

Notes for October Meeting

September notes approved by Cllr MacDonald, Cllr Beswick, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Crompton, Cllr Reyner, Cllr Hodgson. Apologies from Cllr D Storey & Cllr C Storey

Lengthsman

The Lengthsman has completed 46.5 hrs in September.

NWIB

Planters are done and have been installed. I have received many comments on how good they look and have already had enquiries for boxes that I have advised will be now done next year.

Cllr Macdonald: Thanks to the bloomers for all their hard work. A credit to the village

Cllr Beswick - **Peace garden** – glad to hear of these developments. please do make sure it is mentioned on website and Facebook page with photos when done. There will be plenty of people who don't know about peace garden, and even those who do need to be made aware of the developments.

Cllr Robinson - The boxes have all been filled with new compost and newly planted. I would particularly like to thank Barry and Len for their help in adding the compost. It was a surprisingly long job! I think many people were surprised to see a tractor and trailer travelling alongside the wall as manure, soil and compost were shovelled into the wall containers. A few extra boxes of pansies and violas were necessary and Stells was the closest shop. The owner discounted the plants considerably in return for photographs of the plants, in situ, for his FB page.

The Prince's Trust workers continued their work under difficult weather conditions. Bob kindly erected the gazebos so that the sanding and painting of the benches could be done undercover. The church was opened so that the workers could use the kitchen and toilet facilities., and it was a safe place to lock away the tools at night.

Councillor Vacancy

As Craig McBeth has not responded to any of the meeting notes sent out by the Clerk for a period of over 6 months, she was asked to seek guidance from Pendle Borough Council. The advice is that, as he has been absent for more than 6 months, this post should now be declared vacant. The Clerk asked the Councillors whether she should write to Mr McBeth to inform him, and declare the position vacant. This was proposed by Cllr Robinson, seconded by Cllr Reyner. All Councillors in favour.

Neighbourhood Plan Local List

The whole list has been submitted to Pendle Council. I'm waiting on Rosemary Lyons to look at the documents and feedback on them.

Cllr Robinson - We should be extremely proud of our Neighbourhood Plan. It has been well researched for guiding future planning and care of the special features within the parish.

Allotments

The waiting list is growing every week. We currently have 26 people on it. I have been in contact with Pendle Council about disposal of waste if they are recommending that fires should not be allowed. I have gathered information from Colne and Nelson Town Councils that we can look at in order to decide how to proceed.

3 tenants have been written to as they have not done any work for a considerable amount of time. One has responded advising that they are now in a position to work on their plot, one has decided to rescind their tenancy agreement and the other was very angry that we had asked for improvements to be made whilst he was taking care of a family member.

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Cllr Beswick, I have not noticed any recent issues, glad they are popular. Suspect this will be a busier year anyway due to some people having more time at-home. I don't personally like bonfires or garden /allotment fires, **But** there is an agreement in the tenancy of allowing fires at particular times and days due to the reasonable reasons for fires. I believe we need to stick to this and not be persuaded by 1 individual who has an issue, however difficult it may be for them, or us, the parish council, in dealing with it. Unfortunately, we cannot please all people all of the time. May I suggest a firm response if future complaints appear, and being firm with those having fires outside of the rules. If multiple unfounded complaints arise, then a simple and polite, "*We have resolved this matter and no further comments will be made if it is the same issue, thank you*" or similar wording. Adele – with your responsibilities and tasks increasing, you do not have the time to keep spending on the same issue and I suggest its politely nipped in the bud. I hope other councillors will agree. Response – thank you Cllr Beswick – I think that this is a great response. As discussed, I will produce a note that will go out with the invoices next year stating that if we received complaints regarding fires out of permitted times, tenants will more than likely have their tenancy revoked.

Wild Camping at Wycoller

I have gathered information on the camping site in Wycoller but it is currently showing that bookings are not being taken. A lady came to the office to ask for advice. She has been given a summary and told to look on the Pitch Up website for more information. Rulings are that camping is allowed, as permitted development for 56 days in the year, but if the site is operating for a continuous 42 days, the local authority would need to grant permission for the additional days. Adrian Lord appears to have also registered his field at the bottom side of the Rec with Pitch Up and I have made a note when the first campers visited.

Cllr Macdonald: Thank for your work on this. Reassuring that it is being monitored.

Cllr Beswick - yes, agree monitoring required to ensure is kept within rules, when it is not, action to be taken.

Cllr Robinson - Well done, Adele,! You are on the ball!

Remembrance Day Arrangements

Still waiting for confirmation that the Order has been approved and raised.

How are we going to handle this? Do we pre-record (as suggested by Colne Town Council), and stream it on our Facebook page at 11am on Remembrance Sunday? We shouldn't be encouraging people to gather at the War Memorial, but should they choose to, do we ask the people ensure that they are in groups of no more than 6 people, all wearing masks and socially distanced from others?

