



# **Up Holland Parish Council**

**Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB(Hons), MA, CiLCA**  
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Minutes of the meeting of Up Holland Parish Council held on **Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 7.30pm** in the Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill, WN8 ONR.

Present: Cllr Christopher Mackrell (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Linda Jones, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Gill Sinnott, Cllr Alex Stoddart, Cllr Richard Taylor and Nigel Swales.

**7.15pm to 7.30pm public participation:** No items raised.

## **MINUTES**

### **1. To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Jenny Whiting, Cllr Gaynar Owen & Cllr Neil Smith. Cllr Andrew Grant was not in attendance.

### **2. To receive declarations of interest**

None declared.

### **3. To consider co-opting new Member to fill vacancy for Newgate or Chequer Lane Ward**

Nigel Swales was co-opted to fill the vacancy for Chequer Lane Ward. Declaration of acceptance of office was read out, witnessed and signed.

### **4. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed.

### **5. To record any police issues**

- **Mill Lane Play Area problems**

Hallbridge Gardens residents informed the Parish Council about a disturbing incident on the evening of Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024, when their daughter with her assistance dog were attacked by two adults (aged mid-thirties) and their off-leash dogs, encouraged along by a large number of youths in the play area.

The residents requested consideration be given to lighting the lamp post, adding cctv monitored at the Ormskirk cctv suite, removal of the roof of the youth shelter and, failing these measures, warning signs be erected.

The land concerned is WLBC owned, leased to the parish council for the provision of play equipment. The lamp post is not a parish asset and the parish council has no control of it. Previous Minutes show that the light was switched off on the recommendation of police to deter children playing after dark and because a resident complained about light interference in their home.

It was resolved to ask WLBC to consider the feasibility of lighting and monitored cctv at the site. It was accepted that the Parish Council is not in a position to provide these facilities as they require an individual subscription to a web provider. As a council of twelve volunteers and one part time Clerk, there is no physical address to which a contract of this type can be attached.

Anyone affected by antisocial behaviour at the site is encouraged to report this to the police.

Removal of the roof from the youth shelter was rejected as to do so affects the integrity of this item, rendering it dangerous. Provision of this youth shelter followed police advice when it was installed, although police advice now is that seating not be provided for youths.

The Clerk was instructed to ask police for an update on any reports from the site and that they consider patrolling more frequently in marked vehicles. Also, to enquire if a broader approach can be considered here; in the light of the increasing threat of violence at the site, might the Community Safety Partnership assist in any way?

## **6. Ward Reports:**

Crawford Ward: Focus is being made on the problem of vehicles driving through the village. County Councillor John Fillis was encouraging but LCC Highways claim the area is a 'through road' with the maintenance of the flow of traffic a priority. Crawford Village however is a 'home zone' with family houses on either side of a narrow road. The road signs are not ideal – some read warning speed bumps but there are none, there is a lighting beacon to reduce to 20mph when flashing on one side of the primary school but not on the other side. Boundary marker stones with Welcome to Crawford – Please Drive Slowly Through Our Village or similar might be considered; LCC Highways asked to look again at updating the current signage so that it makes more sense and is clear, and asking Ashley Dalton MP for her support.

Village Ward: Councillors conducted a local review of communal areas, producing a spreadsheet of actions to address areas of concern and room for improvement. The spreadsheet was circulated prior to this meeting and discussed. The job sheet listed 8 items, none of which are on parish land or fall within the jurisdiction of responsibility for parishes. It is helpful in identifying areas but they will need to be referred to the correct local authority and with local authority spending severely curtailed, are unlikely to reach the top of priority lists. The ideal process for this exercise would be to report these issues 'on the go' using the LCC Love Clean Streets App so that the responsible

person is made aware of the problem. The clerk agreed to obtain quotations to repaint the hand rail on as this forms part of the Public Right of Way network and a small (£500) budget from LCC supports parishes in doing this. Houses with foliage or hedgerow encroaching on the pavements will be reported to LCC Highways who have the legal authority to write to the householder with time-limits for cutting back or LCC can undertake the work and charge the homeowner. Parishes do not have this power.

**7. Financial Matters:**

• **Accounts for ratification and payment**

PKF Littlejohn	170924	External Audit fee	1023	£504.00*
WLBC	170924	Election fees	1024	£1,481.94*
Wm Fernandes	170924	Cleaning noticeboards	1025	£15.00
L Davis	081024	Grounds work Sept 24	1026	£1,600.00
Methodist Church	081024	Room hire 8 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	1027	£32.00
Npower	081024	Clock – electricity	1028	16.34*
Bernard Keyworth	081024	Put poppies on lampposts	1029	£80.00
RBL Poppy Appeal	081024	Donation	1030	£150.00
J Whiting	081024	Chairman’s Allowance	1031	£200.00
E A Broad	081024	Salary & expenses Oct 24	1032	£1,465.51
SLCC	081024	Annual subscription (Dalton PC to pay £36 towards this)	1033	£188.00
Bernard Keyworth	081024	Bowling green tap repair	1034	£60.00

\*VAT included

Upcoming payments:

NEST	111024	Pension payment Oct	d.d.	£218.43
Handelsbanken	111024	Bank charges - monthly	d.d.	£28.80
CPRE	201024	Annual subscription	d.d.	£36.00

**The following cheque has been cancelled**

LCC	100924	Rent for noticeboard	1021	£5.00
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Replaced with a direct debit for payment to be taken on the 16<sup>th</sup> of this month.

LCC                      161024              Rent for noticeboard              d.d.    £5.00

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

- **Notification of Finance Committee Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

The Finance Committee will meet at 7pm on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to begin the process of budget and setting next year's precept.

