development will extend further than the limits of existing or committed built form, any development would represent a clear incursion into the countryside. The Parish Council is concerned that the proposed access from the development onto Bruna Hill/Ray Lane will create a dangerous junction and place pedestrians and road traffic at considerable risk. This junction is located on a sharp bend where Bruna Hill and Ray Lane meet, the road is very narrow and there are no footpaths. Bruna Hill is also the main route to the industrial area around the Ray Lane/Kenlis area which is located to the east of the site and large heavy goods vehicles use the road on a 24 hour basis to service these businesses. The width of Bruna Hill at the proposed access point is extremely narrow and as a consequence this already hazardous section of highway requires road users to take great care when encountering large vehicles. Any further traffic from the new properties will impact on road safety issues at this location. The Parish Council considers that this development is not sustainable for the following reasons:

There are no local employment opportunities for people moving to the Bowgreave area. All the potential new residents living at this development will need to travel outside of the immediate area to go to work creating pressure on the local transport infrastructure. This development is remote from transport links and local amenities such as schools, medical centre and shops are at least 2 kms from the site (in Garstang) The Parish Council is concerned that existing community services (schools, doctors, dentists etc.) within the Greater Garstang area are unable to accommodate the additional demands being placed on them by the substantial continued development that is taking place in the area. The Parish Council is not aware of any proposals to expand these services and provide additional resources to accommodate for this significant increase in population. The Parish Council notes that the proposed change of use from agricultural buildings to residential properties has been designed in accordance with the provisions of Class Q of the GDPO. It has been noted that the overall floor space for the development of barns B, C & D is 464.6 square metres (floor area of existing agricultural buildings is 585.7 square metres) which is just within the permitted area of 465 square metres. The Parish Council requests that Wyre Planning checks that this is correct and in compliance with the regulations.

- b. Application 20/00459/FUL – Proposed detached garage @ Waterhead Cottage, Eidsforth Lane, Barnacre-with-Bonds. This was discussed and it was resolved that there were no comments to make on the application.**

Signed Date

8. Financial transactions

It was agreed that the Chair would sign the bank statement showing the following transactions being authorised:

Bank statement number	Paid IN / OUT	Paid to	Amount £	Payment method
27	OUT	N Mason (salary)	378.83	SO
27	OUT	Easy Websites	27.60	DD
27	OUT	LALC annual subscription 20/21	429.44	BACs

9. Bank statement

It was noted that the current bank balance was £8,631.02.

10. Approval of accounts for year ending 31 March 2020

Clerk presented the accounts for 2019/20 (not yet audited) **It was resolved these be accepted.**

11. Exemption certificate for annual audit 2019/20

As the Parish Council neither received gross income, nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000 in the tax year ending 31st March 2020, **It was resolved that the Parish Council wished to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the exemption certificate be signed by the Chairman and the RFO. An analysis of variances and bank reconciliation plus the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 including the period for the exercise of public rights would be fully completed and along with the exemption certificate, published on the Parish website.**

12. Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

Section 1 of Annual Return was completed signed by RFO & agreed the Chair would also sign when able to do so. Covid 19.

13. Accounting Statements 2019/20

Section 2 of Annual Return was approved, signed by RFO & agreed the Chair would also sign when able to do so. Covid 19.

14. Note payments made

By BACs	Zurich Insurance	Annual renewal	£324.61
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15. Date of the next Parish Council meeting

It was resolved that the Parish Council would hold the next, already agreed meeting on Wednesday 15th July 2020 virtually via Microsoft Teams. Meeting closed at 8:15pm.

Signed Date