Cllr Beswick - the idea from Sarah C-P seems reasonable, if it is possible.

The Clerk does not think that the road closure notice will get approved, and the Council cannot encourage gatherings. With this in mind, Adele to set up a meeting with representatives from Church to see what , if any plans they have in place. We will work with them to ensure Remembrance Day is still covered.

Ball Grove

There has been a lot of anti-social behaviour happening at Ball Grove over the last month. Mainly teenagers of around 14-16 years old. The Police have added the area to the patrol and are speaking to the young people on a regular basis. Cllr Margaret Foxley is also making every effort to visit the park on a daily basis to see that there is no damage or groups causing issues. This area is on-going and I've been in contact with Park High School as the children have been identified as attending there. I am waiting for their view on this.

Cllr Macdonald: Thanks to all.

Cllr Robinson - Councillor Foxley seems to have little praise for the actions of the police.

Let's hope that things will improve with co-ordinated efforts from council, school and police.

Defibrillator Signage

I have spoken to Liz Berridge of the Community Centre Trustees, and she thinks that this wouldn't help. Access cannot be gained into the defibrillator without the code from 999.

New CCTV

Another enquiry for CCTV footage for a garden wall that has been knocked down. Footage to be supplied.

Cllr Robinson - The CCTV seems to be proving its worth!

Colne Road collapse

The footpath has been repaired and Lancashire County Council have also installed an overflow pipe from one of the grids to join into another so that excess water should run straight into the beck underneath the bridge. In theory – Colne Road should no longer flood. Larger grids have also been installed in order for the water to disappear quickly.

Cllr Macdonald: I think there were 'issues' this weekend, but I suspect that was caused by the amount of leaves that have fallen. They did get swept – presumably by a neighbour there. On the whole appears to be an improvement

Cllr Robinson - After a huge deluge, there was lots of debris on the bridge but no flooding! The open grate near the turning to Hill Top, Colne Rd, is still fenced off and no action has been undertaken to several months. Clerk response – Cllr Crompton to provide some photo's and these will be sent to Cllr Purcell who promises to follow this up, with LCC Highways, on our behalf.

Map of interesting places

As Cllr McBeth is no longer a Parish Councillor as he has been absent from any meeting for 6 months without apologies, is there anyone else who would like to take this up? Cllr MacDonald suggested that this be put on the Council's Facebook page to see if anyone was interested in doing this.

The Clerk to ask Craig Midgley if he is interested in participating in this as suggested by Cllr MacDonald.

Bus Shelter

Bus shelter has been installed. £2050 has been reimbursed to us from the insurers.

Boundary/parish stones

I think that this would be beneficial to discuss with Karl at an actual meeting. I've advised him that I will let him know when the next face to face meeting will be and invite him.

Parking problems

This will be on-going due to the new potential guidelines that are to be put into place nationwide. I haven't received any complaints recently.

Cllr Robinson - I am sure we will always have parking problems in Trawden. The village was not built for vehicular traffic! Considerate parking is all we can promote.

Return to the office

Well, I'm in and all seems to be working well. I have set up the new laptop and printer and have already had several people popping to say hello.

Cllr Robinson - It's good to have easy access, Adele and it must be so much better for you, feeling you are going out to work, rather than being in the house all day! Clerk response – Yes it does! I can also monitor who has access to the building as the door is 'locked' whilst I am in the office.

Dog bags on the Recreation Ground

The dispenser has been removed and a sign has been put up explaining why it has been removed. It has been posted on the Facebook page and website. Foulridge are currently having the same issues. Reports from Cllr Hodgson that 400 bags have been taken in 2 weeks from the dispenser near to school. This will be monitored. The Clerk has spoken to David Whitfield and he will keep extra bags in the pavilion at the Rec so that they can be used before football training and matches.

[Cllr Macdonald: A sad state of affairs, but thanks to David for his help.](#)

[Cllr Beswick - agree with action being taken.](#)

Impact of Road Closures in Colne

Cllr MacDonald would like to raise the issue of the recent closure of Craddock Road whilst works are carried out. The impact on this in the village has been noticed. Cllr Macdonald reported an increase in the volume of traffic via Church street and one incident of Vehicle damage (reported to LCC). Works due to be carried out on Vivary way - suspect similar impact will be felt.

[Cllr Macdonald: The impact from vivary way hasn't been as noticeable.](#)

[Cllr Robinson - I think some people have found the route through the village easier than travelling through Colne. The volume of traffic still seems slightly up, even after work completed in Colne.](#)

British Red Cross request for financial support

There have been several suggestions of funding but I feel Cllr Cockburn-Price's recommendation that we should draw up guidelines for funding considerations should be looked at.

Recommendations for donations received from Councillors for The Citadel, Maggie Owens Homeless Project, Positive Action in the Community, Friends of Ball Grove, Friends of Trawden Playground.

