

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE PARISH OF BRETHERTON

DRAFT MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING** of the **PARISH OF BRETHERTON** held on Monday, 9th May, 2016 at Bretherton Endowed Primary School, South Road, Bretherton at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Bertram, Cllr Farbon, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Wait, and Mrs. G Southworth (Clerk of Bretherton Parish Council)

In attendance; two members of the Public

Apologies
Apologies were received from Cllr Lloyd and Cllr Rigby

Minutes of Last Parish Assembly Meeting held on 18th May 2015

The minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting held on 18th May 2015 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 2015/16

Cllr Jackson presented the Annual Report of Bretherton Parish Council as set out in Appendix A

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Annual Assembly and declared the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Appendix A

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

This year we sadly lost Brian Monk who had always worked tirelessly to support the village and he has been greatly missed. Due to the generosity of the people of Bretherton it was possible to donate £220 to the Air Ambulance in his memory

We are also grateful to those whose contributions have enabled the Parish Council to purchase a storage case for the Defibrillator.

Fund Raising by the Bowling Club has enabled a veranda to be added to the building and for repair work to the surrounding area to be carried out, Bretherton is fortunate to have so many public spirited people living in the village and the Parish Council is grateful for all the support it receives

We are also grateful to Chorley Borough Council which has given a grant of £750 towards the refurbishment of the War Memorial. Due to the age of the structure, work will be slow and painstaking and reflect the sacrifice of those whose names are there.

Following the May 2015 elections we said 'goodbye' to Robert Booth, Simon Moulton and John Pigott, who had decided not to stand for re-election. Over the years the Parish Council had benefitted from their commitment and dedication. In their places we welcomed, Robert Bertram, Barbara Farbon and Karen Wait, all the new councillors have settled in well and have brought valuable knowledge and skills to the Council.

Whilst John Pigott is no longer a Parish Councillor he has kindly continued to operate the mobile speed camera.

As Chairman I would like to thank everybody in the village who contribute to making Bretherton one of the best villages in Lancashire in which to live.

Council Meetings and Membership

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2015 when Councillor Wayne Jackson was appointed as Chairman and Councillor Karen Wait as Vice Chairman.

Ten ordinary parish council meetings were held during the year; 2015-16 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 2016-17; the Precept for 2016-17 is £10,530, this is an increase of £881 from the 2015-16 year. For an average Band D property in the village the Precept equates to £35-05 pa. Whilst the Reserves at the end of the financial year were £14702-58 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. With a grant from the Parish Council Champion the damaged notice board at the Apiary was replaced and the Pompian Brow noticeboard refurbished.

Recreation Ground

The play area continues to be very popular with local and visiting families, particularly on 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.

The Bowling Club House has now been enhanced by the provision of a veranda, which provides shelter during wet 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 continue to be disappointed at the lack of support and action from Lancashire County Council. A Transport Survey was undertaken this year and the Parish Council have prioritised the results and will be campaigning on behalf of the village.

We are grateful to John Crossfield, Phil Bradley and Tim Baldwin who are helping with the operation of the SPID

War Memorial

A grant application has been submitted to the War Memorials Trust and a decision is awaited.

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.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Parish Council operates a controlled system for recording and presenting financial information. The Parish Council accounts are subject to both an independent Internal and External audit each year and Annual Returns are prepared and submitted to the Audit Commission. The audit for the year ended March 2015 was concluded successfully with no matters arising. As part of an annual review of Parish Council activities, a risk assessment is undertaken annually in line with reviewing insurance arrangements together with a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. All financial and regulatory information is prepared and submitted in accordance with required deadlines.

Summary of 2015-16 Finances (*Not yet Audited*)

	£
Balance/Reserves B/F 1 April 2015	
<u>Receipts</u>	15392-13
Precept	9306-00
Top up Grant	414-00
VAT Rebate	891-42
Investment Income	10-72
Grant for War Memorial	750-00
Donations	12790-80
Total Receipts	39555-07
<u>Payments</u>	
Administration	484-92
Audit	150-00
Best Kept Village Competition	15-00
Bowling Club Grant	1200-00
Bowling Club Work	9485-00
Employees	1834-56
Election Expenses	1249.00
Grounds Maintenance	2700-00
Insurance	461-83
New Notice board	350-00
Room Hire	375-00
Training	35-00
Publications	207-99
Subscriptions	133-48
Wreath	27-00
Website	132-00
Play Area	1742-50
Defibrillator Case	518.40
Donation to Air Ambulance	220-00
VAT	3576.71
Total Payments	24852-49
Balance/Reserves C/F at `1/4/16	14702-58