

# **Ince Blundell Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th July 2018**

**14) Attendance** Cllr Sharpe (Chair), Cllr M. Jones, Cllr V. Jones, Cllr Waugh and Cllr Mc Cann. Mrs C Birch (Clerk)

**15) Others in attendance** 18 members of the public,  
Ian Mercer Director of North West Turf.

**16) Declaration of Interests:** None at the beginning of the meeting.

**17) Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Resolved 'Approved'

**18) Open Forum:** A number of residents complained about dust and dirt contamination in Carr House Lane caused by North West Turf due to ploughing in extremely dry conditions. There were also several complaints about the starting time for turf cutting around 4:30 am using noisy machinery and the speed of such machinery travelling along Carr House Lane. Concerns were raised about the use of pesticides and the dust contamination again in resident's homes. A resident asked about why the company needed to stack and site pallets in such proximity to adjoining properties when turf was being harvested.

The Parish Council invited Ian Mercer to speak to the meeting. Mr Mercer apologised for the incident which he promised would not happen again and had happened due to the weather conditions, a member of staff acting without direct instruction and all Directors being out of the country at the time and therefore not able to act swiftly to stop ploughing and resulting dust when residents made them aware of it. Mr Mercer apologised to residents and made his phone number available asking them to contact him directly in the event of any more problems. He promised to look at starting hours for his workers and agreed 4:30am was unacceptable. He said he would speak to drivers about the speed of vehicles using the road and mounting the kerbs and make sure safety was paramount. He promised to sow the grass seed in a way which would keep machinery as far away as possible from the properties on Carr House Lane in the future. He spoke with concerned residents privately after the meeting. Cllr Sharpe thanked Mr Mercer for attending and dealing personally with this unfortunate incident.

A resident asked for information on the helicopter Pleasure flights and was informed these flights can continue for 24 days of the year without need for any permission. Council is keeping a close watch on this but it appears we have no power to prevent these at the moment.

The same resident expressed concern over the parlous state of the wall surrounding the Hall. This matter has been raised by the council and we are awaiting instruction from Sefton Council.

A resident asked about the loss of footpaths from the village to the church through the woods. Cllr Sharpe advised that this had been lost in 2012 when Sefton Council backed the landowners right to install gates and it was unlikely to be reinstated

A resident spoke of their concern over the state of the carriageway in Hall road and was informed the council were seeking further information on this from Sefton.

### **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

**a) Village Website:** Clerk to approach Michael Ashton to update the site

**b) Hall Road:** Clerk to contact council over the state of the road following the accident.

**c) Village Hall update (report) .**

**d) Old Notice Board refurbishment** Should soon be replaced

**f) War Memorial:** what does the Village want to do to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the first world war?

**g) Survey of residents views to Trees on Green** Cllr M Jones to ask residents what they wanted to see happen to trees.

**j) Pavements and gutters.** Tree root damage and weeds in gutters.

**19) Parish Council Vacancies** Cllr Jones and Cllr McCann were welcomed onto the council

**20) Village Fete** Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

**21) Ince Blundell Hall Wall** responsibility for upkeep and repair sought.

**22) Fly Tipping** Cllr Jones informed council that the last incident had been caught on camera and Sefton would remove rubbish within 48 hours.

**23) Planning Matters**

**24) Finances a) Current Account £3,175.86**

**b) Bills for payment**

I.B. Village Hall Committee £25 chq: 11

Autela Group £30.00 chq: 10

Auditor's gift £13.98 chq 12

**25) Resolved that the payments be approved**

**26) Date of Next meeting: 13th September 2018 at 7:30**

*Draft Minutes subject to confirmation at the Next Meeting*

**Chairman:**