



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY  
25 JUNE 2014 IN THE ELDERS COMMUNITY BUILDING, ST AIDANS ESTATE,  
GREAT PRESTON, AT 18.30hrs.**

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[www.greatandlittlepreston.pc.org.uk](http://www.greatandlittlepreston.pc.org.uk)

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllrs Wallace, Dickinson, Beattie and Webster. Also present was the Clerk and parishioner Mr Len Shakespeare.

**1. CHAIRMANS WELCOME AND OPEN MEETING**

Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

**2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Crossley, Taylor and Bath and were accepted by the meeting.

**3. LATE ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA** - To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.

A letter was received from Allerton Bywater Beavers regarding an event which is to take place at Bramham Park from Friday 12 to Sunday 13 July. They have been let down by the company who was taking the children, plus their equipment to the event. They request help with funding transport (they have been quoted £300-£350).

After discussion it was agreed that flowers and cards be delivered to Cllr Taylor and Mrs Gwenne Cooke who have been in hospital.

**4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Webster declared an interest in 'In Bloom' group.

**5. OPEN SESSION** members of the public may raise any matters concerning the Parish.

Mr Shakespeare was present and asked about progress regarding S106 money and Cllr Wallace informed him that a meeting to take place on June 27 between six Ward Councillors to discuss the matter.

Cllr Wallace gave Mr Shakespeare relevant paperwork received from YLCA on the subject of appealing the decision regarding funding.

Mr Shakespeare also asked about the hedge at the bus stop on the far side of Berry Lane as nothing has been done. Cllr Wallace said Vicky Nunns of Parks and Countryside said, at the APM on April 30, she would look into this but as yet not responded.

Regarding the grass cutting at sheltered housing on the estate, Cllr Wallace informed him that after extensive requests and discussions there was nothing more the PC could do as reported in the April Meeting of the PC.

*'As you requested we have inspected the areas maintained within the estate with a view to assessing whether the current mowing regime should be increased from 'standard amenity' (14 cuts each year) to 'premium amenity' (28 cuts) This would normally only be considered for a sheltered housing scheme typically supported by a warden service, although it is true to say that there may well be historic examples where this is not the case.*

*Our inspection noted that there are open areas outside bungalows as well as 2-storey dwellings typical of those that would usually be considered as standard amenity grass and thus 14 cuts each year. Other communal open areas adjacent to dwellings have also been*

*identified in the contract and are also being cut as standard amenity grass. There are however several examples of areas that have been enclosed as gardens serving a single dwelling and residents are undertaking their own maintenance and have added garden ornaments, sheds, and other features. Where this has occurred the resident has in effect created a private garden and in these circumstances it becomes difficult for the contractor to gain access and the resident will usually request that they do not attempt maintenance in any case. If all the grass in this area was converted then this would cost an additional amount of just over £1,000 per annum, but could also set a precedent for other similar requests to be fulfilled across the city that may be financially unsustainable.*

*The overall conclusion is therefore be that these areas do not require additional mowing'*

Cllr Wallace suggested that a meeting should be held between residents and Ward Councillors to discuss various issues.

Mr Shakespeare asked about the ginnel between Berry Lane and St Aidans and was informed that this area would be cleared at the Village Litter Pick to be held on Sunday 29 June.

It was also pointed out that apart from the litter there was a eucalyptus tree that was forever shedding leaves which contributed to the problem.

Mr Shakespeare was thanked for his attendance at the meeting.

## **6 TO RECEIVE MINUTES**

a) The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 28 May 2014.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

b) The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28 May 2014.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

## **7 MATTERS ARISING – information only.**

a) from the APCM minutes of 28 May 2014

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

b) From the PCM minutes of 28 May 2014

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

## **8.VILLAGE HALL**

a) **To receive** report of Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) meeting.

As there had not been a meeting held in June there was nothing to report.

b) **To consider** business rate tax.

A representative of LCC had been and assessed the hall for rateable value.

## **9. ESTATES and PLAYGROUNDS**

### **9:1) Glencoe.**

Cllr Wallace had received an Email from Chris Goshomi regarding the estate and grounds maintenance and has called for a meeting with all parties.

