

# Ince Blundell Parish Council

## Minutes of Meeting held Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015

42. Attendance: Cllr K Sharpe (In the Chair), Cllr R Jenkins. Mr I Cowell (Clerk).

43. Apologies: Cllrs' Ashton; Waugh and Mansour.

44. Other Attendance: Sefton Cllr Catie Page; Colette Bond.

45. Declarations: Cllr Sharpe is Chairman of the H-Alt Group.

46. Open Forum: a) Speeding in the Village: Colette Bond raised the issue of vehicles speeding down Carr House Lane and Hall Lane and suggested a speed limit of 20mph might be appropriate. The question of enforcing speed limits was raised with Cllr Page suggesting that albeit some people might exceed a speed limit there was none the less a tendency for drivers to observe a limit. Cllr Page agreed to take the issue up with Sefton Highways Department.

b) Bin Lorries using Moor Lane: A resident had complained that bin lorries from Sefton MBCs Depot situated on the A565 between the Hightown turn off and the Lighthouse Roundabout were driving down to Ince Blundell, turning into Moor Lane and returning back to the Depot on the A565. The Clerk had entered a complaint to Sefton MBC.

47. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Resolved "Approved".

48. Matters Arising: a) Sefton Council Local Plan. The Clerk reported that the Planning Inspector's Examination of Sefton Council's Local Plan would commence on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and continue until 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The Plan Sefton had put forward involved the building of 615 houses a year covering the period 2012 to 2030. However, as a result of a Housing Technical Paper issued in July 2015 which took account of later population statistics it could be that the figure of 615 houses is no longer appropriate and could be doubled. This took no account of the situation in Ince Blundell Village which in the Local Plan is a "washed over village in the Green belt". Originally under Sefton's Consultation Plan "Preferred Option" published in 2013 the Village was designated as an "Inset Village" in the Green Belt which meant normal planning rules could apply within the tightly drawn border around the Village. The Parish Council supported this latter option at the time. However, the idea of an "Inset Village" was not brought forward in the Local Plan now under scrutiny which was published in January 2015. Instead reliance is now being put on Paragraph 89 of the National Planning Policy Framework document which allows for certain very limited development in the Village. However, according to Sefton's Local Plan there would be no opportunity to develop affordable housing in the Village. The consequence is that the Clerk has drafted a submission to the Inspector on behalf of the Parish Council asking if this situation can be clarified.

b) West Lancashire Borough Council Wind Farm – Update:

Cllr Sharpe said, that apparently, Coriolis had submitted an application to the West Lancs Council which had been rejected on the ground of missing information. The Clerk confirmed he had checked the West Lancs Planning site the previous day without result. The Chairman said he had circulated the Ten Parishes in Sefton and a good number of Parish Councils in West Lancashire setting out issue they should consider and seeking support for opposition to the building of a Wind Farm in West Lancs. The Clerk referred to a statement by Secretary of State Amber Rudd regarding the ending of new subsidies for Onshore Wind Farm in which it was required there should have been an planning application together with an approved grid connection submitted to Local Planning Authority by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Moreover, critical to such an application should be the support of the local community. The Chairman emphasised this latter point and said it was planned to hold a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

c) Defibrillator: There is some confusion about the use of the Defibrillator by the entrance to the Village Hall. It is proposed to publish a Newsletter to go out to the Village giving advice on the use of the Defibrillator.

d) Christmas Arrangements: The Clerk had written to Strikes regarding the arrangements for a Christmas Tree. It was suggested the tree should be lit on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 6pm. Cllr Page will check whether MP Bill Esterson is available for the switch on of the Tree Lights.

e) Remembrance Service: The Chairman thanked the members of the Village for a splendid turn-out and urged those who had medals to display them at future events.

f) Village Notice Board: The doors of the Notice Board are in need of attention. Colette said she would contact a local joiner to inspect the Notice Board and suggest what repairs might be necessary. Cllr Page said a contribution to the repair might be made from the Area Fund and asked to be kept advised.

49. Correspondence: Ten Parishes Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Maghull. The Chairman and Clerk are to attend this event.

50. Planning Matters: Nil.

51. Finances: Current Account: August statement £1946.29.

Accounts for Payment: Ince Blundell Village Hall Committee - £25.00 cheque 100164; Royal British Legion – Formby - £35.00 cheque 100165. Resolved Accounts for Payment approved. Draft Precept: A draft precept was presented for approval by the meeting.

52. Next Meeting: Monday 18th January 2016 at 7.30pm.