

## **ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE PARISH OF BRETHERTON**

**DRAFT MINUTES** of the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING of the PARISH OF BRETHERTON** held on Monday, 18th May 2015 at Bretherton Endowed Primary School, South Road, Bretherton at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Cllr Bertram, Cllr Farbon, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Lloyd, Cllr Rigby, Cllr Woodward and Mrs. G Southworth (Clerk of Bretherton Parish Council)

|  
**In attendance;** six members of the Public

### **Apologies**

None

### **Minutes of Last Parish Assembly Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

The minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were accepted as being an accurate record of the meeting and the Chairman of the Parish Council signed the minutes.

### **Annual Report of the Parish Council 2014/15**

Cllr Pigott presented the Annual Report of Bretherton Parish Council and highlighted the following aspects of the Annual Report;

During the course of the year the Parish Council responded to planning applications, purchased a defibrillator for the Village through public donations, and saw Bretherton being runner up in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition and the Play Area receiving the Best Play Area Award and the Congregational Church receiving the Best Place of Worship Award.

Following a public meeting the village, the Parish Council has agreed to support a project to refurbish the War Memorial which will be on-going during 2015.

### **Council Meetings and Membership**

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2014 when Councillor John Pigott was appointed as Chairman and Cllr Robert Booth as Vice Chairman.

Nine ordinary parish council meetings and one budget meeting were held during the year. Membership was constant with six members through most of the year. All statutory notices and agendas were posted on the Parish Council notice boards and on the Council's website.

### **Value for Money**

The Parish Council annually set a Parish Precept to finance its activities and administration which is collected by Chorley Borough Council as part of the Council Tax. The Parish Council has now set its budget for 2015-16; the Precept for 2015-16 is £9720 which for an average Band D property in the village is £34-22 p. This is an increase of 48p from the 2014-15 year. Whilst the Reserves at the end of the financial year were £15392 most of this amount relates to maintenance funds and special projects.

**Engaging with Residents**

Bretherton Parish Council has an active programme of engagement with residents by various modes of communication; such as its newsletter and website. The parish council notice boards also continue to be a vital source of community information. The notice board at the Apiary was unfortunately damaged by storms and has now been replaced and the Parish Council is grateful for the contribution received from the County Councils Parish Champions Fund. The notice board on Pompian Brow has been refurbished.

**Recreation Ground**

The play area continues to be very popular with local and visiting families, particularly in summer evenings after school and the Parish Councillors continue to personally monitor the safety of the site on a weekly basis to ensure a high standard is maintained. For the second year in succession, the Play Area has received an award as “Best Kept Children’s’ Play Area” in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition.

The Parish Council and Bowling Club are continuing to investigate the provision of a Pavilion Roof on the front of the new Bowling Clubhouse to provide shelter for spectators in bad weather.

**Road Safety**

The Parish Council continue to give a high priority to the improvement of road safety in the village with the deployment of the “smiley face” Speed Indicator Device at various locations. Whilst, we continue to press for a 30 mph speed limit on the western end of North Road, the Parish Council continues to be disappointed at the lack of support and action from Lancashire County Council. We would like once again like to thank Brian Monk for his continued support in managing the deployment of the SpID.

**Thank You.**

The Parish Council is grateful to the many people who give of their time and materials to help maintain the village and its amenities and those who have contributed to the fund to enable a defibrillator for the village to be purchased.

**Film Society.**

Cllr Pigott presented a report on the Film Society, which has seen an increase attendance over the past 12 months. Surplus funds have been used to improve facilities at the Primary School.

**Open Public Forum**

Cllr Woodward raised concerns about dog dirt bags being thrown onto the top of hedges and Cllr Lloyd expressed concern about the mowing of the daffodils planted opposite the War Memorial.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Annual Assembly and declared the meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....