LATHOM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 28th OCTOBER 2019 AT

 THE SCOUT HQ HALL LANE LATHOM AT 7.30PM

 PRESENT: PARISH COUNCILLORS; E POPE (IN THE CHAIR)

 MRS J BAKER

 MRS H SHAW

 I FAIRCLOUGH

 MRS I M O’DONNELL (CLERK)

 C MARSH

(RESIDENTS) A HINDE

 LESLEY STOPFORTH

 D PRATT

 E HILL

 APOLOGIES: PARISH COUNCILLORS; D EZZATVAR

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

49. ADJOURNMENT FOR 5 MINUTES TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Mr Pratt and Mrs Hill spoke about the 30mph signs on Ring O’Bells Lane and wanted to know why there was only one sign at each end of the lane as this wasn’t suitable as vehicles sometimes didn’t even see the sign as they passed and so they didn’t reduce their speed. They have put up their own 30mph signs on their property and this has helped to slow cars down but a number of people weren’t happy and had complained

about the signs. Councillor Pope explained that the rules regarding highway signs are decided on the lighting along the road and other issues which determines the space between highway signs and in the case of Ring O’Bells Lane the ones that are up meet the criteria. Councillor Pope said he was in discussions with Keith Iddon LCC highways, West Lancashire council and the police to see if anything more could be done to ensure that people obeyed the new speed limit such as a SPID to monitor the speed of traffic or maybe a traffic camera so they could enforce the offenders and see if the number of signs could be increased. **EP**

Mr Pratt also spoke about the closure of the Ring O’Bells Pub and the fact it has been left empty encouraging vandalism and youths hanging around and asked if there were any plans for the future use. There had also been complaints by residents about the land around Ormskirk Lodge which didn’t seem to have anyone living in the property and it resembled a building site. The clerk was asked to contact R Beirne at WLBC to look at the problem. **IMOD**

Mr Hinde spoke about the recent meeting on rural crime he had attended and said it was interesting and Community Officer PCSO Neil Smith had been in attendance. There were also Community Safety signs up around the area which made people aware that the area was being monitored. Mr Hinde also warned that there were vehicles going round removing flags and other roadside furniture and that his neighbour’s stone flags had been removed in this way.

50. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23RD September 19 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

51. MATTERS ARISING

Comments were made regarding the web page being out of date and the payment recorded in the September minutes for the web page. It was explained this was for the renewal of the domain name and we were still trying to arrange someone to add items to the web page and keep it up to date. The clerk reported that she had made enquiries with various notice board suppliers regarding the damage to the parish map but no-one could carry out the work. Best suggestion was to obtain a new map and then it could be put into the old frame. Councillor Pope to enquire at WLBC an LCC to see if there were any maps suitable**. EP**

 52. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Remembrance Sunday this year is on Sunday 10th November 19 with services at Lathom in the morning and Burscough in the afternoon. The Ringtail Remembrance would be on Monday 11th November 19 at Booths store.

The clerk reported that everything was in order for Lathom in the morning but due to a shortage of police officers available there would only be a PCSO attending to lay a wreath but he would not be able to close the road. This meant that the clerk had been informed that as well as all the usual conditions for road closure that she supplied we would also require fully licensed Marshalls to control traffic. As this was too expensive it was discussed that we would walk to the memorial from the scout HQ on the opposite pavement. Mr Marsh offered to look into providing some Marshalls through a security firm he used so it was agreed that he send the details to the clerk to check if they would be suitable, but with only 2 weeks to Remembrance Sunday there might not be enough time to organise. **IMOD**

53. NALC PAY AWARDS NEW SCALES/CLERK SALARY the chairman confirmed that there had been a meeting to discuss this and it was agreed the clerk’s salary be increased to the new hourly rate at SCP28 of £13.68 – £342.00 per month - £4104pa

back dated to 1st April 2019. A cheque was raised for the outstanding salary.

54. COUNCIL VACANCIES

There were 3 council vacancies following the resignation of A Webster and Ms Lesley Stopforth who was present had applied to be accepted as a councillor. It was agreed to discuss this after the close of meeting.

55. REPORT ON WLBC MINUTES

Councillor Pope spoke about the housing development plans in the borough and the proposed new local plan to replace the one from last year.

