



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 12th February 2020 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton

Chair: Cllr Carol Slinger

Present: Cllr Chris Coates, Cllr Anne Lamb, Cllr Naomi Turner, 1 member of the public

Clerk: Luke Mills

20/02/010 Apologies

Cllr Barbara Duffy, Cllr Brian Jefferson

20/02/011 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting

It was resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2020 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

20/02/012 Council

- Declaration of member's interests in Agenda Items – None
- Change in declaration of member's interests – None

20/02/013 Suspension of Standing Orders

A representative from Halton Juniors spoke about their need for an extra football pitch since the existing one is struggling to cope with the demand. They would support any other ideas. They also raised the issue of dog mess on the pitch and whether it would be possible to ban dogs from the pitch.

20/02/014 To consider and approve reports:

a) Open Spaces Report

Completed/In Progress

- Fence repaired between the High Rd and Plantation near the roundabout
- Some vegetation cut back in plantation near the roundabout
- Removal of brambles from Link Path and woodland walk
- Overhanging vegetation cut-back on footpath near Green Beck
- Willow trimmed around sand pit and used to repair fencing
- Kubota serviced
- Gravel path down to the playing field replenished
- Additional postcrete added around trail post(s) at St Wilfrid's Park to remove movement
- New Burial Ground door and frame purchased; currently being painted prior to installation
- Rotten boardwalk posts now replaced
- Installation of some low netting along base of the football pitch hedge started, but not yet finished.
- General maintenance around the Centre

Planned

- Centre (Recreational area): Two of the panels of the shelter needs replacing
- Allotment paddock: Trim lower branches of trees so that they pose less of a hazard when cutting the grass.

Hours

- 92 (incl. holidays) in January.

General

- Still awaiting a response from the pole pruning trainer.
- City Council checked the nest swing before Christmas. They have recommended that the bearing unit is replaced since it is beginning to wear. They have quoted a price of £3,687 + vat to replace it.

It was resolved: that the Clerk contact City Council and try to ascertain how much life is left in the basket swing bearings.

b) HCA Report

The old toilets will be refurbished soon to provide changing facilities suitable for those with disabilities of all ages.

c) Finance Report

There has been a donation from HCA of £3,000.

Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
6,838	Salary - Clerk	6,117	570	36,169	Precept	36,169	-
12,528	Salary - Groundstaff	9,841	810	865	Allotments	938	28
300	Training	-	700	151	Rent	135	10
5,442	Grass Cutting	5,442	-	1,200	Burial Ground	2,172	-
140	Hedge Cutting	150	-	15	Bank Interest	88	16
300	Play Inspection	195	-	-	Damage	-	-
2,000	Repairs & Renewals	3,430	300	-	General	675	-
400	Pitch Feed	375	-	-	Grants	250	-
4,138	Public Works Loan	4,138	-	-	Donations	6,000	-
200	Audit	200	-	2,300	VAT	2,863	-
72	Bank Charges	63	9				
180	Clerks Expenses	259	20	40,700	TOTAL	49,290.21	54
1,500	HCA	1,498	-				
2,192	Insurance	2,253	-		ACTUAL		
500	Subs	646	-		Gross Receipts	£59,165	
50	Water	68	6		Gross Payments	£45,585	
150	Website	111	-		BALANCE IN HAND	£13,579.37	
20	S137	20	-				
-	Refunds	-	-		FUND BALANCES		
-	Assets	7,100	-		General A/C	£2,294	
-	Misc	488	-		Village Improvement A/C	£11,285	
95	B4RN	59	36		FUND TOTAL	£13,579.37	
1,235	Emergency Response & Flood Grant	-	1,235				
328	War Memorial Restoration	-	328				
38,608.00	NET TOTAL	42,451.98	4,014		<i>FORECAST (incl outstanding commitments)</i>		
	VAT claimed	1,362			Receipts		59,218
2,300	VAT to be claimed	1,771			Payments		49,600
40,908.00	GROSS TOTAL	45,585.16	49,600		FORECAST BALANCE		9,618

It was resolved: to accept the revised Finance Report to 12th February 2020.

d) Allotments

One rent payment outstanding. The tenant has not responded to email, letter or text so far. They were very active on the plot last year, so here may be a good reason for their lack of response.

e) Burial Ground

The consecration ceremony with the Bishop of Lancaster and Rev. Susan Seed will occur on Sunday 23rd Feb; it will take approximately 30 mins. The grass will be cut beforehand and the area marked-out. The new burial ground door is currently being painted prior to installation.

f) Planning

Amended Applications

- 18/01422/FUL | Erection of 65 dwellings with associated access, landscaping, open space, drainage, highway and parking arrangements and land re-profiling works
 - Land To The Rear Of Pointer Grove And Adjacent To High Road Halton
 - Notes: The revisions to this application appear to be primarily focussed on changes to the planned drainage and surface water management (see attached documents)

New Applications

- 20/00062/LB | Listed building application for the retention of an air source heat pump and associated pipework
 - Sparling Barn Green Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PA
- 20/00028/FUL | Erection of a single storey rear extension
 - 175 High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PY
- 20/00005/FUL | Conversion of existing garage into ancillary living accommodation
 - 6 The Gardens Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6RE
- 19/01611/PAH | Erection of a 3.54 metre deep, single storey rear extension with a maximum roof height of 3 metres and a maximum eaves height of 2.75 metres
 - 36 Beech Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QH

- 20/00093/FUL | Demolition of existing side extension and conservatory, erection of a single storey rear extension and erection of a single storey side extension to form annex accommodation
 - Mulberry Manor Low Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PA

Permitted

- 19/01508/FUL | Demolition of existing rear store and erection of a single storey rear extension
 - 2 - 4 High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PS

It was resolved: that the Clerk checks the status of the planning application and whether it will go to committee. The Parish Council objects to 18/01422/FUL on grounds that the local flooding survey report has still not been publicised by Local Lead Flood Authority.

g) Neighbourhood Plan

It is moving forward slowly; the team are trying to find out what needs to happen next.