### **9:2) St. Aidans.**

**To receive reports.**

a) Sheltered Accommodation grass cutting(see Item 5)

b) Lines way at rear of Valley Drive.

It was reported that no further work would be done until vegetation has died back in winter.

c) Complaint about rubbish in garden on Church Road.

**RESOLVED:** The rubbish has now been removed.

d) Complaint about state of Elders community centre building exterior and surrounding area. Cllr Wallace had complained to LCC explaining that the Elders was to be used as the venue for the launch of the Cold Calling Zone.

**RESOLVED:** The grass has now been cut and weeds removed. Reportedly an order is in for gutter and roof repairs.

e) Launch of Cold Calling Control Zone covering St.Aidans estate.

The launch will take place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 2pm.

A request was made and granted for refreshments to be provided for all attendees, including any residents of the Estate attending the event.

f) A new notice board has been installed outside the Elders and one outside the Post Office

### **9:3) Little Preston**

**To receive** progress report on name change from Swillington back to Little Preston.

Cllr Webster reported that all the required information has been received by Kath Oliver and will now go to three managers within Royal Mail. Awaiting response.

### **10. COUNCIL WEBSITE and BROADBAND SPEED** a) **To receive** updates.

Cllr Webster reported that there are still some problems occurring with the site and he is working on this.

Regarding Broadband – Cllr Wallace had received an Email from High Speed (Superfast West Yorkshire [SWY]) giving information regarding latest phasing. Openreach, the installers are now into Phase 2. Great Preston Box 19 is last on the list Phase 6 which is due for upgrading April - September 2015.

**RESOLVED:** Members were asked to inform residents to complain to BT direct and register with SWY. More complaints and registrations the better

### **11.SWILLINGTON EDUCATIONAL CHARITY** a) **To receive** Trustees report.

The sale is progressing it is in the hands of both parties Solicitors

### **12)HIGHWAY MATTERS –**

Cllr Wallace has again reported the height of the grass on the sight line at the junction of the A642/Whitehouse Lane to LCC.

### **13) TO CONSIDER ONGOING PLANNING MATTERS –**

a) **11/01713 Kensington Place (Hollinhurst).** Update.

Building still ongoing, over half of the houses have now been built

b) **10/01412 Biffa Site. Approved.** Application to layout access and erect 79 houses.

Cllr Wallace is to contact Taylor Wimpey and street naming and numbering department at LCC regarding the naming of the streets in the new development.

c) **SHLAA and Site Allocations 2014 Update.**

Cllr Wallace distributed copies of map showing areas affected. The main report contains over 1000 pages. There are over 170 new sites added but none in our area. He will extract the parts relevant to the Parish and our borders and report back.

d) **14/02858 31 Whitehouse Avenue,** Tree works, Peasecroft Wood

**RESOLVED:** Inspector has been out to inspect the Ash tree and has given the owner permission to have the tree cut down, on condition surrounding trees are not affected.

e) **P/14/02990/FU/E** 2 storey side extension at 35 Valley Drive Great Preston

The trees on the boundary of the property and the children's playground have been inspected.

### **NEW AGENDA ITEMS.**

a) **To consider.** Suggestions from electors in Parish Meeting.

Regarding hedge at Berry Lane bus stop.

**RESOLVED:**if LCC do not respond it was agreed that the Parish Council should contact local tradesman Andy Fox, who has done other work in the Parish.

**b) To consider** Letter from Emsley solicitors regarding purchase of plot of land (part of Peasecroft Wood) at the rear of 23 Whitehouse Avenue. It was the last plot not purchased by the previous resident when offered in 1986 before the wood was gifted to the PC.

**RESOLVED:**After discussion it was agreed that further enquiries regarding this matter and report back to the July meeting.

## **15) ENVIRONMENT**

**a) In Bloom. To receive** report of meetings and Summer judging preparations  
Planting of tubs and borders has now been done although grass cutting is a big issue.  
Clean up to take place on Sunday 29 June, skip is in place ready for the event.  
Refreshments to be served in the Village Hall afterwards.

**b) Peasecroft Wood. To receive** report of proposed management plan.  
There was nothing to report.

**c) St. Aidans Country Park. To receive** report from meetings and update of complaints regarding parking problems at Bowers Row and ongoing issues.  
No meetings have been held and no further information has been received.  
Two sponsored litter bins have been ordered.

