

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE PARISH OF BRETHERTON

DRAFT MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING of the PARISH OF BRETHERTON** held on Monday, 12th May at Bretherton Endowed Primary School, South Road, Bretherton at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Jackson, (Chair), Cllr Moulton, Cllr Lloyd, Cllr Pigott, Cllr Rigby, Glenys Southworth, Clerk to the Council

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In attendance; five members of the Public

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Booth

Minutes of Last Parish Assembly Meeting held on 13th May 2013

The minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting held on 13th May 2013 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 2012/13

Cllr Jackson 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 carried out a survey of the views of residents, responded to planning applications, saw the Apiary and Play Area receive awards under the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition, congratulated Dave Ryding on his performance in the Winter Olympics, encouraged the raising of funds for a village defibrillator, held A Fun Day in conjunction with the Bowling Club, and saw the Gordon Gregg Memorial Bench put in place; for which the Parish Council is grateful to all those who donated and to Brenda and Brian Anderton for their help in the purchase and installation.

It was necessary to call an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the proposed fertilizer lagoon, off Eyes Lane; a development which the Parish Council will strenuously oppose, to protect the village

Council Meetings and Membership

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2013 when Councillor Wayne Jackson was appointed as Chairman and Cllr John Pigott as Vice Chairman.

Nine ordinary parish council meetings and one Extraordinary Meeting were held during the year; along with one budget meeting. 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 2014-15; the Precept for 2014-15 is £9370 which for an average Band D property in the village is £33-95 per annum. This is a decrease of £2-88p, from the previous year.

Whilst the reserves at the end of the financial year were £16465, most of this amount relates to special projects and maintenance funds.

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 during a storm and is shortly to be replaced

Striving for Quality Council Status

The Parish Council is continuing to work towards the criteria which must be met to apply for Quality Council status.

Recreation Ground

The new Bowling Club House was delivered and installed in July 2013 and, following an official opening at the beginning of September, has since been in regular use by Bretherton Bowling Club and Bretherton Buzzards Boules Team. The building, which was financed by a Sport England Inspired Facilities grant of £52,942 with no cost to the Parish Council, is also available for the use of other community groups in the village. The Parish Council and Bowling Club are now looking at the financing of a Pavilion Roof on the front of the building to provide shelter for spectators in bad weather.

The play area continues to be very popular with local and visiting families, particularly in summer evenings after school. The Parish Councillors continue to personally monitor the safety of the site on a weekly basis to ensure a high standard is maintained. During the last year, the Play Area has received an award from Chorley Civic Society and was voted "Best Kept Children's Play Area" in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition.

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. Though so far unsuccessful, we continue to press for a 30 mph speed limit on the western end of North Road.

We would like to thank Brian Monk for his continued support in managing the deployment of the SpID.

Thank You.

The Parish Council is grateful to Chris Naylor who very kindly printed 2 editions of the Newsletter, free of charge during this financial year.

Film Society.

Cllr Pigott presented a report on the Film Society, which has seen an increase attendance over the past 12 months. The Film Society now owns the screen and speakers and it looking to use surplus funds to provided additional facilities for the village.

Open Public Forum

Members of the public raised their concerns over the proposed development of a fertilizer lagoon off Eyes Lane the Chairman explained that the Parish Council would do everything possible to object to the proposals and support village effort.

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

Signed:

Dated: