

**BLACKO PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING 23 FEBRUARY 2021**  
**(VIA ZOOM)**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Parish Cllrs N Hodgson P Hesketh R Fewster  
H Wager D Stone N McEvoy Cllr D Whipp  
Cllr J Purcell

K Wood Clerk

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 26 January 2021 – Proposed Cllr Hesketh, seconded Cllr Hodgson. All approved.

3. **MATTERS HELD OVER**

1. White lines on Barnoldswick Road – Left of the Agenda until works on the drainage problems are completed – Cllr Whipp said he would update on the works later in the meeting.
2. Football Pitch/Exercise Track - Cllr Hodgson, reported that himself and Cllr Fewster had met with the contractor, and both agreed that the contractor wanted to make the site 100% correct. He will compact the track again and refill, he will re backfill where necessary and re do the turf to the outside of the track to do away with the trip. He will attend site once the ground is a little firmer. Both Cllrs, think the work required will probably be a larger cost to the contractor, that what we hold on him, but he is hoping to get more of this type of work and wants our track to be a good advert for him.
3. Invite to Gail Barton – Our Lancashire – Gail to attend the April Meeting (I have emailed Gail and postponed her attendance till we are back to normal)
4. River Ribble Trust – Possible Tree planting – On hold till exercise track is finished.
5. Tree with Ash Die Back – Lee @ PBC was still trying to contact the owners, Lee was on with this and would report back as soon as possible
6. New notice board – Arrived and in storage at Cllr Stones house. Clerk to contact the lengthsman to ask availability for the erection of the board on the recreation ground. Clerk has requested the grant money from B&WP to cover the cost.
7. Hedges on Barnoldswick Road – These have now been cut. The Clerk asked the Cllrs to pass on as many names of owners of the fields on Barnoldswick and Gisburn Road, so a letter can be sent to say the Parish Council will no longer pay for the hedges cutting this is down to the owners of the land - Cllrs

8. Trophies from the Show – There are two outstanding trophies that need collecting – 1 from Annetta Barrow and one from Diana Shaw. The Clerk reported she had not been in contact with Diana due to lockdown, but as soon as possible she would call round.
9. Blacko Tower. Awaiting update from Rosemary @ Pendle BC
10. School Recreation ground inspection report  
Climbing wall – unfortunately the fixing sourced are not the correct ones, clerk to return them. Replacement fixings are being sourced. Clerk requested to get a price for a new climbing wall to replace existing.  
Clerk awaiting response from Wickseeds regarding shrinkage of the play surface and the area under the Nest Swing.
11. Website update – Clerk reported she had contacted Pendle BC, but had been informed that we could not upload our mins to their website. After a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk contact Philip Mousdale at Pendle BC and request confirmation of our obligations to display the mins. – Clerk

#### 4. **PLANNING**

Nothing at present, Local Plan is to be discussed under correspondence below.

#### 5. **REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

Cllr McEvoy reported that there was a budget meeting this week. Elections are to take place in May.

#### 6. **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Purcell, stated that if anyone had any “Pot Hole” problems, she was making a list and passing the on to LCC – Cllrs mentioned a large pot hole outside the cornmill in Higherford, Cllr Purcell noted it.

Cllr Whipp – updated the meeting on the drainage works on Barnoldswick Road, once these were completed, permanent patching would be done, then in the summer months surface dressing and white lining. He then discussed the up coming elections in May, where 6 votes would take place 2 x County Cllrs, 3 x Borough County Cllrs and 1 x Police and Crime Commissioner. At present discussions were ongoing on making the Elections Covid secure, problems with enough presiding officers to run polling stations, polling stations that can be one way in, one way out, and Schools had requested not to be used. It has been suggested that Blacko might be joined with Higherford and the Methodist church used, it has also been suggested that t possible Marquee/trailer be used for Blacko, but nothing concrete has been decided yet. Cllr Whipp also reported the push for Full Fibre broadband in the rural areas available to the door, as opposed to just to the Cabinet. Pendle are pulling together with LCC to push this forward.

7. **REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Hodgson reported that at the B & W P meeting nothing directly involving Blacko, but retrospective planning regarding the Orchard at Higherford, a new developer had taken over the remaining plots, and has cut down trees and started building houses not as on the planning.

8. **RECREATION GROUND AND ALLOTMENTS**

Cllr Hodgson, has forwarded his inspection reports to everyone prior to the meeting via email

9. **CAR PARKS**

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Public Consultation – Pendle Local Plan Part 2**

This was discussed in great detail and the preferred site against the other possible sites put forward by Pendle – All the sites put forward have been turned down for planning previously. Cllr Hodgson to draft a report and circulate to the Cllrs for comments before putting it forward to Pendle before the end of the consultation period. Cllr Whipp stated that this was open to everyone to put forward their comment, and also proposed developers can use it to put forward their views or to push forward their preferred sites.

**Restoring your Railways.**

It was proposed we support this initiative by Cllrs Hodgson and seconded by Cllr Stone – All we in favour – Clerk to respond to the email stating the Parish Council were in Favour.

**Community Governance Review.**

This was discussed and at present the Cllrs agreed they were happy with Blacko and the way it was run – Proposed by Cllr Hodgson and seconded by Cllr Hesket - Clerk to respond to Pendle and say that we have no issues we wish to bring to the Review – Clerk. Cllr Hodgson took the opportunity to ask Cllr Whipp regarding the re arrangement of the Area Committees, Cllr Whipp said this would follow the local elections in May

11. **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

It was generally noted that the amount of fly tipping had increased, and that Cllr are notifying Pendle as and when

12. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

13. **FINANCE**

**Expenditure**

Clerks Salary	£117.70
The Acorn Workshop ( new notice board)	£1260.00

**Income**

Cllr Hodgson approved the expenditure and Cllr Fewster seconded, All were in favour.

14. **LAND AND PROPERTY**

15. **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 23 March 2021 (Via Zoom)