- **Receipt of External Audit Report**

Conclusion of audit papers have been posted online and noticeboards, with external auditors, PKF Littlejohn, confirming that there are no issues of concern.

## **8. Update from LALC (Lancashire Association of Local Councils)**

LALC Local area committee meeting – 7pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October at WLBC offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk.

LALC AGM – 2pm on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 at County Hall, Preston.

## **9. Update from Borough or County Councillors**

County Cllr John Fillis acknowledged issue of 30mph zone through Crawford Village being too fast where there are homes either side of the winding, narrow road.

Lancashire County Council Town & Parish Councils Conference will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024.

## **10. To confirm details for Remembrance Sunday**

Up Holland Churches conduct an annual Remembrance Day Parade at Up Holland Monument starting at 10.45 ish on Remembrance Sunday.

It was resolved to:

- Thank WLBC for cutting back the conifers around the monument
- Install poppies on the lamp posts around the cenotaph monument – anytime from the 23<sup>rd</sup> October onwards.
- Offer to reimburse Dingle Road residents for any reasonable costs for flowers or compost around the wall alongside the monument, up to a limit of £200.
- Pay Orrell British Legion £200 to purchase a wreath and as a donation to the Poppy Appeal.
- The Chairman will lay the wreath at the cenotaph during the Remembrance Sunday Church Service.

## **11. To confirm details for Christmas decorations**

It was resolved to continue the contract with P & R Electricals to provide Christmas lights for the parish. There will be trees outside The Good Catch Chip Shop, Tontine grass verge, Up Holland St Thomas the Martyr Parish Church, Crawford Village Hut & Playing Fields and lamp posts lights along Dingle Road and Ormskirk Road. The switch-on day of Saturday 30th November 2024 was agreed. The time to be agreed with the availability of P & R Electricals staff.

## **12. To consider any planning issues or applications**

**Reference Number: 2024/0800/FUL**

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 2023/0296/FUL relating to approved plans.

Location: Land to the rear of 126 – 160 Ormskirk Road

### **Proposed Parish Council Response:**

Up Holland Parish Council is concerned that the land here is not suitable for the development and objected to the original planning application. The new plans do not appear to alleviate the issues of overdevelopment, flooding and coal board concerns. It follows that the parish council objects to the removal of conditions, so recently implemented, that were attached for the safety and reassurance of future home owners here.

**Application ref: 2024/0670/FUL**

Proposal: Proposed 3 Bed Detached Dormer Bungalow

Location: Land Behind, The Stanley Arms Hotel, 122 Ormskirk Road Grid Ref: SD 351268 405141

Parish Council Comment: Up Holland Parish Council still has concerns about building on this site, though appreciates that the applicant and planners have worked hard to reduce the size and impact. The simple fact is that there is still significant impact for neighbours. The property is still large in size, and will dominate and overshadow the homes and gardens to the rear; particularly the well-established allotment plots that will suffer with less light. Historically, this area was considered too dangerous to build upon due to mining beneath and there are concerns that this is underestimated. The former Stanley Public House has already got three properties built on it and this fourth property is over development for the size of the area. The proposed property will have no view out the back and a view of the rear of the terraces at the front - not an attractive proposition. This type of back-garden infill has a knock-on effect for wildlife and should be avoided

**Reference Number: 2024/0791/FUL**

Proposal: Demolition and replacement of existing water tower and associated works.

Location: 3M, Pimbo Road, West Pimbo, WN8 9RA

**Proposed Parish Council Response:** Up Holland Parish Council has no objection to this proposal.

**Appeal after planning permission refused.**

**Application Reference: 2024/0027/FUL**

PROPOSAL: Proposed Outbuilding LOCATION: 5 Dean Wood Close Up Holland Skelmersdale

START DATE: 18th September 2024

**Proposed Parish Council Response:**

Conscious that this is within the setting of a Grade II Listed Building and Conservation Area, Up Holland Parish Council is concerned about the size and function of this outbuilding. This section of land was originally garden at 30 Parliament Street but was incorporated into 5 Dean Wood Close, although this has ample garden land of its own and two outbuildings already. The land has had a number of refused or withdrawn applications, when it was described as 30 Parliament Street, including enforcement action over a wall built without prior approval. This proposal suggests the number of vehicles will be increased from 4 to 8 at the end of this narrow cul-de-sac so there would be some traffic implications for the neighbours

The creation of Dean Wood Close on the land that was locally known as Brooklands, (30 Parliament Street), and the subsequent transfer of the garden of Brooklands to 5 Dean Wood Close, have all but ruined the conservation area. The applicant built retaining walls and ignored enforcement orders, then allowed the land to deteriorate so that it no longer appeared to be a garden and moved boundaries. There is concern that this is an attempt to create another dwelling, cramming as many houses as possible into the cul-de-sac.

**13. Resolution for the Exclusion of Press and Public**

It is recommended that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and as, in all circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption under Section 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Resolved.

**14. Provision of Goods and Services**

- (a) Update on play equipment provision

Options for replacement of the climber on Mill Lane were considered but a final decision not taken. The Clerk was asked to obtain prices for a more modern design

than those obtained.

**(b) Determine grass cutting contract for April 2025 – March 2026**

Contractor 1 was chosen for the next financial year's groundwork. However, the contract for the bowling green is in abeyance until a timescale for Tawd Valley Development redevelopment of the attached land is known. Tawd Valley Development are holding an open community consultation event in the coming week at the Artz Centre. WLBC will be asked how often they intend to cut Janet Lally field and Mill Lane play area before agreeing to cut a football pitch sized section at parish cost.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

***Cllr Jenny Whiting  
Chairman***

***12<sup>th</sup> November 2024***