It was resolved: that the Clerk reviews the current draft to ensure consistency.

h) District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

20/02/015 To consider options for improving road safety in the village

A local resident has complained about the safety outside the shops. Cllr Lamb knows of someone who was hit by a bus recently.

It was resolved: that the Clerk contacts Highways about the safety issues outside the shops with a suggestion to fitting some bollards outside the shops.

There has also been another accident on Church Brow. This has been raised with the District and County Councillors and Highways.

20/02/016 To consider quotes for repairing/resurfacing the MUGA area

Two quotes have been received for repairing the MUGA surface.

- Company A have not visited but were supplied with photos and measurements. Their quote is for £11,136 + vat. This quote does not appear to include repairs, but just a respray of the top surface, so may increase if we want to include repairs.
- Company B visited and inspected. They have quoted £18,950 + vat. This includes full repairs.

The MUGA was installed in 2011 and is the most expensive type of surface, hence the large quotes. Once repaired, it should last another 8-10 years. Company B pointed out that without refurbishment, the surface will gradually degrade and become more pitted and costly to repair.

It was resolved: that Clerk to obtain another quote for refurbishing the MUGA surface.

It was resolved: that Clerk to check with Company A whether it includes repairs.

It was resolved: that Clerk to ask Company B what warranty would be provided with any work.

20/02/017 To consider quote for pest control in the allotments

A local pest controller surveyed the allotments for about 15-20 mins. They thought that there was only a modest rat problem which was worst in the corner near the woods/playing field, but there was evidence of activity elsewhere too. They quoted the following:

- Job Work: 4 x visits over a period of about 4 weeks = £220 (ex vat)
- Annual Contract: 8 x visits per annum for Rats / Mice, includes 2 free emergency call outs = £450 (ex vat)

It was resolved: that the situation will be monitored for the moment and if the rat population becomes too problematic then these quotes will be reconsidered.

20/02/018 To consider involvement with the Lune Valley Greenway (extension of cycle path to Wray)

Sustrans is proposing to extend the Cycle Path from Bull Beck to Wray. There are various options, each of which has advantages and disadvantages. They have formed a steering group from the local Parish Councils, City Council and County Council. Cllr Lamb and the Parish Clerk attended the initial steering group meeting in Hornby on 7th Feb.

It was resolved: that the Parish Council supports the initiative.

20/02/019 To consider response to correspondence:**a) Complaint regarding horses in Town End Farm paddock**

Anonymous letter: "The Law is being broken by a Halton horse owner. There are 2 horses in the field off Low Road. These horses have no winter turn out rugs, no stable, shelter. The Law is that all horses have to wear a turn out rug in winter or be provided with a Stable/shelter. Please can you contact the City Council and urgently get these horses covered as it is now very cold. This is not an RSPCA matter."

It was resolved: to note that the Parish Council does not have a responsibility for these horses or land. If residents have concerns, they should raise these directly with the appropriate organisation.

b) Offer of support for tree planting and litter picking from City Council

Lancaster City Council has offered help with planting trees in the parish, including the assistance of a Landscape Architect and covering most of the purchase costs. They have also offered cleaning equipment for volunteers for the "Great British Spring Clean"

It was resolved: that Cllr Coates responds to explore exactly what help could be provided by the Landscape Architect.

It was resolved: that the cleaning be considered at the next meeting if any areas identified.

20/02/020 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meetingReimbursements for Purchases

Payee	Description	Net	Vat	Gross
L Mills	Door, frame & hinges for Burial Ground	199.79	39.96	239.75
L Mills	Paint for door & frame for Burial Ground	35.04	7.01	42.05
L Mills	Door lock for Burial Ground	21.32	-	21.32
C. Slinger	Postcrete for gas cupboard base	7.04	1.42	8.46
C. Richardson	Hire of vibrating plate for footpath repair	21.98	4.40	26.38

Payments for Approval

Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
Water Plus	Burial ground water supply	6.20	6.20	-
Huws Gray	Materials & tools	472.24	393.53	78.71
Lancaster City Council	Grass cutting for 2019	1,730.40	1,442.00	288.40
HCA	Room hire & litter picking (Jan-Mar)	355.50	355.50	-
Napthens Solicitors	Fees relating to Consecration service	396.00	330.00	66.00
G.Bretherton	Salary	369.00	369.00	-
C.Richardson	Salary & reimbursements	228.88	224.48	4.40
C.Baxter	Salary	136.80	136.80	-
L. Mills	Salary & reimbursements	872.91	825.94	46.97
C. Slinger	Reimbursements	8.46	7.04	1.42
Unity Trust Bank	Bank fees	18.00	18.00	-
ICO	Revision to payment recorded in Dec	-	5.00	5.00
	TOTALS	£ 4,589.39	£ 4,103.49	£ 485.90

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure and the payments signed-off.

20/02/021 To consider change of date for Parish Council Meeting scheduled on 8th April 2020

It was resolved: that the date be changed to 15th April 2020.

20/02/022 To approve date of next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council be arranged for 11th March 2020 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:50. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed..... Chair Date