



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2016 AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Chair: Cllr Carol Slinger
Present: Cllrs: Brian Jefferson, Karen Gibson, Barbara Duffy, 5 members of the public
Clerk: Luke Mills

16/11/2422 Apologies for absence:
Cllr Bob Bauld, City Cllr. Paul Woodruff

16/11/2423 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
It was resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2016 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair subject to the following amendments:

- Item references changed to "16/11/xxxx" from "16/10/xxxx"

16/11/2424 Council
 a) Declaration of member's interests in Agenda Items - None
 b) Change in declaration of member's interests – None

16/11/2425 Suspension of Standing Orders
 Members of public discussed the large beech tree on Schoolhouse Lane, which is affected by disease. The tree has been inspected by a tree surgeon who agreed that it is unsafe and will need to be felled. County Council have agreed, but no date has yet been set. The local residents would like to leave a sizable chunk of the trunk to help with traffic calming and also suggested that some of the timber could be used for local purposes.

Another resident reported that the sat nav sign on Schoolhouse Lane is beginning to be hidden by vegetation.

16/11/2426 To consider and approve reports
a) Open Spaces Report
 Cllr Slinger reported that work has started on siting a B4RN cabinet and emergency power generator at the Centre. Cllr Slinger has been cutting back some of the overgrowth around the Centre and village; councillors voiced their thanks for her work.

Cllr Jefferson reported that there is the possibility of an archaeological study of Castle Hill by UCLan.

It was resolved: that a Cllr Jefferson will explore the feasibility of an archaeological survey/study of Castle Hill with UCLan.

Cllr Jefferson reported that grants are available for repairing War Memorials. A recent informal inspection of the memorial highlighted that there are some issues that require attention.

It was resolved: that a Cllr Jefferson will investigate the procurement of a condition report on the War Memorial.

The recent quote from Enviroplay for repairs to the group swings at St Wilfrid's Park was discussed.

It was resolved: that the Enviroplay quote for replacing the swing posts and installation of safety surfacing will be accepted at a cost of £1,700 + vat.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will ask the groundsmen to fix the Perspex on the football shelter.

The Parish Clerk reported that grass cutting quotes are being sought from four contractors. There was discussion of the quality of cuts this year, and

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will ask Lancaster City Council for a quote for cutting St. Wilfrid's Park every week

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will prompt Envirocare for a grass cutting, including cutting St. Wilfrid's every week.

b) HCA Report

Cllr Jefferson reported that some of the floorboards in the main hall need replacing. The office is being tidied and refurbished. Men's walking football sessions have just begun and proved popular. The gymnastics sessions may be ending unless another coach can be found.

c) Finance Report

Brought Forward		£33,794.44
Income		
	Burial Ground	£120.00
	Bank Interest	£1.42
	Football Store Rent	£10.00
Expenditure		
	Cheques	£2,432.64
Carried Forward		£ 31,493.22
made up of:		
	General Account	£14,121.91
	Village Improvement Account	£15,401.73
	Play Equipment	£1,969.58

The Parish Clerk reported that expenditure is in broadly in accordance with budget; the repairs expenditure is currently £49 over-budget and the groundsmen 30hrs over-budget.

The opening of the Unity Trust Bank accounts is progressing well, though a couple of councillors failed to receive a letter; two councillors have not yet managed to logon to the Internet Banking.

It was resolved: to transfer £5,000 from Lloyds current account to Unity Trust current account.

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 9th November 2016.

d) Allotments

Cllr Gibson reported that there are three plots still below par, which need a warning when renewal letters go out in December.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk send Cllr Gibson details of the new plot holder and a copy of the renewal letter.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk organise an "allotment holders only" sign for the gate.

e) Burial Ground

Nothing to report.

f) Planning

New Applications

- Erection of agricultural building for midden
 - Whinney Garth Sidegarth Lane Halton Lancashire
 - Ref. No: 16/01269/FUL | Status: Awaiting decision
- Change of use of barn storage room into ancillary living accommodation
 - Red Door Church Brow Halton Lancashire
 - Ref. No: 16/01227/CU | Status: Awaiting decision
- Change of use of offices (B1) to two dwellings (C3)
 - Higher Barn Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU
 - Ref. No: 16/00947/CU | Status: Awaiting decision
- Erection of an outbuilding to form a gym and erection of a retaining wall
 - Whitegates Halton Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6BN
 - Ref. No: 16/00889/FUL | Status: Awaiting decision
- Retrospective application for boundary walls and engineering works to garden area and erection of a new car port and summer house
 - 39 Clougha Avenue Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NS
 - Ref. No: 16/00516/FUL | Status: Awaiting decision

Decisions

- Fell a mature Pine tree
 - Far Carus Halton Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6BL
 - Ref. No: 16/0127/TPO | Status: Permitted
- Retrospective application for retention of hard standing
 - Middle Highfield Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PQ
 - Ref. No: 16/01133/FUL | Status: Refused
- Agricultural determination for an access track
 - Middle Highfield Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PQ
 - Ref. No: 16/01132/AD | Status: Prior Approval Not Required

The Council raised no objections or comments.