Currently £1250 left in the budget (£300 to Friendship Group, £100 to Community Centre, £125 to Air Ambulance, £125 to Mountain Rescue, £100 Church Clock)

[Cllr Cockburn-Price suggested a Policy be written so that the community are aware of this before they apply to the 'Donations' pot of money.](#)

[Cllr Hodgson is aware that there are people who are struggling financially at the moment, and he suggested that the Clerk write a post for the website and Facebook page that if anyone is struggling, then they can apply, in confidence, to the Parish Council for funding. Rules would have to be drawn up in order to set the criteria for consideration. Cllr Foxley advised that school are running a scheme towards Christmas, and suggested that we join this. Cllr Crompton to speak to the Head teacher at the next Governors meeting to suggest this.](#)

Clerks Employment Information

Following on from last month's comments that the NJC pay rise has now been agreed by the government and the unions, the new pay scale for the Clerk has been imposed. At the budget meeting, it was suggested that a revised contract and job description be produced. This has now been completed and sent out to all Councillors. Cllr's D&C Storey, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Hodgson, Cllr Barritt, Cllr Crompton, Cllr MacDonald and Cllr Reyner agree to the contents of the documents and they have now superseded the previous ones.

Parish Matters

Request from the Community Centre Trustees

The defibrillator at the community centre needs a new battery. It was installed in May 2016 so it's lasted quite a while. The battery is going to cost £230 +VAT. Obviously, the Centre isn't making any money at the moment and that seems unlikely to change any time soon. The battery is quite a large, unexpected cost and they wondered if the Parish Council would like to help out by making a contribution. So far, we have given the group £300 towards the Friendship Group and £100 as a donation to the Community Centre (this was instead of paying for the meeting room historically).

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Cost of 50% of the new battery was proposed by Cllr Reyner, seconded by Cllr Hodgson. Put to vote – all in favour.

Halloween – See documents

A group has been set up – Chase the Pumpkins, Trawden which will encourage people to decorate their windows and garden (if they wish). I've emailed Lisa at school and they are wanting to participate. Do we want to support his? If so, how? Should we put out a post on our page asking that people do not take children door knocking?

The Councillors support the voluntary group who are setting this up, but are not getting involved in the running of this.

Cllr Hodgson, Cllr Robinson and the Clerk have met with a voluntary group who are looking at doing improvements to the children's playground at Lanehouse and also to create some kind of wheel park. As yet, I have not received a written proposal, but when this comes, it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Robinson - Councillor Foxley expressed concern that this proposed playground could engender the same sort of trouble at Ball Grove. It is a concern but maybe, because it is further from Colne, it will not attract so much attention!

The Clerk has received a complaint of a silver birch tree to the rear of Cotton Tree Lane. It is within our boundary line, therefore our responsibility. I have attached a document detailing the two sides of the argument as to whether it should be removed or not. Please feedback on this.

Cllr Macdonald: The complainant states they have had discussion with a tree surgeon – do they have his report? Has the PBC tree expert had a site visit? Did they have concerns re tree roots? I am reluctant to remove a tree – as someone has said this year, we have lost an awful lot due to ash die back. I can also sympathise somewhat, having an overhanging tree in my garden. However, they do provide a natural habit for birds etc. Where do we stand from a legal point of view if something did happen?

Cllr Robinson - It would be sad to cause such damage to a healthy tree, especially when we are being encouraged to care for and plant more trees. Did the tree officer categorically state that the tree roots would cause significant damage to the wall? I would like to think that we followed advice from the specialist wherever possible.

Cllr Beswick - Birch Tree – I have read the documents and viewed tree. Are you sure it's not actually part of the person's garden, as looking at it, it's on a small piece of ground it is on (matter of inches)? Would be easier if no council land, just a thought. I could say quite a lot responding to the many comments from document.

Keeping it simple -

1. A birch tree has an open -type canopy habit, not full coverage with leaves, thus - it is not the type that creates shade, so my opinion - irrelevant to thin the top and not sure causes a problem for vehicles moving past and certainly not pedestrians walking past.

2. You have consulted with Pendle council tree experts – they say not posing a danger and doesn't need removal. As advice from a reputable source, it should stand up to scrutiny.

3. It is just a healthy, native UK Tree! leaves fall, its normal. I do NOT want the tree to be removed. I do not agree with the council paying for "topping" the tree or taking further action. Council should certainly **NOT** be taking responsibility for any liability from the tree – we **MUST** not go down this road, be very careful.

So, I propose that any reply is kept simple and clear, and presented as a well-thought out decision, but that unless tree deteriorates in health, the decision is made, as I think complainant will come back with more comments anyway.

Footpaths

Cllr MacDonald has received an email from LCC to say they are adding my reports on issue on the PROW database, but asked for clarification on others.

