

Forton Parish Council
Forton Parish Council Update – 1 June 2020

The following update was agreed by Councillors via email.

Government legislation prohibited public gatherings, restricting council business;
the following business was consulted via emails.

1. NOMINATION OF CHAIR

The Coronavirus Act, which the government introduced on 19 March, postpones any elections that were due to be held in May 2020 until 6 May 2021. Any other electoral events, such as the parish council elections, will also be postponed until May 2021.

Cllr Huddart will continue as chair until May 2021, this was agreed by all Councillors.

Resolved: Nomination of Chair.

2. WYRE COUNCILLOR UPDATE – CLLR LEECH

Last week, together with our partner volunteer groups, our hubs have received 313 enquiries, dealt with 198 requests for food collection/assisted shopping, 160 requests for delivery of medication and we have provided 105 food parcels.

Over 40 members of staff have been redeployed to work across four hubs in a range of different roles and the teams have been amazing, contacting and supporting over 4,000 vulnerable people. Marine Hall has been turned into a food hub and since we started over 550 food parcels have been provided for the most vulnerable in our community.

As a number of staff now need to return to day jobs, we are moving to the next phase of our community hubs which still have an important role to play. Teams will be merged and management will be led by the Community Engagement Team.

Coronavirus testing took place this weekend on Friday 22 May to Sunday 24 May from a facility on High Street car park in Garstang.

We have now paid £25.8m in business grants, to over 80% of the businesses in Wyre who are eligible.

The government announced a new discretionary business grants scheme on 1 May and we have been waiting for the guidance which was published on 14 May. We are in the process of determining our scheme and setting up an application process and this will take some time. We have asked businesses for their patience as we do this as it is important that we establish a consistent approach that complies with government guidance and further clarification is awaited.

3. UPDATE FROM THE LAST MEETING

The update of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 May 2020, was previously circulated.

Resolution - Agreed.

4. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Parish Council will meet on the following dates at 7.00pm – usually in the pavilion - the venue will be advised on the agenda. Under the current situation consultation will be via emails/virtually.

6 July 2020	No meeting August	7 September 2020
5 October 2020	2 November 2020	7 December 2020
4 January 2021	1 February 2021	1 March 2021
12 April 2021 APM	10 May 2021 APCM	

The above dates to be agreed. Resolution – Agreed.

5. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

Parish Maintenance – Clerk/Judith/Fiona Pond Warden – Alex Tyrell

Lune Valley Rural HA – Cllr Huddart Tree Warden – Kelly Stewart

Lancashire Association of Local Councils – Cllr Huddart

Internal Auditor - John Wilkinson Planning Ambassador – Cllr Young

Responsible Financial Officer - Lindsey Hall Village Voice – David/Rhona

Cheque Signatories Cllrs Huddart, Young and McLoughlin. Clerk.

The above nominations will run for the year 2020-2021. Resolution – Agreed.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application Number: 20/00386/FUL

Proposal: Erection of one detached dwelling (amendments to application 17/00666/FUL)

Location: Land Adjacent To Oakwood House Wallace Lane Forton Preston

Application Number: 20/00394/AGR

Proposal: Prior notification for replacement horticultural storage building

Location: Laburnum Nurseries Lancaster Road Forton Preston

No objections received from Councillors. Clerk to advise Planning. Resolution – Agreed.

7. FINANCE

The following payments have been made:

1. Clerk expenses – May	£ 18.00 by Bank Transfer
2. Clerk wages – May	£241.60 by Standing Order 1.6.20
3. SLCC Membership	£ 78.00
4. LALC Subscription	£285.99
5. Footpath payment – St Mary & St James	£ 5.00
6. Village Voice Consumables	£100.00
7. Zurich Insurance	£451.82
8. Toner Cartridges – Clerk	£521.70

The following invoices require payment:

1. Cllr Huddart - Toner	£ 30.03
2. CPRE Subscription	£ 36.00
3. Awaiting confirmation re total for SPID	£2975.00 x 2 + £100 delivery plus VAT
4. DBA Architects	£ 288.00

The Bank Reconciliation April:-

Current Account	£22,553.43
Less unrepresented cheques	£ 728.59
Total	£21,824.84
Supported by Cashbook	
Receipts	£23,316.73
Payments	£ 1,491.89
Total	£21,824.84
Reserve Savings Account	£40,392.38

The Parish Council closed the year with a balance of £3,430.74 in the Current Account. The balance brought forward from 2018-2019 was £12,353.32. There is £40,392.38 in the Business Reserve Account.

Resolution – Above transactions/information Agreed.

8. PROW

The PROW scheme (£500) has been opted into and the Clerk has advised Lancashire County Council.

9. CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

As there are to be no Annual Meetings the following is provided.

May 2019-April 2020

A brief summary of the last 12 months. Representatives for village organisations were elected. SpringVale residents expressed concerns about flooding. The annual bedding plant sale went ahead. Residents were told of the village housing expansion and informed of the names of landowners. Sarah Taylor joined the PC. Some parts of the village hall were refurbished. Progress on the draft masterplan continued. New walkway boards were made for the pond. Some SpringVale residents had received initial offers re purchasing their houses to make way for a road

A resident volunteered to be the handyman and has remade the notice board, done work on the footpaths and also maintenance work on the flower tubs. Trees at the pavilion were given an expert make-over. Field Day took place as usual.

