

Notes for May Meeting

Notes from April were approved by Cllr D Storey, Cllr C Storey, Chairman Hodgson, Cllr Barritt, Cllr Beswick, Cllr MacDonald, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Crompton and Cllr Cockburn-Price.

Lengthsman

Andrew has been strimming and carrying out his duties as normal. He has also started to plan the work needed at the Poetry Garden. He'll do this as an ongoing project.

NWIB

We have received sad news that the Chairman of NWIB has sadly passed away. I have let Bev know about this.

Neighbourhood Plan Local List

The whole list has been submitted to Pendle Council. Rosemary Lyons has thanked the group for their hard work in collating the information and producing the document. She will review the suggestions and provide feedback in due course. She has advised it may be sometime before she provides this.

Allotments/Garages

Rents are coming in. More people have opted for the 10 month payment scheme this year. I've created a spreadsheet so that the payments can be monitored. So far, I haven't had anyone state that they are struggling to pay. If there are, I will deal with them on a case by case basis.

Some of the allotment tenants have set up a Whatsapp group so that information can be shared between them. I've also received a letter from a resident about allotment fires. I've attached it. Please could you give me some feedback on this? Barry has also spoken to Environmental Health who has sent some leaflets advising that allotment tenants may be able to get their waste collected. I've checked with Waste Services and this is not possible. The advice is that the only other real alternatives are that tenants take their waste to the recycling centre or the Parish Council hires a skip. We have hired a skip in the past but it was filled with anything and everything from the local area and the Council was penalised for not providing just green waste.

Cllr MacDonald -

- *agree photo 1 is not acceptable levels, I presume this amount continued for a while and it wasn't an opportunistic photo at the start of the fire that sometimes smokes badly initially*
- *i am concerned - why/how does the smoke enter the property at normal levels - surely this is not right???*
- *anyone who has received a letter from NHS England, hospital trust or GP practice advising them to shield should NOT be going out at all.*
- *please could you let me have a copy of the latest allotment agreement - I presume it includes:-*
 - *dates and times fires are allowed*

- *what constitutes acceptable - you could argue that people sat around a fire drinking are still watching but i agree one lump at a time is leisure and not 'gardening'*
- *definition of fire- the photo actually looks like a fire pit as opposed to a fire..... (what would be the 'rules' if this was in their neighbours back yard)*
- *consequences of tenants not adhering to these rules*
- *we need to add an end time for fires on a Wednesday*
- *we need to ensure there is a stipulation that only old, dry allotment debris can be burned*
- *map - send her a copy of the plot - have we had complaints about the same tenants previously?*
- *Radio on until 3am - really still on the allotment at that time??? **Apology received for this. The tenant had an emergency to deal with and forgot it was on. They have assured us it will not happen again***

Cllr Beswick

1. we should be 'reasonable' on this issue.

2. Reminder letter /note to All allot. holders (to prevent accusations of bias) To Remind of rules and request consideration of others and residential neighbours. We understand that at this very unusual time tips are not open to dispose of waste and waste services not operating as used to. However, please consider keeping such waste to one side until you are able to remove and prioritise burning to those unable to be taken in waste or composted. Burning should be a utility and not a reason to have a social event. If rules are not followed action will may be taken, there is a waiting list for allotments.

A skip - it will attract everyone's rubbish so no- they could get their own.

Cllr Hodgson – Difficult one this, but residents must bear in mind that it's short term and everything is very different this year, so more people are attending their allotments at the same time. It's good that they are being improved, but tenants need to be encouraged to compost where they can.

The allotment tenants have planned a social distancing VE Day Celebration this Friday. This is being highly promoted by Pendle Council, so I think it's a great idea.

Volunteers Sheet

I've created one – I'll distribute when things get back to some sort of normal!

Ball Grove

Government guidelines state that parks should be kept open, and as such, I've been in contact with Pendle Council who advise car parks will remain open and guidance around social distancing is regularly published on their Facebook page and website. They also send this to our page for displaying.

Cllr Beswick - Ball Grove- would be nice to keep it open - I think it's big enough for people to spread out. Do we need info signs to go up at the park? I would be happy to help with this if needed

Pendle Council are reluctant to close the Recreation Ground as this sort of falls into the remit of Parks. We feel that there is ample space for people to exercise whilst maintaining social distancing.

Swim Passes

The first session of funded swimming for primary school pupils was due to happen at Easter. All pools closed due to the Covid 19 situation and schools being closed. This should continue later in the year.

Remembrance Day Arrangements

Paul to provide the movement order for Adele to send to Pendle Council in preparation of Remembrance Day – should it be allowed by November.

New CCTV

I've met with Umbra Security about cameras at the Church corner. We need to meet with Paul to see if it is possible to get wires to the cameras outside, but he has agreed that the hardware can be stored inside Church which will mean that it is safe.

Cllr Hodgson – just see what's the best option for this. Happy that there will be 2 cameras – keep us updated Adele

Map of interesting places

Cllr McBeth – could you please let me have a progress report on this project?

Colne Road collapse

Work will not be carried out to repair the footpath until the current rules are relaxed somewhat.

Parish Matters

I'm regularly receiving updates on the current situation, and it was nice to receive a 'thank you' email from the Local Government Association for the continued work Parish Council Clerks are currently doing and support they are providing in keeping things moving in their local community.

Finance

The completed audit must now be submitted by 30th November instead of 31st July. I have received the documents from the external auditor. I have completed it and have sent it to the internal auditor to look at the documents. Once I have received it back, I will send all the information to you by email. These can be approved by email response if we are still unable to meet, but I need responses from **all** Councillors.

New rulings have come in by HMRC on 6/4/2020 that any employer, other than a charity, must now pay employer National Insurance contributions. The accountant has only recently been notified of these changes. It looks like it's roughly 0.7% of my pay. I have put a figure in the budget, just in case (as we always do), but it's about £300 too low. Once this first year is done, I will be able to get a better idea for budgeting next year.

Cllr Hodgson – that's OK – we have something in the budget.

Annual insurance is due on 1st June. It's £594.38 – about the same as it was last year. We haven't acquired any assets to add to the policy, but will need to add Ball Grove when it's transferred to us. Are Councillors in agreement that the cover should continue?

Cllr MacDonald - have you got quotes from anywhere else to check value for money?

Cllr Hodgson – seems reasonable as there are very few competitors on the market for Council insurance

The VAT refund has been received from HMRC.

The Lengthsman has completed 40 ½ hours (£607.50) for his Lengthsman hours and done 2 x contract grass cuttings (£320). Could you please let me know that you are happy for these to be paid?

Cllr MacDonald - yes pay

Cllr Hodgson – OK to pay

Cllr's D&C Storey – we are happy for this to be paid.

Planning

There has been just one planning application. Thank you to the few who gave comments on this application. The response below has been submitted.

Address: 1 Far Wanless Barn Hollin Hall Trawden Lancashire BB8 8QE

Proposal: Full: Change of use from agricultural use of the land to equestrian and erection of 42m² single storey timber flat roof stable with feeding area and 7m² concrete base and timber side panels for mucking use.

The Councillors are concerned that any structure on this side of the conversion will be highly visible from Hollin Hall and Lane House.

They are also concerned about any increased traffic using the narrow village roads and the access track to this property.

Comments: It is exceptionally close to a listed building and could detract from the aesthetics of the farm building. A shed has been previously moved from this side of the conversions in a similar location, again due to the aesthetics on the current property.