



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 11th November 2020 19:15 – Virtual meeting

Chair: Cllr Carol Slinger

Present: Cllr Naomi Turner, Cllr Brian Jefferson, Cllr Chris Coates (joined during 20/11/111), Cllr Anne Lamb, District Cllr Kevin Frea (until 20/11/112), 1 member of the public

Clerk: Luke Mills

20/11/108 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given

None

20/11/109 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 14th October 2020 as an accurate record

It was resolved: that the minutes be accepted as a true record, to be signed by the Chair at a later date.

20/11/110 Declarations of Interests

None

20/11/111 Suspension of Standing Orders

A member of public introduced themselves and indicated interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.

District Cllr Frea reported that following the recent flooding a meeting has been organised with the Environment Agency, Lancashire County Council & Lancaster City Council to discuss the findings of the report initiated in February 2018 by Lancashire County Council to assess the flooding risk and preventative measures in and around Halton.

Additionally, there are three ongoing consultations that residents are encouraged to respond to:

- [Local Government Review: Bay Authority proposal](#)
- [Climate Emergency Local Plan Review](#)
- [Lancaster City Centre Movement Strategy](#)

20/11/112 To consider and approve reports:

a) **Open Spaces Report**

Completed/In Progress

- The end section of the play area boardwalk has been repaired
- New safety chippings delivered and spread out under the nest swing and climbing net
- General maintenance around the Centre (grass cutting, strimming, etc)
- Both ground staff have completed the pole pruning certification course
- Hedges have been cut

Planned

- Cutting back willow around sandpit and using it to fill gaps in Play Area fencing
- St Wilfrid's Park needs another cut weather permitting
- Topcoat of paint for top shops bus shelter
- The woodland footpath to the Crook O'Lune still needs repairing. The location provides some significant logistical issues.

Hours

- 135 hrs for October. The 8 hrs per week budget has been exceeded by one of the ground staff, but they were covering litter picking earlier in the year which increased the hours significantly.

General

- The RCD electric sockets in the tool shed failed during the boardwalk work. They were temporarily repaired and then checked by an electrician who will complete the wiring.

Action: Clerk to report fly-tipping at Quarry Road to the City Council.

b) **HCA Report**

It has been closed for the lockdown and the staff have been furloughed. The plan to re-open on 2nd December.

c) Finance Report

- B. Duffy will be removed from the bank account once the mandate has been signed by 2 councillors.
- The VAT refund of £4,760 has been received. The external audit report has yet to be received.
- The internal audit has been postponed due to the lack of available local clerks and lockdown.

Action: Clerk to explore other options if there is no change by the new year.

Financial Statement - 11th November 2020				Balance b/f 1st April 2020			
Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
6,994	Salary - Clerk	4,649	2,345	38,213	Precept	38,213	0
11,383	Salary - Groundstaff	7,738	3,348	935	Allotments	-	935
300	Training	585	-	151	Rent	20	-
6,842	Grass Cutting	5,620	-	1,200	Burial Ground	483	717
1,587	HCA Litter	-	-	40	Bank Interest	46	30
150	Hedge Cutting	-	150	-	Damage	-	-
450	Play Inspection	195	-	-	General	-	-
3,400	Repairs & Renewals	3,980	400	-	Grants	10,500	-
380	Pitch Feed	375	-	-	Donations	-	-
4,500	Public Works Loan	-	-		VAT	6,727	
200	Audit	-	200				
72	Bank Charges	36	36	40,539	TOTAL	55,989.53	1,682
240	Clerks Expenses	81	159				
369	HCA Hire	-	120		ACTUAL		
2,287	Insurance	2,341	-		Gross Receipts	£68,129	
660	Subs	605	35		Gross Payments	£48,731	
74	Water	17	57		BALANCE IN HAND	£19,397.50	
130	Website	-	130				
20	S137	20	-		FUND BALANCES		
-	Refunds	-	-		General A/C	£13,662	
-	Assets	17,083	-		Village Improvement A/C	£5,735	
-	Misc	-	-		FUND TOTAL	£19,397.50	
36	B4RN	-	36				
1,235	Emergency Response & Flood Grant	322	913				
328	War Memorial Restoration	-	328		<i>FORECAST (incl outstanding commitments)</i>		
41,638	NET TOTAL	43,648.60	8,256		Receipts		69,811
	VAT claimed	5,063			Payments		56,987
	VAT to be claimed	19			Balance (less allocated budgets)		12,823
41,638	GROSS TOTAL	48,731.09	56,987		Forecast Balance		14,100

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 11th November 2020.

d) Allotments

Nothing to report.

e) Burial Ground

The Gardening Group left a couple of bags of compost at the burial ground, but these seem to have been stolen.

