

THURNHAM with GLASSON PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter July 2021

Welcome to the bi-annual Parish Council newsletter.

There have been several changes to the parish council since the publication of the last newsletter. Cllr Sally Maddocks stood down from the parish council. The PC would like to express thanks for her contribution and wish her well in her role within the Glasson Resident's Association.

There is also a new clerk, Melanie Harben. The PC have extended a warm welcome and it is anticipated that things can move forward once she has settled into her new role. She brings with her experience of being the clerk to four other rural parishes, one in the Lancaster district and the other three in the Wyre district.

Her first official meeting was on the 7th June which although protracted, was informative. Since then, she has sent enquiries to the Canal and River trust regarding the sunken boat in the Glasson Basin. They have informed her that they have been in contact with the contractor to begin plans for surveys & site visits, so plans are under way and the PC will be kept updated at points of significant progress.



Aquavista has also been contacted regarding application **20/00707/FUL** (Construction of 10 pontoons – Glasson Basin Marina, School Lane Glasson Dock). The PC expressed a wish to be kept informed of when works on this were starting. They have confirmed that this work will not be carried out during this calendar year. They will be in touch with an update once a future date is confirmed.

Aquavista have been asked about installing a visitor parking sign in the main car park. The clerk reported that Aquavista has stated that this will be incorporated once the date is confirmed. They are awaiting update regarding the ending of the current contract.

A number of other issues has been reported to Aquavista including:

- ❖ **Car park machine not working** – They have said that the car park management system being changed and existing machines will need removing.

- ❖ **Fencing along the car park** (in need of repair) – They have requested a quotation from their maintenance contractor. Once received they will review.
- ❖ **Broken cast iron finger post (end of the basin)** – The area manager attended site on the 19th July and this will be reviewed.
- ❖ **Tree planting initiative** – Further to the recent site visit with Lancaster CC to discuss tree planting, the PC wanted to know if Aquavista has any areas that would be suitable for this. They have responded to say this has been noted and will be reviewed.

Aquavista have also been notified about incorrect signage on the parking machine in the main car park, although it subsequently was revealed that there may have been a reason for this mistake due to errors on google maps and others which either show no road name or Scotforth Rd instead of Ship Rd. They have indicated that this will be incorporated once the date is confirmed. They are currently awaiting an update regarding the end of the current contract.

The latter point has also caused an issue with the ability to report various speed concerns as the reporting mechanism on the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership website relies on the information contained on Google maps.

Any speeding concerns can be reported via the Lancashire Rd Safety Partnership website which the police have encouraged.

The clerk has also been liaising with the police and Highways relating to a number of traffic parking and highway's issues. She has received several responses which are documented in the minutes of the 19th July meeting. Summary as follows:

- ❖ **Speed limit reduction request (Moss Lane)** – The Police response states that officers will be made aware to look out for drivers using mobile phones. Highways indicate no speeding issues identified to justify measures but refers people to LRSP [Lancashire Road Safety Partnership website](#)
- ❖ **Vibration issues (Moss Lane)** – Highways state that once a structural survey report is received, if it is established that the damage was proved to be by the highway, then the claimant would need to submit a claim the outcome of which **could** include the reimbursement of the survey fees. Due to the legal matters and complexities involved in an investigation which has not yet taken place, Highways cannot categorically state definitively whether financial payments would be made.
- ❖ **Bikes parking on pavement (near car park)** – Police report that there



are double yellow lines which the Council Wardens are responsible for enforcing. They suggest approaching the operator of the snack bar and ask them to remind their customers not to park on the footway. Highways has suggested asking the owners of the snack bar to place signage on the trailer requesting that the footpath is not blocked by parked vehicles. They also stated that the area beyond the snack bar and the vast majority of the footway is not adopted highway. This means they are unable to carry out parking enforcement as requested. They stated that if vehicles are parking in such a manner to cause an obstruction or danger to contact the police. The PC has decided to place "No Parking" signs on the posts adjacent to the footpath to deter parking.

- ❖ **Speeding issues (Ship Rd and School Lane)** – The police suggested reporting online to the LRSP (see above). Highways reported that the police have been made aware of concerns with regards to motorbikes speeding on Ship Road and they have asked them to consider initiatives to investigate the problem. They further commented that if residents witness regular incidents of nuisance or dangerous driving, they can contact the police directly either by the non-emergency telephone number 101, or on the Lancashire Constabulary '[Do It Online](#)' webpage with a record of the registration numbers of the vehicles.
- ❖ With regards to School Lane, Highways confirmed it has assessed this road and has prioritized the instalment of temporary signage to help remind drivers to think about their speed between April-June 2021 and they will be repeated between October-December 2021 to maximize the effect of the message.

