



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH 2014
AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Present: Cllrs: Hepwood, Jackson, Jefferson, Landles Sarney, Slinger, Williams, District Councillor Woodruff and Costain representatives.
Clerk: J W Ball
Chair: Cllr. Landles

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from PC Smith.

14/03/1938 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 12th February 2014.

It was resolved that: the minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2014 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair subject to at 14/02/1921 a) Councillor Jefferson be substituted for Councillor Sarney, at 14/02/1927 that 'The Chair recommended' that the quotation from Adrian Jones Vexation Limited offered best value for money, Councillors agreed that the chair negotiate with the contractor with the proviso that payments be made by four x 25% of the contract price, subject to successful completion of prior agreed targets and at 14/02/1923 g) Members agreed that Councillor Slinger negotiate a solution to the problem with the owners of the tree be removed.

14/03/1939 Council

- a) Declaration of member's interests in Agenda Items – Councillor Jefferson declared a prejudicial interest in item 14/03/1950.
- b) Change in declaration of member's interests - None

14/03/1940 Suspension of Standing Orders.

The chair welcomed representatives from Costains who had been invited to attend the meeting to brief members on current progress with the M6/Heysham Link Road.

Site preparation work was well advanced along the length of the proposed road, with a visitor centre established on the former Broadoak site. Steel work for the bridge over the railway line had been delivered with temporary bridge construction over the Lancaster Canal scheduled for April and over the A6 in May.

The closure of Halton Road had been delayed until mid April because of work necessary to relocate electricity lines prior to the installation of a culvert. The closure was likely to last for 8 to 9 months whilst the road was lowered and straightened. During the closure a temporary footpath would be created for pedestrian use.

Dog walkers along the path by the river through the army camp and photographers were putting themselves in danger by entering closed areas of the site where heavy construction equipment was in use, The company would be pleased to arrange photography visits from safe vantage points if contacted by members of the public.

Problems with IT providers had resulted in the web site not being up to date covering development, but work was in hand to improve the information available.

Members requested that access to the hedging and pathway adjacent to Halton Road through the army camp be granted for necessary maintenance and it was agreed that such access be granted as required.

Councillor Jefferson requested that the company work with Lancashire County Council and the parish council to consider and if possible implement improvements to the Halton Road Church and White Lion bends whilst the road was closed. It was agreed that a meeting with Councillor Jefferson, Paul Snaith of Lancashire County Council and Tony Crowley of Costains be arranged to take the matter forward. Agreed that Costains would review current signage informing the public of road and pathway closures and restrictions and if possible improve the information on the signs.

The chair thanked the representatives for their attendance at the meeting and requested that from time to time they attend future meetings to update progress.

14/03/1941 To consider and approve Reports**a) Clerks Report**

The clerk reported that:

- The traffic signs had been erected in Green Lane
- Glass had been ordered for the bus shelter repair at a cost of £390 plus VAT.
- No response had been received from BT concerning the parish council complaint about the siting of a relay box on parish council land without consultation.
- A meeting would be arranged with Lancaster City Council Dog Warden to discuss the dog fouling problem on the football pitch.
- A quotation for bus shelter seating had been supplied by Glasden at £276.95 plus vat. Seating to be fitted to both the Old School and Top Shops shelters.
- Mrs Beasley would be contacted to get the information required to progress the link path negotiations.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

b) Police Report

PC Smith was unable to attend the meeting but a report was made available for members:

Six crimes had been reported:

- Theft of a bicycle on Forgebank Walk
- Theft of a bicycle on Mill Lane
- Fraud - £350 paid for work not carried out
- Theft of coal and logs from a secure container at Halton Village Store
- Smashed window at St Wilfrids Primary School

Three incidents of anti-social behaviour had been reported.

Regular patrols had been maintained around the village without incident.

PC Smith was thanked for his report.

c) Planning Report and Planning

Councillor Sarney reported that since the last meeting no new planning applications had been received for consideration.

The investigations by Lancaster City Council into the Halton Hydro tree incident had continued.

Councillor Sarney was thanked for his report.

District Councillor Woodruff reported that he had received complaints concerning the Banner Advertisement fixed to the wall at the Low Road, High Road junction and asked if the parish council had a view prior to his responding to the complaint. Members discussed the situation and agreed that the parish council supported the integrity of the planning system and encouraged parties to observe it.

Councillor Jefferson agreed to discuss the length of time such advertisements were left in place with the Manager of the Centre @ Halton.

d) Finance Report – Responsible Finance Officer

Bwfd 12/02/2014	£ 16,580.88
Income	
Allotment Rent	£ 44.00
Burial Ground	£ 533.00
Rent HCA	£ -

g) Communication Report

Councillor Landles reported that he proposed to include information on Barratt Homes development, the M6 Link and related safety issues and ideas for Church Brow road improvements in the next issue of the Prattle. Information on the 2014 Garden Safari would also be included in the issue.

Councillor Williams requested an item covering the 2014 Garden Safari be included in the agenda for the 9th April 2014 meeting of the parish council.

