



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2016 AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Chair: Cllr Carol Slinger
Present: Cllrs: Brian Jefferson, Karen Gibson, Barbara Duffy, Bob Bauld, 3 members of the public
Clerk: Luke Mills

16/12/2435 Apologies for absence:
City Cllr. Paul Woodruff

16/12/2436 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
It was resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2016 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

16/12/2437 Council
 a) Declaration of member's interests in Agenda Items - None
 b) Change in declaration of member's interests – None

16/12/2438 Suspension of Standing Orders
 Members of the public discussed options for the remains of the beech tree on Schoolhouse Lane, which was felled last month due to safety concerns. The neighbouring residents would like to retain the tree stump, both to slow down traffic and also to make a feature of it. County Council are willing to consider proposals for the tree stump. The residents will draft their preferred short to medium term plan for the tree stump and pass onto the Parish Council. There was some discussion about the best way to highlight the stump to vehicles to minimise accidents.

16/12/2439 To consider and approve reports

a) Open Spaces Report

i. Plans for tree stump on Schoolhouse Lane

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will send a holding email to County Council until a response has been received from the residents on their proposals for the stump.

ii. Verge cutting request from Halton Gardening Group

The Gardening Club would like to create some wildflower areas around the village, possibly along the verges. They will produce a paper with their proposals and send to the Parish Council for consideration.

iii. Repairs to Children's Play Area

The groundsmen have been repairing the mesh along the boardwalk in the children's area. In the process they have found a significant amount of rot in some areas. Cllr Slinger has asked the original installer to review it, since it has deteriorated sooner than expected.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk assesses options for repairing the boardwalk and estimate the costs.

A large amount of safety mulch for the play area was delivered on the 7th December. The Parish Council would like to offer thanks to the various volunteers who helped spread it.

The Parish Clerk reported that the repairs to St. Wilfrid's Park swings are due to occur between Christmas and New Year.

iv. War Memorial renovation

Cllr Jefferson reported that the War Memorial is now registered with the War Memorial Trust. Grants are available for repairs, so Cllr Jefferson will seek quotes from suitable stonemasons.

b) HCA Report

Cllr Jefferson reported that the Christmas party for the over 55 year olds was successful and well-attended.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will purchase some replacement rock salt for the 3 grit bins around the HCA owned by the Parish.

c) Finance Report

Brought Forward		31,493.22
Income		
	Burial Ground	£210.00
	Bank Interest	£1.23
	Allotments	£435.00
Expenditure		
	Payments	£17,541.26
	Accidental overpayment to insurers	£2.00
Carried Forward		£14,596.19
made up of:		
	General Account	£-2,775.12
	Village Improvement Account	£15,401.73
	Play Equipment	£1,969.58

The Parish Clerk reported that the groundsmen have been busy repairing fencing in the play area and raking leaves this month, so they are currently 80 hrs over-budget (£810 incl. tax).

It was resolved: to transfer £5,000 from the Village Improvement account to General Account to cover the contribution from the Parish for the Emergency Response work.

It was resolved: to transfer £10,000 from Lloyds current account to Unity Trust current account as part of the process of closing the Lloyds accounts.

It was resolved: that Cllr Slinger will send the grant fund application to the Parish Clerk for the records.

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 14th December 2016.

d) Allotments

Cllr Gibson reported that there are a number of new plot holders.

The Parish Clerk reported that signage has now been placed at the top of the steps and on the gate. Letters asking for views closing the steps were unfortunately not included with the renewal letters, so these will need to be sent out in January.

e) Burial Ground

The Parish Clerk reported that paperwork for one suspected interment of ashes does not appear to have been received. The Parish Clerk is attempting to contact the relatives.

f) Planning**New Applications**

- Pruning works to x6 trees and works to boundary trees
 - Land Adjacent To St Wilfrids Hall Foundry Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6LT
 - Ref. No: 16/0162/TPO | Status: Awaiting decision
- Removal of double doors to west elevation and replacement with a feature window
 - The Greyhound 10 Low Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6LZ

- Ref. No: 16/01411/FUL | Status: Awaiting decision
- Erection of a single storey side extension with link corridor to the main house
 - Halton Green House Green Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PB
 - Ref.No: 16/01407/FUL | Status: Awaiting decision

