

Myerscough and Bilsborrow Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MYERSCOUGH AND BILSBORROW PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BILSBORROW PARISH CHURCH ON THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2021.

PRESENT

Cllr Mrs J Olivine (Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Allan, Cllr M Barker, Cllr W Collinson, Cllr W Robinson, Cllr R Pye, Cllr D Bolton & Cllr Sutcliffe.

GUEST IN ATTENDANCE

Laura Airton

APOLOGIES

Cllr Elizabeth Webster

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

John Hallas (Acting)

CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF STATEMENT PRIOR TO OPENING THE MEETING

Cllr Olivine explained to the Council the absence of the Clerk, Roy Bassnett, due to illness - he had suffered from a stroke earlier this month – and following a period in hospital is now back at his home convalescing. Cllr Olivine introduced John Hallas (the Clerk of Claughton on Brock PC) who will stand in as Clerk in Roy Bassnett's absence for the foreseeable future.

DUCHY OF LANCASTER

Cllr Olivine also welcomed and introduced Laura Airton, Estates Director of The Duchy of Lancaster. Laura provided the members with an interesting account of ongoing Estate activities and projects whilst highlighting some of the key issues that are being dealt with by the estate team. Laura spoke about the serious issue of 'Ash tree die back' which is a major problem and provided information on the broad scope of the team's work and the geographical areas they cover. Laura responded to members questions and reminded Councillors of the team's location and its willingness and availability to provide help advice etc. if needed and approached.

Cllr Olivine thanked Laura for her informative update and invited her to stay on for the remainder of the meeting's formal business.

45.21 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 22 July were signed.

46.21 DECLARATIONS

No Declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any of the agenda items were made by any of the members present.

47.21 FINANCE

Cllr Olivine explained that all relevant financial documents including cheque books are held by the Clerk at his premises along with the Parish Computer held files of information. Cllr Barker informed that he had visited the Clerk at home and spoken with the Clerk but a further visit will be needed to collect the items required to ensure accounts can be paid. Cllr Olivine added that there was no immediate pressure on the Council for settlement of outstanding payments.

Cllr Olivine put forward a proposal that a resolution be discussed that will authorise the nominated bank account signatories to arrange for all payments to be made that may arise prior to the November meeting of the Council. This resolution was seconded by Cllr Collinson and agreed by all of the members.

Presentation of the accounts and the bank reconciliation was deferred until the November meeting.

48.21 Planning

No new invitations to consult on any application had been received since the July meeting.

49.21 Lengthsman Scheme Review

Cllr Olivine explained that this item had been included for discussion as she wished the Council to consider forming a sub-group of members to review the Council's requirements of a Lengthsman. Cllr Olivine further explained that the Council had not seriously reviewed the tasks needed or priorities in a formal way for nearly 20 years, she believed this was long overdue and needed to be accomplished comfortably prior to next April when the contract renewal is scheduled. The Council's members agreed with this proposal and three members put their names forward to form the group and they include Cllrs Allan, Barker and Bolton. The Clerk will distribute copies of the latest list of tasks currently being followed by the Lengthsman.

50.21 Greater Garstang Partnership – progress update.

Due to the absence of Cllr Turner, who is a member of the board of the partnership, there could only be a restricted discussion with the Chairman and Clerk able to provide limited information received from other sources. The Clerk will follow up with Cllr Turner.

51.21 Wyre Council Climate change initiatives – update.

Due to the absence of Cllr Turner, there could only be a restricted discussion. The Clerk will follow up with Cllr Turner.

53.21 Highways, Footpaths, Waterways – updates.

Due to the absence of Cllr Turner, there could only be a restricted discussion. The Clerk will follow up with Cllr Turner.

54.21 Toucan Crossing

The Toucan crossing will need to be funded from S106 developer contributions but currently LCC have stated there is insufficient funding for this work. Cllr Turner to be asked to consult with LCC to seek a solution.

55.21 Public Right of Way FP4

The Clerk informed that he had contacted the PROW officer at LCC to establish their progress on dealing with the blocked access to the PROW at Raby’s Farm on Bilsborrow Lane. The Manager of PROW had confirmed that his officers will take action, although it was just one of the many that the team are dealing with. The Clerk will continue to progress this matter with LCC.

56.21 Bilsborrow Recreation Ground

Cllr Collinson informed the meeting that the hard standing planned for the recreation ground had been laid with some 140 tonnes of crushed stone been put down and rolled. This had been achieved within the budget.

57.21 Bilsborrow Sewer Flooding Alleviation Project

This matter (the Car Park) was briefly discussed but is still ongoing and will kept on the agenda for further update.

58.21 Proposed MULTI – USE GAMES area at Bilsborrow School

Cllr Collinson is leading the Parish Council’s interest in this matter and will provide further updates as the matter progresses.

59.21 Interpretive Panel by Garstang Road Brock in front of MP Motor Company’s Premises

This matter is now considered to actioned and closed

60.21 Letter of thanks for Plants in Bilsborrow Village donated by Mr Nickson (Ashleigh Nurseries)

This matter is now considered to actioned and closed

61.21 Forthcoming meeting

November Council Meeting – Thursday 25th November

Action – Clerk

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CHAIRMAN

Distribution:

- Members of the Council
- Laura Airton, Estates Director, Duchy of Lancaster
- Myerscough College Webmaster
- Mr J Cliff Sharp, Honorary Auditor
- Cllr Elizabeth Webster
- Revd Garry Whittaker, Vicar, Fellside Team