Cllr MacDonald would like to express her disappointment at the behaviour of some residents during these unusual times. Some footpaths have been 'closed' due to vulnerable people living there. I have found the alternative routes to be reasonable, but some locals have refused to acknowledge the alternative routes provided and insisted on walking through farmyards, and ripping up LCC signs. I had hoped for better from such a community minded village. Those who have 'reported' the issues to me have not wanted to make anything formal.

[In light of this, Cllr Purcell will contact Lancashire County Council and ensure that the Clerk is advised of any footpaths that are due to be closed should we face another lockdown. These can then be communicated to the public so that they are aware of the changes, and routes avoided where necessary.](#)

Finance

Payments approved. Proposed Cllr Crompton, seconded Cllr Reyner. Put to vote – all in favour.

Trawden in Bloom

£10.80 to be reimbursed to Cllr Robinson for compost

£213.59 to Lanlee for the joint project between Trawden in Bloom and Princes Trust at the Peace Garden

£106.03 to Jewsons for the joint project between Trawden in Bloom and Princes Trust at the Peace Garden

£408.31 to Mandeleigh Plants

£49.33 reimbursement to Cllr Robinson for compost

Parish Council

£828 to Colin Braithwaite Excavations Ltd for installation of bus shelter

£697.50 to Andrew Crawshaw for Lengthsman Duties

£480 to Andrew Crawshaw for grass cutting contract

£14.70 to Andrew Crawshaw for reimbursement of grass seed

Planning

Consultation on a proposed public path order: Proposed Diversion of Part of Footpath Trawden 188 at Parson Lee Farm, Wycoller Road, Trawden, Pendle Borough. Attached is the consultation on diverting a footpath at Parson Lee Farm. It currently runs through a building. Comments sent: Generally, the Councillors do not have an objection to this diversion, although the footpath signs do not correspond with the map that has been provided. Whilst the map clearly shows the path going through the barn, the official marker is on a stile at the side of the barn, so no actual problem there. However, once across the stile, the yard is unkempt and causes difficulty in passing the immediate area. The tidying up of the yard would solve this issue. If the wire the owners have put up to the gate is followed, (slide 5 from LCC) apart from easily striding across a very narrow stream, there were no other issues crossing the land.

Currently paths 197 and 188 (the path in question) meet in front of Parson Lee at a footbridge. This is also the start of the bridle way. Moving the entrance to 188 will break up the continuation. Whilst there is a 'stream' to cross, it was narrow and easy to stride over. If the proposed is to have a culvert crossing, surely something can be added here to make it easier, without the need for diversion.

Parson Lee farm is on our local list - celebrating buildings of notable age. The proposed footpath diversion takes the walker away from the building, denying the walker of seeing the farmhouse.

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Cllr Beswick - Thank you very much to Cllr MacDonald for bringing this to our attention and for walking for details. It is very clear to me that diversion is not acceptable, and they are trying to make people go further away from their property (or the previous owners).from his detail and he photographs Cllr MacDonald supplied I Do Object and hope this is resolved. Apologies if this is out of place, as info came after he September notes, but I feel strongly about this. Please update us when things progress.

Cllr Robinson - Emma Jane established the path did not go through a building or cause any significant problems to the property. I suggest we leave it as it is.

20/0576/HHO Erection of a detached single garage with roof garden above at 1 Skipton Road Trawden Colne Lancashire BB8 8QU

The Councillors would have liked to see natural stone construction with wooden doors.

Work commenced many months ago excavating the site and the retrospective planning application seems very late on in the project.

Councillors have no objections to the roof terrace providing it does not overlook any other property.

20/0582/HHO - Full: Erection of a single storey rear extension, two storey side extension and single storey front porch at 23 Boulsworth Drive Trawden Colne Lancashire BB8 8SJ.

Comments sent : The Parish Councillors have no objection to the proposed alterations to this property. Other properties within the vicinity have already benefitted from extensions to the properties and it is pleasing to see that a garage is to be built.

Other News.

Cllr Robinson is concerned about the very loud drain cover on Skipton Road between the end of Trawden Road and CNC Support. Cllr Cockburn-Price has been in contact with the Clerk who have both been pursuing its repair. The Clerk has found that it belongs to United Utilities and has been inspected recently and marked for repair. The Clerk will see if she can find out when this will occur.

Some of the above issues were discussed at the brief face to face meeting that was held on 5th October 2020. At that meeting was Parish Councillors Cllr Hodgson, Cllr Reyner, Cllr Crompton, Cllr Beswick, Cllr Robinson, Cllr MacDonald, Clerk Adele Waddington.

Apologies received from Cllr Barritt, Cllr D Storey, Cllr C Storey

Also present: County Councillor Purcell. Borough Councillor Cockburn-Price, Borough Councillor M Foxley

Apologies received from CCllr Whipp

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