Councillor Landles reported that a problem laying the broadband cable to some outlying areas the co-housing project and Light Technologies premises had arisen because of the refusal by Mr Holmes to allow access across his fields. Members were aware of the need to support employment in the village and requested that the chair attempt to persuade Mr Holmes to allow access.

14/03/1942 Barratt Homes Planning Application – Mill Lane

Councilor Sarney reported that a planning application submitted by Barratt Homes for the construction of 14 town homes with an exclusive zone for a footpath along the river bank had been withdrawn as heritage and utility statements and tree and visibility assessments had not been completed.

Members discussed the project and agreed that although the proposals were much improved on the original there were still some areas that caused concern and needed to be clarified.

Members agreed that representatives of the company be asked to meet with the parish council to discuss the areas of concern e.g. footpath not shown, some designated agricultural land shown as housing, diversion of a public right of way, adoption of Mill lane and protection of the childrens' playground.

14/03/1943 Parish Council Vacancy

The clerk reported that the casual vacancy would be advertised for 14 days excluding weekends and holidays. At the end of that period if the Proper Officer at Lancaster City Council had not received a petition for an election signed by at least ten electors from within the parish, the parish would be able to co-opt a suitable person to fill the vacancy.

4/03/1944 Web Site Development and Additional Name

Councillor Landles reported that the upgrade of the parish council website was underway with the addition of pictures and art work to improve presentation. It was hoped to bring the work along to the next meeting of the parish council. The current website domain (HAPC) expired on 20th March 2014 and although easy to type, it was felt that it was not very descriptive. It has been suggested that in addition to HAPC a second domain name be added, possible Halton with Aughton. Domain name renewal charges would be £20 each. Members agreed to go ahead with the two domain names.

14/03/1945 Purchase of Enviromulch and Sand for Play Area.

Members agreed that sand for the sand pit be purchased and that an estimate of the cost of a reduced volume of mulch (30cum) be requested.

14/03/1946 Link Path

Members agreed that discussions on the Link Path be deferred to the next meeting of the parish council.

14/03/1947 Bus Shelter Sealing

The clerk was instructed to check that the bus shelters were suitable for the installation of seats and if so order two seats from Glasdon at a total cost of £540.00 plus VAT. Members agreed that Kyle Oram be asked to carry out the work required to fit the seats.

14/03/1948 Mill Lane Playground

Discussion on the playground was deferred to the next meeting of the parish council pending the provision of further information by Councillor Jefferson.

14/03/1949 Grass Cutting Contract 2014/2015

Members considered quotations from 3 contractors and agreed that Envirocare be appointed to carry out the grasscutting for the 2014 season at a cost of £2550, this being the lowest quotation received.

14/03/1950 Parish Plan

Members agreed to defer discussion on the plan until the informal meeting arranged for Thursday 27th March 2014 at 7.15 pm in the Greyhound Hotel.

14/03/1950 Halton Hydro

Nothing further to report.

14/03/1951 Fidelity Guarantee Insurance Cover (Including Risk Assessment)

Members agreed that the current figure of £150,000 was adequate and should remain unchanged.

14/03/1952 Review of Effectiveness of Internal Control (Including Risk Assessment)

Members agreed that the current system was considered to be fit for purpose and should be continued for the 2014/2015 financial year.

14/03/1953 Review of Standing Orders

Members agreed that the item be deferred to the April 2014 meeting of the parish council and that in future years the item be placed for consideration on the April meeting agenda.

14/03/1954 Review of Financial Regulations

Members agreed that the item be deferred to the April 2014 meeting of the parish council and that in future years the item be placed for consideration on the April meeting agenda.

14/03/1955 Review of Risk Assessment

Members agreed that the item be deferred to the April 2014 meeting of the parish council and that in future years the item be placed for consideration on the April meeting agenda.

14/03/1956 Accounts for Payment

000058	Kyle Oram – Salary February	£ 119.00
000059	J Ball – Salary February	£ 86.55
000060	HMRC – PAYE month 10-12	£ 210.20
000061	Garden & Landscape Design	£ 500.00
000062	C Slinger – Travis Perkins sand for play area	£ 57.60
000063	Adrian Jones – Vexations Ltd web-site instalment	£ 240.00
ddr	PLB – Loan Repayment	£2069.05
	TOTAL	£3282.40

It was resolved that: the above payments be approved and the cheques duly signed.

14/03/1957 Fields in Trust Membership

Members agreed to the payment of £25 annual membership fee.

14/03/1958 World War I Commemoration

Councillor Slinger reported that she had been approached by an organization that produced metal poppy plaques for mounting on houses where soldiers killed during World War I had lived. Members agreed to seek further information for consideration at a future meeting of the parish council.

14/03/1959 Date of Future Meetings

Members agreed that the next meeting of the parish council be arranged for Wednesday 9th April 2014 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton

Members agreed that an informal meeting to discuss member portfolios and Parish Plan action be arranged for Thursday 27th March 2014 at 7.15pm in the Greyhound Hotel.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed..... Chair Date

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.