

Minutes of Parish Councils' Liaison Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 26 January 2017, starting at 6.30pm
Present: D Peat (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	I Sayers
A Brown	G Scott
P Dowson	R Sherras
L Graves	D Smith
T Hill	D Taylor
M Robinson	N C Walsh

Parish Representatives:

D Bland	Aughton Bailey & Chaigley
D Chiappi	Barrow
T Austen	Billington & Langho
H Douglas	Chatburn
A Schofield	Clayton-le-Dale
M Fenton	Clitheroe
J Hargreaves	Dutton
D Waters	Gisburn
K Hutton	Grindleton
I Forrester	Hothersall
R Beacham	Longridge
M Everett	Longridge
R Whitaker	Newton-in-Bowland
A Steer	Osbaldeston
R Whittaker	Rimington & Middop
A Haworth	Sabden
J Shorter	Sabden
R Hirst	Simonstone
G Meloy	Simonstone
J Hilton	Waddington
A Bristol	West Bradford
J Brown	Whalley
M Highton	Whalley
T Gaffney	Wilpshire
S Giles	Wiswell
M Robinson	Wiswell

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Environmental Health Services, Head of Cultural and Leisure Services and Dog Wardens.

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APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of the following Parish Representatives:

P Brown	Chipping
P Robinson	Clitheroe
S Rosthorn	Paythorn & Newsholme
E Law-Riding	Ribchester
A Ormand	Ribchester
J Bremner	Wilpshire

522 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

523 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest.

524 MATTERS ARISING

a) Minute 366(a)

The Chief Executive reported on the submission of the consultation response in relation to the Parliamentary Constituency Review to the Local Government Boundary Commission, with Parish Council Liaison Committee support, in respect of which the eventual outcome was due in September 2017.

He reported on the response to the warding proposals in Ribble Valley, and the proposed response to consultation. The proposals had been reported to Policy and Finance Committee on 24 January 2016 and could be viewed on the Ribble Valley Borough Council website.

In response to a question, he explained the procedures required for alteration of Parish boundaries, but that this was not contemplated at this stage. Further information on this could be given at the reception for Parish Chairs and Representatives, arrangements for which have been delayed due to the Mayor's incapacity.

b) Minute 366(b)

The Head of Regeneration and Housing reported that, since the last meeting of this Committee, Lancashire County Council had proceeded with the closure of most of the facilities which were under threat.

c) Minute 369

In response to a query, the Head of Regeneration and Housing explained that PCSO or Police travel to outlying villages on public transport arose when a visit had been pre-arranged, and no vehicle was available. Response officers still had access to Police vehicles.

d) Minute 370

The Head of Regeneration and Housing reported on updates to the Local Plan process. Responses had been received, and reported to Planning and Development Committee, updating the information for proposals maps. It was expected that the revised proposal would be formulated and reported to Planning and Development Committee in February, with further consultation thereafter.

e) Minute 371

The Chief Executive advised Committee that there was no intention to extend the capping of precept increases to smaller parishes with a precept less than £500,000.

525 UPDATE ON THE GREAT BRITISH TIDY AND SUPPORT FOR PARISH COUNCILS

The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services gave a verbal report to Committee on the Great British Spring Clean, promoted by Keep Britain Tidy, which would run throughout March with a particular focus on the weekend of the 3-5 March 2017. A resource pack for organising events could be sent out to interested bodies or could be accessed on the Council's website. Litter pickers and gloves could be obtained from Ribble Valley Borough Council at the same price as had been charged to the Council.

If additional collection of litter or refuse was required, Parish Councils could contact him direct or through Stephen Barker.

RESOLVED: That the Head of Cultural and Leisure Services be thanked for his presentation.

526 PRESENTATION BY THE DOG WARDENS ON RESPONSIBILITIES OF DOG OWNERS IN THE RIBBLE VALLEY

The Head of Environmental Health Services introduced Adele Geraghty and Joanne Ormerod, who gave a resume of their presentation to schools, educating children in the borough on responsibilities involved in dog ownership.

Their presentation outlined the various ways that dog faeces can be harmful to human and animal health; the importance of worming dogs, the use of waste bins and general litter bins; the fixed penalty notice regime; the different types of signage available from the Council; the compulsory requirement for dogs to be microchipped; and the dog control orders which had been applicable in the borough since 2014.

Members then asked a number of questions in relation to their duties, including the possibility of publication of numbers and locations where dog fouling offences had been detected. Members were advised of the importance of reporting on issues or fouling hotspots, to enable the Wardens to concentrate their efforts and surveillance appropriately. Representatives from across the borough expressed their appreciation for the work carried out by the Wardens over a large geographical area.

RESOLVED: That Adele and Joanne be thanked for their presentation.

527 CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED REMOVAL OF PAYPHONES – FEEDBACK FROM TASK AND FINISH GROUP

The Head of Regeneration and Housing reported on the work that had been carried out by his team and the Working Group, with details being fed into the response to BT and the Secretary of State. The outcome had been objections to the proposed removal of the vast majority of the payphones identified by BT. Members were advised that the analysis and findings of the Working Group had been reported to Planning and Development Committee on 12 January 2017, and that details were available on the Council's website including details of the locations of the boxes concerned and the particular issues relevant to each. It was hoped, in the absence of valid reasons by BT, that the payphones identified would be retained.

Members of the Working Group expressed their appreciation of the detailed preparation and analysis by Joseph Hildred, the Partnership Officer who had investigated and compiled the information.

Members were advised that it was important to continue to monitor and report on the condition and operation of payphones.

RESOLVED: That the Officers and Members of the Working Group be thanked for their efforts.

528 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PARISH COUNCILS

Transparency Act

In response to a query from Simonstone Parish Council, the Chief Executive advised on the requirements under the Transparency Code for smaller authorities. Expenditure on work or equipment since 1 April 2015 to comply with the Transparency Code could be eligible for financial support from the Transparency Fund. Parish Clerks could seek assistance with regard to applications for the fund from the Partnership Officers, Joseph Hildred and Dilys Day.

Beacons to Commemorate the End of World War I

The Chief Executive reported that contact was being made with all Parish Councils by the Pageant Master, who was co-ordinating the lighting of beacons across the country on 11 November 2018. Parishes who wished to participate should register their interest by March 2017. Details of the Pageant Master would be circulated.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott, extension 4400.