16/11/2427 Management of trees in the parish

CLlr Jefferson reported that the large Sycamore closest to the Centre is in poor health and needs work. The Parish Council will need to provide a report to the Tree Officer at Lancaster City Council

It was resolved: that an arboricultural report be sought and approved up to £300.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will investigate the overhanging tree alongside the Army Camp path which prevents use by horses (it is a bridleway)

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will report the overhanging vegetation on Schoolhouse Lane which is restricting visibility of the sat.nav sign to Highways.

16/11/2428 Correspondence with local resident

Councillors discussed correspondence from a local resident on Mill Lane asking whether it would be possible to:

- Site a Parish Council noticeboard nearer Mill Lane
- Run a Lancaster bus service along Low Road
- Site a postbox nearer to Mill Lane

The Parish Council have previously discussed the feasibility of a bus service along Low Road. The key problem is finding an acceptable route from High Road to Low Road. The Parish Council has no power to change the bus route, but would be supportive if residents wished to approach Stagecoach with ideas.

The Parish Council consider that the noticeboard at the Centre is within reasonable walking distance of Mill Lane, however if another location with sufficient footfall can be identified and agreed with a landowner, then another noticeboard could be considered.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will ask the owners of Halton Mill whether a public noticeboard could be sited on or near the Mill.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will write a letter to Royal Mail asking whether a post box could be sited nearer to Mill Lane.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will respond to the resident.

16/11/2429 Lancaster District Local Plan – Infrastructure requirements for the Parish

Councillors suggestions included:

- Improved bus service
- Improved sports facilities, e.g. football pitch

It was resolved: that Cllr Jefferson will consider further requirements and pass them onto the Parish Clerk.

16/11/2430 Speed indicator display signs – Potential locations

The Parish Council discussed the benefits of the speed indicator display signs. It was noted that the current flashing 20mph speed sign on Halton Road seems to have little impact on the vehicle speeds. One idea considered was the possibility of a school project on speeding within the village. Another option was a road survey to count the number of vehicles now using Church Brow.

It was resolved: that this item will be deferred until the next meeting.

16/11/2431 Review and approve Financial Regulations

It was resolved: that the revised Financial Regulations having been reviewed by members and found to be adequate, be adopted for use during the 2016/2017 financial year

It was resolved: that the new Payment Procedures having been reviewed by members and found to be adequate, be adopted for use during the 2016/2017 financial year

16/11/2432 Precept Preparation for 2017

a) Planned Capital Expenditure

The Parish Council discussed the options of:

- Improvements to the recreational area at the Centre
- Promotional leaflets
- Tourist noticeboard
- Repairing of the War Memorial

b) Rent Reviews

a. Allotments

It was resolved: that the Allotment fees will remain unchanged for 01 Jan 2018 – 31 Dec 2018.

b. Burial Ground

It was resolved: that the Burial fees will remain unchanged for 01 Jan 2017 – 31 Dec 2017.

c. Castle Hill

It was resolved: that the Castle Hill rent will remain unchanged for 01 Jan 2017 – 31 Dec 2017.

d. Football Store

The lease is £10 per annum, and cannot be changed.

e. Community Centre

The lease is £10 per annum, and cannot be changed.

c) Training Requirements

a. Parish Councillors

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk find out what training exists for councillors through LALC.

b. Grounds Maintenance Staff

It was resolved: that at least two Groundsmen should be trained and qualified in weed spraying.

It was resolved: that obtaining a chainsaw licence would be useful.

c. Parish Clerk

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk research CILC qualification.

16/11/2433 To approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Cheque	Payee	Description	Gross
326	HCA	Litter picking (Oct-Dec)	280.80
326	HCA	Room hire (Oct-Dec)	106.00
327	SLCC	Annual membership	111.00
328	Lancashire Playing Fields Association	Annual membership	15.00
329	Kath Bryne	Plants & compost for Gardening Club	18.48
330	Carl Richardson	Salary - Oct	325.88
331	Garry Bretherton	Salary - Oct	453.75
332	Luke Mills	Salary - Oct	400.80
333	Luke Mills	Expenses - Postage, training, repairs	199.18
334	Kyle Oram	Salary - Oct	113.75
335	Envirocare	Grass cutting - Oct	408.00
TOTAL			£1,980.06

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure and the cheques duly signed.

16/11/2434 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council be arranged for Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:20.

Signed..... Chair Date

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.