

**HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING****Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 7:15pm @ The Centre, Halton**

**Chair:** Cllr Slinger  
**Present:** Cllr Turner, Cllr Lamb, Cllr Buntin, Cllr Sewell, Cllr Coates, 4 members of the public  
**Clerk:** Luke Mills

**23/12/01 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given**  
Cllr McAleer

**23/12/02 To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
**It was resolved:** that the minutes be accepted as a true record and to be signed by the Chair, subject to the corrections to the numbering.

**23/12/03 To receive declarations of interests and dispensations**  
None

**23/12/04 Suspension of Standing Orders**  
Members of the public shared raised concerns over the application for 90 dwellings (23/01327/OUT) off Low Road.

The recent Levelling-up bill (October) may have removed the presumption in favour of new developments where a Local Development Plan exists and there is a 5-year housing supply plan.

There is a local need for smaller homes (1-2 bed).

**23/12/05 To consider and approve reports:**  
**a) District Councillor Report**  
Nothing to report.

**b) Open Spaces, allotments & burial ground**

**Open Spaces**Completed/In Progress

- Noticeboard at the shops has been repaired
- Kubota has been serviced by Dennis Barnfield
- The alarm box on the tool shed was accidentally knocked so had to be repaired

Planned

- Replace Muga basketball hoop – some progress.
- Building steps down from the nest swing to the pitch – no progress
- Repairing the toolshed roof – no progress.
- Repair/rebuilding of seats around sand pit – no progress

Hours

- November 113 hrs (excl. of holidays)
- **Action:** Clerk to see if any of the ground staff would like more hours and what tasks they are willing to do
- **Action:** Rake out sandpit.

Open Spaces

- The road drains on High Road, Penny Stone Road, Sykeland Avenue, Schoolhouse Lane, Low Road and Forgewood Drive/Close were surveyed and any possible blockages reported.
- Envirocare have quoted an increase of 5% for grass cutting in 2024.

**Burial Ground**

- Nothing to report

### Allotments

- 6b & 11a allocated to those on the waiting list.
- Annual bills to be sent out shortly.

### c) HCA

- Preparing for Maureen's retirement on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. They will try to keep the Soup and a Song running for a while. Tickets for the Ceilidh are selling well.
- The work to improve the renewables continues with an aim to start work in March.

### d) Finance Report

- Grant of £5,940 has been received from Groundwork UK for the Neighbourhood Plan consultancy.
- A VAT reclaim will be made soon.
- The Precept will need to be agreed in January, so the agenda includes decisions to be made which will help set the budget.

Financial Statement - December 2023				Balance b/f 1st April 2023			
				35,909.06			
Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
7,800	Salary - Clerk	5,806	1,994	47,399	Precept	47,399	-
15,600	Salary - Groundstaff	12,056	3,544	1,020	Allotments	-	990
5,600	Public Works Loan	-	-	160	Rent	125	35
6,400	Grass Cutting	6,549	-	1,300	Burial Ground	2,154	300
150	Hedge Cutting	-	150	100	Bank Interest	754	200
540	Pest Control	450	90	-	Damage	-	-
550	Play Inspection	520	-	-	General	501	-
4,600	Repairs & Renewals	5,923	300	-	Grants	25,940	-
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	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78,579</b>	1,525
300	Clerks Expenses	383	90				
343	HCA	86	257		<b>CASHBOOK BALANCES</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>Forecast</b>
2,179	Insurance	1,933	-		Gross Receipts	114,488	116,013
670	Subs	683	-		Gross Payments	61,609	70,586
400	Training	-	-		<b>CASHBOOK BALANCE</b>	<b>52,880</b>	<b>45,427</b>
100	Water	51	23				
130	Website	184	-		<b>BANK BALANCES (30/11/23)</b>		
20	S137	120	-		Current a/c	41.11	
48,479	<b>BUDGET TOTAL</b>	<b>35,280.84</b>	<b>8,977</b>		Deposit a/c	56,550.35	
					<b>BANK BALANCE</b>	<b>£56,591.46</b>	
-	Assets	975	-				
-	Misc services	11,211	-		<b>FUND BALANCES</b>		
-	Recreational Area Improvements (S106)	3,609	-		General A/C	£29,802	
-	Refunds	5,000	-		Village Improvement A/C	£6,610	
882	Emergency Response & Flood Grant	-	-		MUGA Sink Fund A/C	£4,500	
	VAT claimed	-	-		S106 Recreation Area	£11,968	
	VAT to be claimed	5,533			<b>FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>£52,880</b>	
49,361	<b>GROSS TOTAL</b>	<b>61,609</b>	70,586				

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## e) Planning

### New Applications (Awaiting Decision)

- [23/01247/FUL](#) | Change of use and conversion of former butchers shop (E) to a single dwelling (C3)
  - Halton Village Butchers 99 High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PS
- [23/01249/PLDC](#) | Proposed lawful development certificate for the erection of a single storey rear extension and loft conversion
  - 29 Harrowdale Park Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QS
- [23/01349/FUL](#) | Construction of a dormer extension to the front and rear elevation and loft conversion
  - 21 Harrowdale Park Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QS

