

CLERK'S REPORT JULY 2008 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

MULTI USE GAMES AREA

The Clerk and Cllr Butler attended a further meeting in conjunction with the setting up of a local Action Group which is eventually intended be the means of applying for funding for a MUGA once the group has established itself. Community futures have drawn up a Trust Deed for this group which is now being looked at and once agreed will be signed off to establish the group. The group will apply for Charitable Status and will then start to look for funding for small community projects still to be agreed as a build up to what will hopefully be applications for funding for the MUGA.

LEA GALA

Lea Gala was held on the 19th June 2008. It was opened by the Mayor on what was a very pleasant afternoon weatherise. The Parish Council table gave away balloons and was supported by a number of its members.

CHAIRMANSHIP WORKSHOP

A further workshop has been arranged for the 15th October 2008 at a cost of £20.00 per person.

LALC CONFERENCE 2008

A flyer has been received concerning the above and has been distributed to all members.

PARISH PLANS

A letter has been received (copy enclosed for members) asking for information concerning Parish Plans. The Clerk has responded indicating that this Parish Council has not produced a Parish Plan nor is it in the process of doing so or is currently considering facilitating such a document.

Please note that Parish Plans are not produced by the Parish Council as such but rather by the Community as a whole by way of the establishment of a Steering Committee which comprises various resident interests as well as a small number of members of the Parish Council. The Steering Committee appoint officers who carry out the consultation and appropriate work involved working alongside the Parish Council by way of its representatives on the Steering Committee. The end result is usually then adopted by the Parish Council as part of its future policy and aims. The Parish Council will normally facilitate the setting up of the Steering Committee probably by some sort of public meeting having advertised its intention to do so.

Members have been sent a copy of the Hutton Village Plan which has been adopted by Hutton Parish Council and was completed last year. The exercise began in late 2005 involved many residents on the Steering Committee and cost in excess of £2000 to produce not counting the time of the Steering Group members which in addition was estimated at £3650. Hutton were able to obtain funding to the extent of £2000 from Community Futures through what was a Defra funding scheme which no longer exists. All papers relating to the Plan are held by the Clerk to Lea and Cottam PC who is also Clerk to Hutton PC.

LOST SPID ACCESSORIES

A letter has now been received signed by the Chairman of Woodplumpton Parish Council (copy enclosed for members) indicating that they have done as much as possible to try to sort out the problem which was not under their control. At this stage the Clerk to L & C Parish Council has contacted the police and has received an acknowledgement that the issue has been referred to the local police inspector.

The Clerk of L & C has also spoken to the Chairman of Woodplumpton Parish Council to express disappointment at the response to the request for payment for the lost items given that the hand over to the police was done specifically at the request of the Clerk to Woodplumpton Parish Council and not as is inferred in the letter by our lengthsman acting on his own volition.

At this stage the Chairman of Woodplumpton has suggested that a joint letter to the police requesting replacement or reimbursement should be written however this will be left until a formal response is received from the police. It is hoped that the matter will be concluded in the near future.

The incident above has however raised several issues regarding 'responsibility' and 'insurance' which have also been discussed with the Chairman of Woodplumpton Parish Council. Basically the amount involved at approx £90.00 is below the excess level of the insurance policy and could not therefore be claimed. In addition the Council's insurance ONLY covers the device whilst in the possession of either of the partner councils. As far as L & C are concerned this is not an issue since our lengthsman is covered under the policy whilst he is working for us and we do not hand the device over to any third party. This does not apply however for Woodplumpton who I understand wish to continue to use their local police officers.

Following a suggestion from the Clerk of Woodplumpton future hand over will be done against a formal receipt.

A new 'risk assessment' has however now been undertaken by the Clerk to L and C PC and he is now suggesting that any such hand over should only be done between the Clerks to the Council and should not involve the lengthsman. He also suggests that since the insurance policy does not cover the device when out of the control of either Parish Council it is incumbent on Woodplumpton PC to ensure that the police understand their responsibility and that the police have insurance cover in place. Whilst the existing loss of equipment may be seen as relatively small there is a significant financial risk to L and C should the device itself be damaged, lost or stolen and as such L and C need to protect against any potential future losses. On this basis and following advice the Clerk to L and C PC believes that a formal 'indemnity' should be obtained from Woodplumpton Parish Council on each occasion that a hand over takes place possibly as part of the formal receipt identifying that they take full responsibility for any losses occasioned by the handing over of the device to a third party not covered by the Council's insurance policy.

PRESTON GUILD 2012

A letter has been received (copy enclosed for members) concerning the above event for consideration. The Clerk has registered the interest of the Parish Council so that the Parish Council can be kept up to date with news and developments.

PRESTON BUS SERVICE 87

A letter has been received (copy enclosed from members) relating to the above service. Please note that this letter is already a month old and further progress was mentioned at the last meeting during public participation.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY – No representation has been made.

- 2008/0514 – Siting of temporary portable building @ Springfield Sports Ground Dodney Drive
- 2008/0483 – First floor balcony to front and extensions to rear @ 3 The Evergreens Cottam
- 2008/0501 – Extensions and alterations @ 55 Dodney Drive (amended scheme to planning app 2008/0322)
- 2008/0595 – Extension @ 31 Finney Park Drive
- 2008/0585 – Conservatory @ 56 Millersgate Cottam

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECIDED BY PRESTON CC

- 2008/0437 – Extension and provision of additional living space @ 94 Darkinson Lane Lea Town
- 2008/0098 – Siting temp agricultural workers mobile home @ Highfield Farm Lea Lane
- 2008/0394 – Shed to rear @ 9 Parkthorn Road Lea
- 2008/0341 – Extension @ 6 Roseberry Ave Cottam

ORBIT LEISURE GUIDE LAUNCH

The Chairman and Clerk to this Council attended a launch event held at the Ancient Oak Public House on 29th July 2008 concerning the Orbit Leisure Guide which is a publication issued by LCC highlighting a number of walks and places to visit which are easily accessible from stops on the Orbital Bus Route. Representatives from LCC, Preston City Council, Tourist Information and Preston Ramblers were also in attendance.