Following the July meeting, a request has been made to reduce the speed limit in Upper Thurnham to 30MPH following an accident near the bus stop. It was felt that measures introduced has not solved the problem therefore it was appropriate to make this request to prevent recurrence.

In addition to Highway matters, the clerk has also contacted the Post Office to enquire about the future of the service in the village hall. They are currently looking into this and the clerk is awaiting a further response on this issue. Lancashire County Cllr Gina Dowding is being kept informed of developments.

The parish council are keen to re-establish liaison meetings with local businesses and an approach has been made to Glasson Grain to this end. They have responded to say they are amenable and it is hoped that this can take place approximately every 6 months.

One business that the parish council has been liaising successfully with is the Lancaster Port Commission. At the June meeting it was agreed that a letter should be sent requesting a liaison meeting (preferably involving some members of the community) with a view to discussing topics such as returning at least one of the car parks to public use as

well as obtaining LPC's Risk Assessment and Method Statement. This could be followed by a public meeting where they could expand on the newsletter and set out their framework for future operations. Since then, the Parish Council has conducted a zoom meeting on the 19th July to discuss the consultation regarding port security. This meeting was informative and productive and full details can be found in the minutes of the 19th July. The clerk has also been sent a copy of the minutes from LPC. It is anticipated that meetings will take place approximately every 6 months.

Regarding other issues, Cllr Lamb reported that Glasson Action Partnership will arrange litter picks in Autumn and that beach cleans are to be co-ordinated with Cockerham which will take place on the first Monday of every month.



A further update on the proposal for bus shelter on the Lock Garden area (Glasson Dock) was provided by Cllr Pomfret at the July meeting. He had an on site meeting with the LCC Bus Shelter team who approved the location. They have confirmed that the pavement would need raising. The next action is to draw up plans to get planning permission but so far, Cllr Pomfret has been unable to get the correct dimensions. He will try to contact the Bus Shelter Team again and Cllr Armer offered to draw the plans.

In relation to the Bailrigg Garden Village Masterplan, a Zoom meeting has taken place co-ordinated by Scotforth Parish Council and including surrounding affected parishes including Ellel, Thurnham with Glasson and Aldcliffe with Stodday. District cllrs have been involved and an email group will be set up to keep all interested parties informed of developments. A further decision by the council is expected in August. To complain about the Bailrigg Development, please email the Lancaster City Council Chief Executive Kieran Keane kkeane@lancaster.gov.uk

The Parish Council recently has a meeting with a Lancaster City Council representative to discuss suitable areas for tree planting. Although no suitable locations were found, various issues were raised during the visit and these were summarized in an email from Cllr Smyth shortly after the meeting. At the July meeting, it was agreed to action the points raised.

Further to the aforementioned meeting, the following issues were raised concerning Canal and River Trust.

- ❖ **Fencing alongside the Lock Garden** – The PC would like the temporary fencing to be replaced by a permanent one once work on the locks is completed.
- ❖ **Two dead/dying saplings (Lock Garden)** - These require replacement.
- ❖ **Dead tree on the Penfold** - The dead tree has bark ringed by strimming. Other trees are not dead but bark damaged. They have been asked to arrange for the dead tree to be removed.

The Canal and river trust has also been requested to look into the recent complaints about the activities at the Camp site at Canal Cottage. Issues include:

- ❖ Public complaints about the effect on wildlife as a result of removal of the hedge to create canal side access. There are Barn owls, Otters, Grebes, Kingfishers etc in this location which may have been adversely affected by this activity.
- ❖ There is a pile of rubbish bags near the entrance.
- ❖ A member of the public raised a concern about noise nuisance and antisocial behaviour such as littering, drunken behaviour, dogs swimming where there are ducklings, loud music and illegal use of water.



The rubbish near the entrance as well as a sign at the entrance to the camp site which is believed to require planning permission, have both been reported to Lancaster City Council Environmental Services and development management respectively. Other issues raised as a result of Stefanie Gray and David Redmore's visit include a request for hedge trimming near the canal bridge as well as addressing the surface of the cycleway/coastal path, both of which David has been requested to provide feedback on.

A final point made from the visit was to request Highways to raise the crown of a tree on School Lane opposite the entrance to Pennine View. This would mean that the tree would look better and would interfere less with line of sight for traffic. Also, on School Lane down the hill from the primary school, it was observed that there was a dead tree. It was felt that this should be removed because it might fall. Highway's has been asked to investigate with a view to asking the landowner to remove.

The PC has also decided to join LCC's Public Rights of Way scheme which is a £500 grant for repairs to Public Right's of Way including fingerposts. Stiles remain the responsibility of the landowner but if anyone has any concerns about the condition of the Public Right's of Way, these should be reported to LCC's PRow team on:

ProwReports@lancashire.gov.uk

The Parish Council wish to express thanks to residents for their continuing support and welcome any comments or suggestions.



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