A detailed set of documents were distributed to every resident, giving as much information as possible re the proposed new houses. The PC submitted a document with their views.

A ceramic poppy plaque was installed at the war memorial. Nan's Nook footbridge over the M6 was demolished and a diverted route made.

We were told that new recycling bins were to be issued to replace the green boxes. South Lakes Housing Association are the new managing agents for Willow Close houses. The flower group made Forton a mass of lovely blooms.

A well organised drop-in session was held to enable residents to make an informed choice when voting on the draft masterplan.

The appearance of hogweed and its dangers were noted near the motorway services.

The April PC meeting was held by email contact with clerk & councillors due to lockdown.

10. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Chair's Update – Cllr Huddart

* These numbers could be useful: I was given them for delivery of medicines from the pharmacy, but they might help in other ways

Garstang volunteers

07340568400

07493557975

* We record, with great sadness, the death of Tony Hindle in an accident in Hollins Lane and Brian Tabner from coronavirus.

* The Garden team have access to the PC bin at the pavilion, but as with other residents, we await 2020/ 2021 stickers.

*The Handyman will be renewing the “diamond“ trough on Wallace Lane

*The list of volunteers organised by a resident has been a very useful source of help

* At the time of writing, both our Care Homes have no problems

*The August/ September issue of Village Voice will almost certainly be back to normal print.

* The Post Office is still open, with brilliant separation organisation - thank you Cllr Dodgson.

* Thanks also to my fellow councillors and to Lindsey for keeping the parish going at this unusual time.

Update - Cllr Young

1. Len Harris asked on 24 April about the extent to which the PC would be involved in project management work on the community hall. I am grateful to councillors for their views on how to reply and their subsequent agreement to the PC response which went to Len on May 11. This concluded that the PC involvement must be confined to financial work because we not have the capacity and resilience to sustain greater involvement over the likely project life of two years.

2. Len responded on 13 May seeking confirmation - or otherwise - that the PC could take on a list of 8 tasks (which were derived from the Trust response to his April e-mail). I am working with Cllr Young on obtaining Councillor's views on this before we can send a PC response to Len. This has included sending councillors an update from Neil in which he amplifies what he sees is meant by these 8 tasks and who would be involved in each of them.

3. I have investigated complaints from Hollins Lane about the MCI development of 60 houses to the east of Hollins Lane and visited Jim Barnes. I wanted to assess the compliance with the planning permission with respect to the build levels of some houses. I provided Lindsey with a PC reply to Karl Glover who then asked an Enforcement Officer to visit the site.

Update - Cllr McLoughlin

Gulleys along Stoney Lane have been marked by Highways in white paint but not emptied yet.

A local resident reported a flattened road sign outside Brian Carr's farm, Highways have reinstated it.

One case of fly tipping (three white goods) near to the service area was reported to Wyre by a local resident.

The one case of Japanese Knot Weed up by the M6 bridge turns out to be in three locations. The authorities have cordoned the areas off and marked it clearly.

The new footpath from the Scorton Picnic site towards the Girl Guide Centre at Guys Farm has been completed and is a vast improvement as it will be a lot firmer underfoot during wet conditions.

Update - Cllr Dodgson

During the last month, I have been liaising with Hollins Lane residents regarding Tree felling concerns and have sent the necessary emails to the Tree Warden; Also construction problems and checking residents were not affected too much after the serious road accident resulting in a fatality. Whilst out & about on my bike I had a look at the grass verges around the village after a complaint or comments were made. I have also spoken to people when they have come into the PO and raised issues and also printed off and put up in the PO the LCC Scam alert information.

Resolution – The above updates were agreed.

11. ROAD CLOSURES

Potters Brook

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle or motor cycle to proceed over that length of Potters Brook, Forton from the junction at the property 'The Burtons' for approximately 80 metres in a north westerly direction.
2. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.
3. The prohibition will be operative from 0730hours on Monday 22ndJune2020 until 1530hours on Friday 3rdJuly 2020 or until completion of the works within this period.
4. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is not applicable – Access has been agreed with residents

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow bridge repair works to be carried out by the Canal & River Trust.

Cleveley Bank Lane

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Cleveley Bank Lane, Nether Wyresdale from its junction with Richmond Hill Lane for approximately 900 metres towards the junction with Factory Brow.
2. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.
3. The prohibition will be operative daily between 0930hours and1530hours on Monday 13th July 2020 until Friday 17th July 2020 or until completion of the works within this period.
4. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Hollins Lane – Preston Lancaster Road –Station Lane –Factory Brow and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow works for the provision of two new poles to be carried out on behalf of BT.

**The next meeting/update will be held/issued on
Monday, 6 July 2020 in the Pavilion/via the website at 7.00pm.**

Keep yourself and your family safe. Stay at home

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

Do not meet others, even friends or family. You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.