56. CORRESPONDENCE

1. WLB C – Decisions
2. NALC – Annual conference
3. NALC – Parish funding F
4. NALC – Newsletter
5. WLBC – Planning 25/09/19
6. NALC – Election survey F
7. WLCVS – Early help strategic engagement
8. NALC – CEO Bulletin
9. WLBC – Mayoral engagements
10. WLBC – parish clerks liaison meeting
11. CPRE – Recycling
12. G Smith – new resident enquiry F to EP
13. Cosy Homes –heating schemes
14. WLBC –agendas
15. CPRE – Update
16. Alert – on line banking
17. Parish on Line
18. Came & Co – reorganisation F
19. WLBC – Planning 02/10/19 F
20. LALC – Vacancies
21. WLBC – Capital funding F
22. LALC – Meeting 16th October 19 F
23. Network Rail – Bridge renewal F
24. NALC – CEO Bulletin
25. Chapel Gallery events F
26. Wicksteads Playgrounds
27. WLBC – Get on line week F
28. Elbe Play
29. LALC – web site accessibility
30. Rural Crime Drop in session F
31. Ringtail Remembrance details F
32. WLBC – H Hatch CIL Funding X2 F
33. WLBC – Planning 09/10/19
34. RADAR – INSURANCE F
35. Indy Cinema
36. WLBC – Remembrance details F
37. NALC – CEO Bulletin X 2
38. WLBC – Press release ref CIL funding
39. ALERT – REF Manchester stabbing Arndale Centre
40. CPRE – Update on Nation Parks survey
41. WLBC – Press releases ref. Halloween/bonfire night
42. Police – No support remembrance
43. LALC – Newsletter
44. WLBC – Remembrance Sunday F
45. Best Kept Village results F
46. WLBC – Decisions
47. Alert – Skelmersdale shootings
48. Indy Cinema
49. WLBC – Planning speakers
50. WLBC – Planning 16/10/19 – No Lathom
51. A Fanton – OPSTA f
52. WLBC – Payphone removal – replied ours removed
53. Alert – Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel – Volunteers required
54. LCC – Bus changes
55. NALC – CEO Bulletin
56. WLBC – Decisions
57. L Stopforth – Application to be councillor F
58. WLBC – Press release – comments on licensing policy
59. WLBC – Free events in Skelmersdale for Halloween and bonfire night
60. WLBC - Agendas
61. WLBC – Event in Coronation Park Ormskirk 31st October 6-8pm
62. LCC - Winter gritting programme F
63. WLBC – Landmarks to go pink for breast cancer
64. WLBC – R Beirne – acknowledgement of complaint
65. WL CCG – Funding opportunities F
66. WLBC – Planning 22/10/19 F
67. Police alert – looking for 2 wanted men
68. BKV – Comments from Judges F
69. Local Council Review magazine L
70. WLBC – R Beirne reply ref Solar Farm F
71. WLB – Mayoral engagements
72. Came & Co Insurance – newsletter
73. Parish Online
74. WLBC – Minutes/agendas
75. WLBC – Housing services
76. NALC – CEO Bulletin
77. LCC – Highways – gritting report
78. WLBC – Appeal decisions
79. WLBC – Changes in refuse collection from 12th November 19 F

57. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment.

1. Mrs I M O’Donnell (clerk salary/exes) £276.93

2. Ormskirk District Scouts (hall hire) £40.00

3. Petty cash (top up) £36.75

4. Mrs I M O’Donnell (clerk salary increase) £78.05

58. PARISH MATTERS

Councillor Mrs Shaw spoke about a problem with a culvert near her house which had flooded recently. This culvert takes surface water off Lowry Hill Lane between her property and Pear Tree Farm where there is a grid to access the culvert. The water flooded the area and LCC discovered foul waste in the water when they drained it so there is now going to be an investigation into the source of this waste.

Ms Stopforth spoke about problems on Wheat Lane when The Ship holds various events such as Beer Festivals. It is chaos for residents as there are no Marshalls directing traffic to car parks so residents can’t enter or exit their properties. They have now set up a pumpkin field open daily from 10-3 and this leads to crowds of children and adults coming and going all day. The criteria for holding these events are that you can only host events for 28 days per year maximum without planning permission. After discussion Councillor Pope agreed to look into the situation.  **EP**

Councillor Pope left the meeting at this point 9.05pm

59. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following comments were sent to WLBC

2019/1034/LBC – consent –replacement of lock gates at the tail of the lock: extension of lock chamber ladder on the towpath side. - Top Locks Wheat Lane.

“No objections”

2019/0944/FUL – 2019/0964/LBC – Variation of condition no 2 of planning permission 2017/0539/FUL to vary approved plans – Needless inn Farm Barn, Lady Alice’s Drive

“No objections”

2019/0941/FUL – Installation of 3 no. Ground floor windows and 2 no first floor windows with an externally mounted roller shutter to each window on east facing elevation (retrospective) – Unit 6 Holland Business Park, Spa Lane

“Lathom Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds, invasion of privacy for neighbouring properties, impact on adjacent listed property Spa Farm, Spa Lane. While the officer has used residential guidelines to determine the acceptable distance so there will not be any amenity impact, this is unacceptable as there are no set guidelines for distances for commercial development for comparison. The first floor windows overlook bedrooms in Spa Barn and the comment that there will be no impact outside ‘normal working hours’ suggest there will be impact during working hours.”

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm and the members of the public left

Councillor Pope returned.

60. COUNCIL VACANCY

The councillors present spoke to Ms Stopforth regarding her application to become a parish councillor and then Ms Stopforth left the room while the councillors present discussed her application and it was agreed to co-opt Ms Stopforth as a councillor at the November meeting.

The date of the next meeting Monday 25th November 2019

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

 Signed………………………………………………………..Chairman