**d) To receive** progress report of ongoing dispute with Ward Members on S106 Green space projects and Wild flower meadow funding.  
A meeting between all Ward Members is to take place on Friday 27 June and a further meeting with Parish Council representatives is to be held after that date.

**e) To receive** reports of grass cutting.  
This matter already discussed.

### **15:1 Allotments To receive** reports.

A number of complaints had been received regarding cars parking on the road near the entrance to the allotments (Whitehouse Crescent/Avenue) due to lack of parking spaces at the allotments.

A meeting had been held between some of the allotment holders and Cllr Mark Dobson to discuss issues and the condition of the track leading to and through the allotments.

Cllr Dobson promised to supply a skip and improve access tracks

There is some dispute between LCC and the Allotments Society regarding rent charges so nothing is being done with respect to maintenance.

Dog fouling notices have arrived and are to be erected shortly.

## **16) FINANCE:**

### **16:1 To recommend** payment of

#### **a) Clerks Salary and expenses up to April 2014**

|        |                 |
|--------|-----------------|
| Salary | <b>£160. 00</b> |
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#### **Expenses.**

|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| Postage | <b>£ 2. 40</b> |
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|---|----------------|
| Metal Filler for St Aidans Playground slide | <b>£ 5. 20</b> |
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|   |                        |
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| Playground Safety Course. Travel expenses to York | <b><u>£ 11. 70</u></b> |
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|              |                        |
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| <b>Total</b> | <b><u>£179. 30</u></b> |
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#### **b) Cheques for Payment.**

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| 2 External Notice Boards (Post Office and Elders) | £199. 89 |
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| Heavy duty grass wear mat (For St. Aidans playground) | £ 30. 49 |
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|-------------------|------------------------|
| Fixings for above | <b><u>£ 10. 80</u></b> |
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| <b>Total</b> | <b>£ 241.18</b> |
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| In Bloom – <b>Annual</b> funding for plants within the parish. | <b>£850.00</b> |
| Litter pickers etc £68.29 plus £11.87 vat                      | <b>£80.16</b>  |
| IPI Playground Inspection £50 plus £10.00 vat.                 | <b>£60.00</b>  |
| <b>YLCA</b> Design for Play Course. 2 places                   | <b>£50.00</b>  |

**c) Section 137 Internal Audit fee. Mr. G. Haigh. (Donated to McMillan Nurses) in lieu of fee** **£50.00**

**d) Request by Allerton Bywater Beavers. Proposed and agreed that £100 be pledged on condition rest of funding will be raised by other parties.**

**16:2 To consider** extra signatory for cheques.  
A mandate has been obtained from the Bank. Cllrs. Dickinson and Blackburn have agreed to become signatories.

**16:3 To consider** obtaining Debit Card for on line purchases  
Clerk made enquiries at the Bank and was informed that the Accounts held by the Parish Council do not supply Debit Cards as a security measure.

**17. PUBLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE** – Clerk to inform meeting.  
a. Oil Club.co.uk - letter received regarding formation of ‘Heating Oil Club’ in the Parish  
b. LCC Monthly alterations notice, Electoral roll.

**18. TRAINING COURSES and MEETINGS**  
**To receive** Information for 2014/15 YLCA training courses.  
Cllr Dickinson requested attending a seminar on 29 July, this was granted.  
**RESOLVED:**Clerk to send off application form and cheque for £45.

Cllr Wallace to attend Local Council Finance full day course in York on 22 July.  
**RESOLVED:** Clerk to send off application form and cheque for £115.

**To receive reports** Police contact point meetings. Crime figures.  
One item reported, theft of purse at St Aidans Playground.  
Police to be contacted as it is felt that correct crime figures are not being issued.

**19. MATTERS TO REPORT:** (formerly Any Other Business).  
To raise matters for discussion without decision or agenda items for next meeting.

**20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 30 July 2014 at 18.30hrs.

**CLOSE MEETING:** Meeting closed at 20.55hrs

Chair.....

Date.....

**ITEMS FOR AGENDA TO BE WITH THE CLERK 7 DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING**