

**HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 11th October 2023 7:15pm @ The Centre, Halton**

Chair: Cllr Slinger
Present: Cllr Turner, Cllr Lamb, Cllr Buntin, Cllr Sewell, Cllr Coates, District Cllr Sommerville
Clerk: Luke Mills

23/10/01 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given
None

23/10/02 To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2023
It was resolved: that the minutes be accepted as a true record and to be signed by the Chair.

23/10/03 To receive declarations of interests and dispensations
None

23/10/04 Suspension of Standing OrdersDistrict Councillor

District Cllr Sommerville reported that there are a couple of contentious issues:

- The sale of the Mainway estate and the provision of replacement council housing.
- The cancellation of the firework display due to budgetary constraints.

They are looking for ways to regenerate parts of Morecambe including Frontier Land.

They are ensuring that all contractors are part of "Fair Tax".

There will be another round of the Rural Prosperity Fund in the new year.

Action: Clerk to forward information about the Russell Armer site flooding & drainage plans to Cllr Sommerville.

23/10/05 To consider and approve reports:**a) District Councillor Report**

See above.

b) Open Spaces, allotments & burial ground**Open Spaces**Completed/In Progress

- Materials purchased for the repairs to Quarry Road bench.
- New screen ordered for the top-shops noticeboard.
- Dog bin ordered for Meadowfield ginnel.

Planned

- Investigating grants for improving security at the allotments – no progress.
- Various repairs to play equipment following annual play area safety inspection
- Replacement of the Muga basketball hoop
- Repair/rebuilding of seats around sand pit
- Repairing the toolshed roof - no progress
 - **Action:** Cllr Turner to send over crime reference to the Clerk.
 - **Action:** Clerk to obtain quote for repairing the roof.

Hours

- September 94 hrs (excl. of holidays)

Open Spaces

- Hedges have been trimmed

- The planning application for the ball-stop fence has been accepted by planning thanks to help from Archihive Studios based in Halton Mill.
 - It was resolved:** that the Clerk will mention Archihive's assistance in the next Prattle article.

Burial Ground

- Nothing to report

Allotments

- More vandalism of crops – particularly pumpkins. Tenants have been asking about progress on the grant application and security measures.
- Allotment holders have been asked if they wish to have a quarter size plot. Those in the waiting list will be approached in order; 2 have been asked already but have not responded yet.
- Plot holder for 6b has given notice to quit
- Plot holder for 11a has been given notice to quit.

c) HCA

- They are not planning to replace the role of Centre Manager. The work will be spread across existing staff.
- A couple of groups have started up which should provide enough replacement income to cover the loss of the play group. Updating the renewables will help reduce costs.

d) Finance Report

Financial Statement - October 2023				Balance b/f 1st April 2023			
				35,909.06			
Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
7,800	Salary - Clerk	4,506	3,294	47,399	Precept	47,399	-
15,600	Salary - Groundstaff	9,093	6,507	1,020	Allotments	-	1,020
5,600	Public Works Loan	-	-	160	Rent	125	35
6,400	Grass Cutting	6,209	191	1,300	Burial Ground	938	362
150	Hedge Cutting	-	150	100	Bank Interest	754	200
540	Pest Control	350	190	-	Damage	-	-
550	Play Inspection	520	30	-	General	501	-
4,600	Repairs & Renewals	4,963	1,000	-	Grants	-	-
380	Pitch Feed	-	-	-	Donations	-	-
2,000	Tree Works	-	2,000		VAT	1,707	-
145	Alarm Maintenance	-	145				
500	Audit	500	350				
72	Bank Charges	36	36	49,979	TOTAL	51,423	1,617
300	Clerks Expenses	301	60				
343	HCA	86	257		CASHBOOK BALANCES	ACTUAL	Forecast
2,179	Insurance	1,933	246		Gross Receipts	87,332	88,949
670	Subs	683	-		Gross Payments	48,750	63,741
400	Training	-	400		CASHBOOK BALANCE	38,583	25,208
100	Water	39	61				
130	Website	74	56		BANK BALANCES (30/9/23)		
20	S137	100	20		Current a/c	61.84	
48,479	BUDGET TOTAL	29,395.45	14,991		Deposit a/c	41,994.35	
					BANK BALANCE	£42,056.19	
-	Assets	149	-				
-	Misc services	10,971	-		FUND BALANCES		
-	Recreational Area Improvements (S106)	3,250	-		General A/C	£15,505	
882	Emergency Response & Flood Grant	-	-		Village Improvement A/C	£6,610	
	VAT claimed	-	-		MUGA Sink Fund A/C	£4,500	
	VAT to be claimed	4,984			S106 Recreation Area	£11,968	
49,361	GROSS TOTAL	48,750	63,741		FUND TOTAL	£38,583	

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 11th October 2023

e) Planning

New Applications (Awaiting Decision)

