

Minutes of Parish Councils' Liaison Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 14 June 2012 starting at 6.30pm
Present: P Young (Chairman)

Councillors:

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| P Ainsworth | M Robinson |
| I Brown | I Sayers |
| R Hargreaves | G Scott |
| T Hill | D Taylor |
| R Newmark | |

Parish Representatives:

| | |
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| D Bland | Aighton Bailey & Chaigley |
| F Havard | Billington & Langho |
| B Dowles | Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley |
| R Carr | Bowland Forest (Higher) |
| H Douglas | Chatburn |
| B Redhead | Clayton-le-Dale |
| A Schofield | Clayton-le-Dale (left at 7.10pm) |
| R C Assheton | Downham |
| S Hopwood | Dutton |
| L Bateman | Hothersall |
| F Priest | Longridge |
| N C Walsh | Mellor |
| G Nichols | Read |
| A Mashiter | Read |
| A Ormand | Ribchester |
| R Whittaker | Rimington |
| M Calvert | Sabden |
| I R Hirst | Simonstone |
| G Molloy | Simonstone |
| P Boyes | Salesbury |
| C Ansbro | Thornley-with-Wheatley |
| D Parker | Waddington |
| C Cherry | West Bradford |
| J Bremner | Wilpshire |
| M Robinson | Wiswell & Barrow |

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Planning Services, Head of Engineering Services and the Partnership Officer.

100

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Borough Councillors S Hore, G Mirfin and R Swarbrick and from the following Parish Representatives:

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|----------------|--|
| J Porter | Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley |
| I Wolstencroft | Clitheroe |

S Rawsthorne
K Jackson
K Staines

Paythorne & Newsholme
Waddington
Waddington

101 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Parish Councillor Pat Young be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the municipal year 2012/2013.

102 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Councillor D Taylor be appointed Vice Chairman of this Committee for the municipal year 2012/2013.

103 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

104 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

105 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PARISH COUNCIL

a) Simonstone Parish Council – Compliance with Planning Conditions

The Parish Representative from Simonstone expressed his Parish Council's concern about the alleged non-compliance with a number of conditions in relation to a planning application relating to outdoor elements at Simonstone.

He commented that the application had meant a petition had been submitted opposing the proposals which had been signed by 418 people with a further 32 people actually submitting written representations.

The Parish Council's concerns were as follows:

- Opening times
- Signage
- Septic tanks
- Sight lines
- Noise and screaming

In particular, reference was made to the issue of sight lines and the alleged dangers to highway safety which it was claimed both the Lancashire County Council and the Police had been trying to remedy.

The Head of Planning Services answered a number of the concerns raised and emphasized that dialogue had taken place with the County Surveyor and suggested that the Parish Council should contact the

County Surveyor to try to resolve any of the outstanding highway elements of their concerns.

The Chief Executive also pointed out that this meeting was not the correct forum for the Parish Council's concerns to be raised and suggested that the matter should be referred to the Three Tier Forum.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman raise this matter at the Three Tier Forum at their next meeting in August.

b) Bolton-by-Bowland – Theft of Speed Indicator Device

The Clerk to Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn Forest and Sawley reported that his Parish Council's speed indicator device had recently been stolen and wished to raise other Parish Councils awareness of the vulnerability of Parishes to this type of theft. He commented that as there were six locations for these devices in his Parish Council area, it was not practical to secure the device in one location.

The Chief Executive offered to make enquiries with the Council's insurance officer about insurance costs to cover other speed indicator devices operated by Parish Councils. The question of grant schemes was also highlighted as a possible source for a replacement device.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman also raise this issue at the next meeting of the Three Tier Forum.

106 DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL

The Head of Planning Services informed the meeting of a number of changes in the way the Council would deal with planning applications in the future.

- Ribble Valley Borough Council would no longer send out approved plans to applicants.
- Additional information re planning applications – this would only be supplied to Parish Councils on request, although large scale applications would continue to be supplied.
- Copies of CDs with planning applications would be required in future.
- The Borough Council would no longer send large scale plans to each Parish Council, however these would still be available on the Council's website.
- Development control officers would be made available to discuss planning applications with Parish Councils.

A number of Members voiced their concerns about the Council's decision not to make plans available to Parish Councils. They felt that it was an unfair imposition on many Parish Councils who did not have the necessary technical equipment to handle the downloading of plans.

RESOLVED: That the Development Management Protocol be noted.

107 ENTERPRISING PEOPLE

David Ingham, the Council's Partnership Officer, introduced Andy McNae who was heading up this project in the Ribble Valley. This had come about as a direct result of the earlier Healthy Valleys project and was aimed at people living with illness or disability. The aim was to enable them to remain at home and help them develop small businesses such as gardening and pet care or merely offering companionship.

Ribble Valley had been chosen as a pilot area and the project would run for two years.

RESOLVED: That Mr McNae be thanked for his informative presentation and that the Council offer every assistance in publicising and promoting the venture.

108 JAPANESE KNOTWEED

The Head of Engineering Services reported on this invasive species, how it was being treated by Borough Council officers and referring to a service and advice which the Council could offer to parishes at a cost, who found they were suffering from this vegetation.

He explained how the treatment works and that relevant Council officers had appropriate training on how to use equipment purchased to control the weed. The Council would continue with a programme to eradicate this problem weed and the programme would in future include treatment of the weed on common land. Other Parish Council representatives welcomed this information but felt that the general public should be made more aware of how it ought to be dealt with. Particular mention was made of the expertise of the River Ribble Trust, who were based at Hanson Cement in Clitheroe.

RESOLVED: That

1. the information provided be noted; and
2. officers look at how best to further publicise the treatment of Japanese Knotweed in our area.

109 SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES IN RIBBLE VALLEY

The Community Development Officer referred to minute 695 of Committee dated 26 January 2012 and now reported that Lancashire County Council had published revised services, routes and timetables for the Ribble Valley, which would come into operation on the 24 June 2012.

He commented that, broadly speaking, the new timetables provided a more rationalised set of routes and avoided much duplication and also provided better connections with other services.

Of particular note were later evening services in both the Clitheroe and Longridge areas for a six month trial period. Whilst at least one Parish, Rimington, would

receive bus services for the first time in a number of years, there were also parts of former routes which were no longer served, such as the West Bradford Road to Clitheroe Hospital.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

110 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman announced that the next meeting of this Committee would be held on Thursday, 27 September 2012 starting at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Colin Hirst (414503).