

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

**MINUTES** of the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING of the PARISH OF BREThERTON** held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> May at Bretherton Endowed Primary School, South Road, Bretherton at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Cllr Gwyneth Lloyd (Chair) Cllr Simon Moulton, Cllr Robert Booth Cllr Wayne Jackson, Glenys Southworth, Clerk to the Council

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**In attendance;** One Member of the Public

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Pigott

### **Minutes of Last Parish Assembly Meeting held on 16th May 2011**

The minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011 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 2011/12**

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

#### **Changes to membership of the Parish Council**

Following May 2011's elections we welcomed two new councillors, Robert Booth and Wayne Jackson, on to the parish council replacing Kris Jolley and Brian Monk who had stood down. Thanks go to both for their many years of devoted and sterling service to our village.

#### **Clerk to the Parish Council**

In June one of the first tasks for the newly formed council was to interview and appoint a new clerk to replace Jill Cavan. Glenys Southworth was duly appointed and began her duties in July bringing excellent administrative and communication skills to the role of keeping all the councillors up to date and well informed.

#### **PACT meetings**

It was disappointing that the Community Police Officer Caroline Plummer was not replaced when she retired in the summer of 2011 due to budgetary cuts. The village lost its only direct contact with the police service through regular PACT meetings which were held before parish council meetings. However, Councillor Jackson has kindly agreed to attend future PACT meetings held monthly at Park Hall to keep us informed on all police matters pertaining to the village.

#### **Telephone Kiosk**

Earlier this year the council decided to adopt the BT kiosk located outside the Blue Anchor when the phone line was removed as it was felt it was an attractive part of the streetscape. When funding allows it is hoped that it can be used as an information centre.

### **Council Meetings and Membership**

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2011 when Councillor Mrs Gwyneth Lloyd was appointed as Chairman and Simon Moulton as Vice Chairman. Nine ordinary parish council meetings 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 2012/13; the Precept for 2012-13 is £9680 which for an average Band D property in the village is £32-70p per annum. This is a rise of £0.99 from the previous year.

### **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 and we currently have two situated on Pompian Brow and The Apiary, which are regularly updated.

### **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. Achieving Quality Status provides us with a benchmark against which to measure our performance in delivering local services.

### **Recreation Ground**

During the last twelve months, the new play area on the Recreation Ground has become a firm favourite, not only with local families but also for visitors from surrounding villages as a picnic location. Children and parents are attracted, not only by the quality of the play equipment, but also by the respect other users have for the play area and particularly the low level of litter.

The Parish Councillors continue to personally monitor the safety of the site and empty the waste bins on a weekly basis to ensure a high standard is maintained.

The Parish Council have applied to Sport England for an Inspired Facilities grant of £50,000 to replace the existing Bowling Green Cabin with a new Clubhouse. The original building was erected in the early 90's as a temporary facility and now urgently needs replacing. If successful, it is hoped that the new building will be open for the 2013 season and will provide a base for the further development of Crown Green Bowling as a major social and sporting activity within the village. As with the Bowling Green, the Parish Council propose to delegate responsibility for management and maintenance of the new clubhouse to the Bowling Club.

**Road Safety**

The Parish Council continue to give a high priority to the improvement of road safety in the village. During the last year there have been a number of serious accidents, particularly on North Road, with one fatality. We are continuing to press for an extension of the 30 mph speed limit between Carr House Lane and Canal Leach on North Road and are particularly concerned about safety at the junctions with Marl Cop and Pompian Brow.

We continue to deploy the “smiley face” Speed Indicator Device , not only to remind drivers of the speed limit, but to also record the speed of vehicles at various locations in the village and we would like to thank former Councillor Brian Monk for his help in this activity.

**Open Public Forum**

The poor condition of the road surface along Sarah Lane was raised and the Clerk was requested to contact Lancashire County Council.

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

Signed: .....

Dated: .....