Decisions

- Prior approval for the change of use from office (B1) to a dwellinghouse (C3)
 - Caravan Site Laverick Hall Laverick Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PH
 - Ref. No: 16/01288/PAC | Status: Granted
- Erection of agricultural building for midden
 - Whinney Garth Sidegarth Lane Halton Lancashire LA2 6RL
 - Ref. No: 16/01269/FUL | Status: Permitted
- Listed building application for works to facilitate the conversion of storage room into ancillary living accommodation including alteration of door to the rear elevation and replacement rooflight and windows
 - Red Door Church Brow Halton Lancashire
 - Ref. No: 16/01170/LB | Status: Permitted
- Demolition of single storey side extension and erection of a two storey side extension, construction of two dormer extensions to the front elevation and two dormer extensions to the rear elevation
 - Mayfield Schoolhouse Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QX
 - Ref. No: 16/00951/FUL | Status: Refused
- 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: Refused
- Change of use of barn storage room into ancillary living accommodation
 - Red Door Church Brow Halton Lancashire
 - Ref. No: 16/01227/CU | Status: Permitted
- Erection of an outbuilding to form a gym and retention of a retaining wall
 - Whitegates Halton Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6BN
 - Ref. No: 16/00889/FUL | Status: Permitted

The Council raised no objections or comments.

The Parish Council has received notice of proposal for a wind turbine off Kellet Lane. This would be sited on Cote Farm, so is not within the parish. Leaflets provided by the developer have been left in The Centre to enable residents to view the plans.

The Parish Council has also received a letter from Story Homes stating their interest in developing the fields south of Low Road opposite The Centre. There was a lengthy discussion about this and other developments. The Parish Council has very limited powers and resources to oppose such developments, so one idea is to consult residents on how to make the best of these potential developments.

Cllr Jefferson reported that the new Local Plan ensures that there is a green belt between Halton and Lancaster.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will respond to Story Homes and organise a meeting.

16/12/2440 Emergency Plan Update

Cllr Slinger reported that there is now a draft Emergency Plan that is currently being reviewed by various parties, e.g fire service, police, council. The shed that will house the new generator should be complete by the new year.

16/12/2441 Speed indicator display signs – Potential locations

There was discussion about locations, but it is not clear that there are enough suitable locations.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk asks County Highways to consider adding traffic calming measures to Church Brow.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk asks County Highways to carry-out a vehicle survey along Church Brow on traffic volumes and speeds.

16/12/2442 Apprenticeship

Lancaster and Morecambe College has found a potential apprentice for the grounds maintenance work. The apprentice appears suitable; however no decision was made since further questions were raised.

It was resolved: that Cllr Jefferson will contact the college to confirm the number of hours required to be provided through the apprenticeship scheme.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will respond to state that the Parish Council will not be in the position to make a decision until January.

16/12/2443 LALC District Plan meeting feedback

Cllr Jefferson reported that LALC will be organising a meeting of Parish Councils to discuss the new Local Plan in January. Cllr Jefferson & Cllr Slinger offered to attend.

16/12/2444 New Councillors

The Parish Council currently comprises of five councillors, but should have eight. Whilst the Council can still function, it does limit the amount of work that can be taken on. For instance, the outcome for the Parish will be far better if the Parish Council is able to engage in detail with the many potential developments in and around the area and this requires more councillors to share the work.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will include an article in the next Parish Prattle.

16/12/2445 Registering with Information Commissioners Office under Data Protection Act

The Parish Clerk recently attended a workshop on the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Acts. The recommendation is that the Parish Council registers with the ICO under the Data Protection Act.

It was resolved: that the Parish Council register with the Information Commissions Office and the associated subscription cost of £35 per annum

16/12/2446 Review Draft Precept for 2017**a) Salary Reviews**

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk salary shall be raised to the next level of £9.39 per hour from 1st April 2017.

b) Selection of Grass Cutting Contract

The various quotes were discussed.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will ask Lancaster City Council how much it will cost to cut St. Wilfrid's Park every week.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will ask Enviocare to exclude St. Wilfrid's Park from the quote.

c) Review of other budget items

It was resolved: that the precept figures will be reviewed for errors before the next meeting.

16/12/2447 To approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Payee	Description	Gross	Cheque
E&M.A.Burrow & Son	Hedgecutting (Low Rd, Burial Gnd, Lancaster Rd)	168.00	337
The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	War memorial wreath	20.00	338
P.V.Dobson & Sons	Diesel generator for HCA	7,200.00	339
S&W Fabrications Ltd	Erection of store for generator	7,008.00	340
Lancashire County Council	Repairs to car park light	61.23	341
Giffords Recycling Ltd	30m3 Cushionfall	1,056.00	BACS
Carol Slinger	Expenses - Weed killer & piping	39.69	BACS
Brian Jefferson	Expenses - Lights for car park	63.19	BACS
Clarkson Electrical Solutions Ltd	Electrical repairs	192.90	BACS
Kyle Oram	Salary - Nov	240.68	BACS
Garry Bretherton	Salary - Nov	606.38	BACS
Luke Mills	Salary - Nov & Expenses	620.57	BACS
Carl Richardson	Salary - Nov & Expenses	264.62	BACS

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

16/12/2448 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council be arranged for Wednesday 11th January 2017 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9:40pm

Signed..... Chair Date

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.