

Public member report of the Parish Council Meeting 4th April 2005

Everything in this report is based on my own understanding and the notes I made. It does not in any way reflect any form of officialdom. Whilst I make every attempt to report what occurs, it is easy to get confused when you only have half the information! For the official minutes you will have to wait until after they have been approved following the next council meeting (May).

The Annual Assembly was held in the **Rawstone Sports Centre** on Monday the 4th April, followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

There were 10 members of the council present and 2 police. There was also a large public presence initially for the Annual Assembly. It appeared that the residents of Balderstone Road, Lodge Close and Mill View had arrived en-masse to argue about ball games being played on the grass verges/play areas. Following this, 5 members of the public remained for the council meeting.

The Annual Assembly was largely devoted to the Balderstone Road, Lodge Close and Mill View problem. As I haven't experienced the problem myself, I won't comment further. *(A large number of people then departed.)*

The chairman gave his report, summarising the year's events, and highlighted actions taken or planned.

The financial statement sounded reasonable, being within budget overall. Open Spaces and the Allotments had overspent but this was balanced by under spend in other areas.

There was a question on the Bunker Street development *(which I understand was rejected by the council but agreed at a higher level)*. Who owns the land? It would appear that the land is part of the highway, at least partially. As such it cannot be built on. It was also stated that the council has maintained the grassed area for a number of years. The LCC map expert is investigating.

There was an incident recently at the old youth club and the police were called. They failed to arrive. Action is being taken to remedy this. The police were very apologetic.

There are ongoing problems on the Lower Lane Estate with youths, drinking and vandalism. A police presence is required on a much more frequent basis.

There are 480 children on the Lower Lane Estate.

It is planned to hold the next PACT meeting on the Lower Lane Estate.

End of Annual Assembly

A CCTV will be installed on the pole that has been erected in the park.

A light has been installed the Bramwell/Bush Lane ginnel.

Flashing signs have been proposed on the dual carriageway. The police and highways will make recommendations on what to do. It may become a site of 'community concern' i.e. allowing the installation of speed cameras and speed limit reductions.

A meeting will be held to determine what should be done about the plans for the School Lane car park.

The Open Spaces and the Planning committee minutes were agreed.

There was something about Green/Pink enclosures that I missed.

The Allotment holders are now responsible for removal of any asbestos.

The Bowling Clubs has been allocated a grant of £1800 (they requested 3-4000). They will also get £1500 from Rawstorne. The budget for Open Spaces will be amended to include this.

A request was received to put a white ribbon around the memorial to support 'Make poverty history'. After discussion this was denied.

There is a local transport plan from the LCC on the web site. Comments were requested.

Building community life – Calor Village of the Year (*don't know what this was about*).

Planning has been reorganised at government level. It would appear that all planning applications would in future be outside of any local control.

The Parish Plan will be completed by the 30th June. The actions need to be agreed at an extraordinary council meeting (planned for the end of April). A meeting was/will be (?) held with the FBC. They want to pull together all the Fylde Parish Plans. 3000 copies of the plan will be delivered at the end of June. It is proposed that additional service information is also delivered at the same time.

It would seem that Kirkham and Rural Fylde have no money to carry out local improvements. (*I'm not sure what this is about!*).

There was a discussion about housing. The government wants rental housing. The Parish Plan wants affordable housing for 'local first time buyers'.

At this point the public were asked to leave as the council were going into closed session. So that ends my report for this month.