### Permitted

- [23/0175/TPO](#) | Oak - Fell
  - 9 Waltham Court Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QY
- [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
- [23/01141/FUL](#) | Construction of an enlarged dormer extension to the rear, construction of a raised decked area to the rear and installation of a ground floor window to the side
  - 32 Forgewood Drive Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NY
- [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
- [23/00196/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 3 on approved application 23/00551/FUL
  - Halton Green House Green Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PB
- [23/00189/DIS](#) | Discharge of conditions 3,4,5 and 7 on approved application 21/00395/FUL
  - Higher Barn Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU
- [23/00027/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 8 on approved application 18/01422/FUL
  - Land To The Rear Of Pointer Grove And Adjacent To High Road Halton Lancashire
- [22/00103/DIS](#) | Discharge of conditions 3 and 5 on approved application 18/01422/FUL
  - Land To The Rear Of Pointer Grove And Adjacent To High Road Halton Lancashire

No comments from the Parish Council.

### 23/12/06 To consider outline application for 90 dwellings (23/01327/OUT) off Low Road

The notification of outline application [23/01327/OUT](#) was received on 6<sup>th</sup> December; there has been no prior consultation or contact with the developer. There is also an associated [23/01372/EIR](#) application which is an internal verification step for planning. No information is provided on the house types including the number of affordable units.

**It was resolved:** that the Clerk asks the District Councillors whether there should have been a pre-consultation with the community and an affordable homes statement prior to validation of the application.

**It was resolved:** that the council objects to the planning application; a request for a Section 106 contribution will also be made in parallel in case the application is approved.

**It was resolved:** to ask the District Councillors to request that the application goes to committee.

**Action:** Clerk to highlight the application on Facebook and inform people how to respond.

**23/12/07 To consider update on the Neighbourhood Plan including plans for consultations**

The new grant of £5,940 from Groundwork UK has meant work recommenced. The rough timescales are:

- Final draft of the plan by 20th December
- Review by Lancaster City Council early January
- Next NDP Steering Group meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January 7:30pm
- Public Consultation early to mid-February
- Statutory Consultation late March

**23/12/08 To consider revision to the ball-stop fence planning application**

The planning application was temporarily withdrawn to satisfy requests from the planning department. Measurements were taken so that the outline of the pitches can be indicated on the plan. A lower fence would have less visual impact and improve the likelihood of approval. Halton Juniors would accept a lower height.

**It was resolved:** to revise the plans to show the fence location more accurately, reduce the height of the fence and gate to 1.2m, indicate the pitch outlines and to re-apply for permission.

**23/12/09 To consider grant to the Castle Hill project**

There have been a couple of Heritage Steering Group meetings where the reasons for the previous grant rejection were reviewed. They will revise the grant application to the Heritage Fund to reduce the costs. They are waiting for the Rural Prosperity Fund to re-open in the new year and are seeking funds for small works, e.g. gates.

To open the site to the public, some of the steepest slopes would need to be fenced-off, with permission from English Heritage, which would roughly cost around £1,500.

There is question over the best/cheapest long-term management of the space. The simplest initial option would be to assume that the area is mowed periodically.

**It was resolved:** to look to cover the fencing cost and maintenance of land in the precept.

**23/12/10 To consider rents for 2024:****a) Burial Ground fees**

**It was resolved:** to increase by 3% rounded to the nearest £5/£10

**b) Castle Hill rent**

**It was resolved:** to not increase the rent

**23/12/11 To consider salaries for 2024-25:****a) Hourly rate for the Grounds Staff**

**It was resolved:** to increase the hourly rate to £12.55 from April 2024

**b) Hourly rate for the Clerk**

**It was resolved:** to increase the hourly rate to £15.75 from April 2024

**23/12/12 To consider loan repayments for 2024-25**

**It was resolved:** to assume that money from the Village Improvement account would be used for loan repayments if a Public Works loan is taken-out next financial year.

**23/12/13 To consider hiring a skip to remove general refuse**

**It was resolved:** to hire an enclosed skip and drop it off outside the gate to the pitch at the Centre.

**23/12/14 To consider update on Halton Orienteering course**

The South Ribble Orienteering Club will produce a new map to include the new housing. The maps will be sold at the Centre.

**23/12/15 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting**

Ref	Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
90	Water Plus	Burial Ground water supply	5.64	5.64	-
91	Lancaster City Council	Pest control	60.00	50.00	10.00
92	Dennis Barnfield	Kubota service, including parts	903.05	752.54	150.51
93	Halton Juniors FC	Remibursement for materials (Section 106)	343.20	286.00	57.20
94	L Mills	Salary & reimbursements	889.22	850.84	38.38
95	G Bretherton	Salary	336.00	336.00	-
96	C Richardson	Salary	1,055.04	1,055.04	-
97	P Bucklow	Salary	384.00	384.00	-
98	Alerta Systems Ltd	Callout to repair alarm box	165.64	138.03	27.61
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>£ 4,141.79</b>	£ 3,858.09	£ 283.70

**It was resolved:** to approve the above expenditure.

**23/12/16 To confirm the date of next Parish Council Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 starting at 7:15pm at The Centre. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8:55pm. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed..... Chair Date .....