It was resolved: The Gardening Group can use one of the storerooms if required.

f) District Councillor Report

See "20/11/111 Suspension of Standing Orders".

g) Neighbourhood Plan

Nothing to report.

h) Planning

New Applications

- [20/01087/VLA](#) | Variation of legal agreement attached to planning permission 17/00165/OUT to amend the mortgagee protection clauses in connection with the affordable housing

- Land Between Low Road And Forge Lane Halton Lancashire
- [20/01068/FUL](#) | Change of use of agricultural land to site 2 stable blocks and a tack room
 - Lane End High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PH

Permitted/Granted/Not required

- [20/00921/FUL](#) | Retention and relocation of an air source heat pump and associated pipework
 - Sparling Barn Green Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PA
- [20/00783/FUL](#) | Demolition of existing rear extension and erection of a single storey side/rear extension
 - 35 Low Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6LZ
- [20/00039/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 7 on approved application 18/01117/REM
 - Land At Grid Reference 350819 464830 Low Road Halton Lancashire
- [20/00106/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 3 on approved application 19/00667/LB 0
 - Nether Highfield Park Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PE

No comments from the Parish Council.

20/11/113 To consider actions arising from recent flooding

There is frustration that various road drains are still blocked; these are not cleared sufficiently frequently.

The Parish Council would like to be included in the flood report meeting. It has requested information about this report several times, including a Freedom of Information request.

It was resolved: Cllr Slinger will ask to attend the meeting were the flooding survey report will be discussed.

20/11/114 To consider use of marquee by St Wilfrid's Primary School

The school has been using the marquees to provide extra space during COVID. They have been taken down recently because the winds have caused some damage.

It was resolved: Cllr Slinger to speak to the school about repairing the marquees.

20/11/115 To consider recreational area improvements, new play equipment and methods for funding

Ideas for improving the recreational area and immediate surroundings were discussed, along with replacing some of the play equipment at St Wilfrid's Park. In order to take this forward, more detailed plans are required, including applying for planning permission. A loan will also be required to pay for this work; at present £40,000 paid over 10 years would be feasible without increasing the precept.

It was resolved: To accept the quote of £1,560 for a professional landscape designer to produce some designs sufficient for planning permission.

20/11/116 To consider changes to the Trustees of the Halton War Memorial Institute

A meeting is planned for December.

Action: Clerk to keep this on the agenda until the new trustees have been agreed.

20/11/117 To consider content for upcoming Prattle article

Action: Clerk to include details of parish council vacancies, recreational area improvements and current consultations.

20/11/118 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Reimbursements for Purchases

Who	Item	Net	Vat	Gross
LM	Toolstation - Screws	25.68	5.14	30.82
LM	Screwfix - 2xRCD sockets	26.49	5.29	31.78
LM	Cartridge Save - Printer toner	30.31	6.06	36.37
CR	Wickes - Paint	14.17	2.83	17.00

Payments for Approval

Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
Water Plus	Burial ground water supply	2.16	2.16	
Envirocare	Grass cutting Oct	648.00	540.00	108.00
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Playground inspection	234.00	195.00	39.00
Andy Dixon	Pole Saw Courses & Assessments x 3	585.00	585.00	-
Royal British Legion	Poppy appeal	20.00	20.00	-
L. Mills	Salary & reimbursements	681.76	665.27	16.49
G. Bretherton	Salary	530.10	530.10	
C. Richardson	Salary & reimbursements	593.60	590.77	2.83
	TOTALS	£ 3,294.62	£ 3,128.30	£ 166.32

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure.

20/11/119 To confirm the date of next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for 9th December 2020 at 19:15. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:10. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed..... Chair Date