- [23/00734/FUL](#) | Erection of fencing and gate
 - Halton Community Association The Centre Low Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NB
- [23/01106/PAM](#) | Prior approval for replacement of three antennas and ancillary radio equipment on existing mast, installation of one GPS module on existing gantry pole, upgrades to equipment cabinet with associated ancillary development
 - ARQIVA (140674) SD5430067180 Far Highfield Farm Aughton Road Aughton Lancashire
- [23/0156/TPO](#) | T3 (Sycamore) - Fell
 - Lune View Park Station Road Halton Lancashire
- [23/0155/TCA](#) | T2 (Sycamore), T4 (Eucalyptus), T5 (Cherry Plum) and G1 (Sycamore) - All trees to be felled and replaced
 - Lune View Park Station Road Halton Lancashire
- [23/01066/FUL](#) | Installation of an exterior ventilation duct to side elevation
 - Black's Finest Fish & Chips 159 High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PY
- [23/00162/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 18 on approved application 18/01422/FUL
 - Land To The Rear Of Pointer Grove And Adjacent To High Road Halton Lancashire
- [23/01107/FUL](#) | Erection of a single storey rear extension, installation of first floor rear window, relocation and enlargement of rooflight to the front, relocation and installation of rooflights to the rear and installation of sewage treatment plant
 - Skirpin Cottage High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PH

Permitted

- [23/0134/TPO](#) | Trim vegetation and trees along the boundary line to allow the fence to be replaced. Maximum of 1 metre either side of the fence line to be managed.
 - Land North Of Bottomdale Road East Of M6 Bottomdale Road Halton Lancashire
- [23/0132/TCA](#) | Cypress (T3) - remove in order to implement approved works to convert garage
 - Boat House Church Brow Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6LR
- [23/00368/FUL](#) | Demolition of existing porch/garage conversion, erection of a two storey side/rear extension, construction of front and rear dormers, construction of replacement dormer extension to the side, construction of chimney stack to the front and construction of raised patio
 - 54 Lythe Fell Avenue Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NL
- [23/00156/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 4 on approved application 23/00414/FUL
 - Furnace Barn Foundry Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6LU
- [23/00884/FUL](#) | Demolition of existing porch to east elevation and erection of a replacement single storey extension, with link to existing detached outbuilding and erection of a porch to south elevation
 - Lune Cottage Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU

No comments from the Parish Council.

23/10/06 To consider update on the Neighbourhood Plan

A grant application to Locality has been made to cover the consultant fees.

23/10/07 To consider restoration of significant memorials in the burial ground

It has been highlighted that three headstones of significant graves in the church yard belonging to people who have made important contributions to Halton, including the donations of the War Memorial, Memorial Garden and Social Club are in a poor condition.

Action: Cllr Slinger to contact Maysand to see about cleaning/refurbishing the headstones.

Action: Clerk to try and identify any existing relatives.

23/10/08 To consider update on the County Council public consultation of the Flood Investigation

Cllr Lamb read and reviewed the document and was satisfied with the updates.

23/10/09 To consider options for improving security around the Centre

The local PCSO visited the Centre to discuss security to the rear and side including the sheds.

It was resolved: that no immediate action was required, other than repairing the toolshed roof. If further incidents occur, then this decision will be reviewed.

23/10/10 To consider purchasing:**a) a ball-stop net and posts for the MUGA**

The Clerk has investigated costs, which could be around £1,000 for the materials plus installation. Concern was raised over the health and safety implications of any such net if members of the public tried to climb on it.

It was resolved: that there are insufficient funds to purchase and install a ball-stop net at this time.

b) a Parish Council laptop

It was resolved: to purchase a laptop with a budget of £400 + vat which will be used for council business.

c) a replacement defibrillator case

The current cabinet is not working and very difficult to open.

It was resolved: to purchase a new locked cabinet for the defibrillator, for £450 + vat

23/10/11 To review and approve Statement of Internal Control and consider Internal Audit quote for 23/24

The current document has been reviewed and highlighted that the 2nd paragraph under 4.5 still referring to two audits and was not a complete sentence, hence a minor change is proposed:

In conjunction with the monthly bank reconciliation and the monthly budgetary control review, the Council considers that a minimum of one annual internal audit is sufficient.

It was resolved: to approve the Statement of Internal Control subject to the above change

It was resolved: to accept the quote for internal auditing from JDH Business of £275 + vat.

23/10/12 To consider Remembrance Sunday preparations

Cllr Slinger will not be available for the service this year. Cllr Buntin offered to place the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

Action: Cllr Slinger to speak to J.Blowes about operating the PA system.

23/10/13 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Ref	Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
70	Water Plus	Burial Ground water supply	5.64	5.64	-
71	Lancaster City Council	Pest control	60.00	50.00	10.00
72	Envirocare	Grasscutting - Sep	815.76	679.80	135.96
73	L Mills	Salary & reimbursements	1,171.27	1,084.38	86.89
74	G Bretherton	Salary	342.00	342.00	-
75	C Richardson	Salary & reimbursements	824.93	818.44	6.49
76	P Bucklow	Salary	384.00	384.00	-
77	Lancaster Military Heritage G	Website appeal	100.00	100.00	-
TOTALS			£ 3,703.60	£ 3,464.26	£ 239.34

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure.

23/10/14 To confirm the date of next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for 8th November 2023 starting at 7:15pm at The Centre. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8:30pm. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed..... Chair Date