



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th MAY 2014
AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Present: Cllrs: Hepwood, Jackson, Jefferson, Landles Slinger, District Councillor Woodruff, Mr Ian Hilling Barratt Homes and five members of the public.
Clerk: J W Ball
Chair: Cllr. Landles

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Sarney and Cllr. Williams.

14/04/1983 Annual General Meeting

Cllr. Slinger acted as chair for the business of the annual general meeting.
Election of Chair – Cllr. Landles advised the meeting that as he was leaving the area he did not wish to be considered for a further term as chair of the parish council. Members discussed the election of a new chair but were unable to make an appointment. Cllr. Landles agreed to self nominate for a further period of office but on a short term basis pending his leaving the area. Cllr Jefferson proposed, Cllr. Jackson seconded and members agreed that Cllr. Landles continue as chair until he left the area.
Election of Vice-Chair – Cllr. Jefferson proposed and Cllr. Hepwood seconded that Cllr. Slinger continue as Vice-Chairman for the next 12 months. Cllr. Slinger agreed to the nomination.

Having completed the Annual General Meeting business the chair closed the meeting.

14/04/1984 Address by Mr Hilling – Barratt Homes

The chair welcomed Mr Hilling to the meeting and thanked him for his agreement to attend and discuss the proposals for the development of the site.
The original development plan for 69 units had now been replaced with proposals to build 14 detached units split into two batches of 7. The units would be of 2 1/2 and 3 storey height with roof lines considerably lower than those in the original plan.

Consideration had been given to TPO restrictions and the requirement to move the development further from the river bank and add provision for a footpath. Agreement had been reached with the Environment Agency to reduce the width of the strip of land between the river and the development from 8m to 5m.

The exact route of the footpath between the co-housing site and the Barratt development was still to be finalised but the meeting was assured that all efforts would be made to produce an acceptable route. Members advised that the parish council reserved the right to consider the final solution to the path route. Members requested that the company attempt to negotiate with other landowners involved to extend the footpath from their site to the bridge. Adoption of Mill Lane involved agreement between Barratt Homes, Duchy of Lancaster and other owners before the necessary work could be completed to bring the road up to the standard required for adoption by Lancashire County Council. Barratt Homes was prepared to make a financial contribution to the work provided land ownership legal agreements could be negotiated.

In response to members requests for Barratt Homes to carry out improvements to the Mill Lane Play Area the company was prepared to look at some improvement work as a community initiative but was not prepared to include such work as part of any planning application. Members requested that responsibility for maintenance of the play area by a management company be considered with the parish council to carry out the maintenance work.

In response to a members request that the steps leading from the public footpath down the river bank be repaired, the company agreed to look at any minor repairs dependant on cost.

The planning application was due to be considered by Lancaster City Council on 23rd June 2014 and if accepted work on the site would start in August 2014 with completion schedules for Summer 2015.

Members expressed their support in principle for the scheme as did those members of the public present at the meeting.

The chair thanked Mr Hilling for the information given during his address.

14/04/1985 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 9th April 2014.

It was resolved that: the minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2014 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

District Councillor Woodruff expressed his concern that members had not amended the minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2014 by removing reference to Mr Woodruff. He was most aggrieved and disappointed by the decision not to amend the minutes. Members noted the comments made.

14/04/1986 Council

- a) Declaration of member's interests in Agenda Items – Councillor Jefferson declared an interest in item 22 – Halton Hydro.
- b) Change in declaration of member's interests - None

14/04/1987 Suspension of Standing Orders.

District Councillor Woodruff reported that as a result of complaints received concerning the display of banners in the conservation area part of the village, advertising forthcoming events in the Centre @ Halton he had alerted Lancaster City Council. As such displays contravened planning rules the Centre had been instructed to remove the banners by Lancaster City Council officers and not to continue the practice in the future.

District Councillor Woodruff reported that Lancaster City Council was supporting an initiative to mark the 100 year anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War by encouraging the scattering of poppy seeds on public ground. Members agreed to support the initiative and consider the memorial garden as a possible suitable site. Cllr. Jefferson agreed to approach the gardening group to request help with the project.

Cllr. Jefferson suggested that a bronze plaque be fixed on the Social Club wall as a suitable memorial to those from the village who took part in the First World War. Members agreed that Cllr. Jefferson and the clerk progress the idea.

14/04/1988 To consider and approve Reports

a) Clerks Report

The clerk reported that:

- Repair of two headstones in the burial ground had been agreed with Tony Holmes, Monumental Mason at a charge of £40 plus VAT for each headstone.
- A meeting with Mr Danson of Lancashire County Council Highways Department had been held to discuss the work required to stop future travellers using Foundary Lane as a campsite, including the re-siting of existing bollards and isolation of the water supply.
- Fly tipping on the public footpath adjacent to the burial ground had been reported to Lancaster City Council.
- Kyle Oram had been asked to look at a gap in the hedge at the burial ground and suggest suitable planting to repair.
- The Lancaster City Council Local Plan was near to completion and would be subject to public consultation from 1st June to 31st July 2014. An exhibition covering proposals in the plan would be held in the Centre @ Halton on 19th June 2014.
- Supporting items of information had been circulated to members as available.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

b) Police Report

No report was available

c) Planning Report and Planning

Councillor Hepwood reported that 7 applications were currently under consideration. Cllr. Sarney would continue to liaise with Barratt Homes concerning their planning application.

d) Finance Report – Responsible Finance Officer

Bwfd 09/04/2014	£ 37,082.14
Income	
Interest	£ 1.36
Damage to shelter recharged	£ 100.00
Expenditure	
Cheques 000075-000083	£ 2,701.28
Balances as at 14/05/2014	£ 34,482.28
Made up of	
General a/c	£ 25,610.91
Village improvement	£ 6,901.73
Play Equipment	£ 1,969.58

It was resolved: to accept the Financial Report to 14th May 2014.

e) Environmental and Landscape Report

No report was available.

f) Community Centre and Recreation Area Report

Cllr Jefferson reported that work was in hand to prepare grant funding applications to cover the cost of the planned building alterations.

The play area was up to standard, although the air walker was broken again and there was now some doubt about its suitability.

Cllr. Slinger reported that Kyle Oram had requested that consideration be given to the purchase of a suitable shed on the allotment site to house the mower. Members agreed to support the request in principle subject to funds being available in the budget. Members expressed some concern that as no CCTV cover was available in the allotment area the mower could be at risk. Members agreed to consider this point at the June meeting.

g) Communication Report

Cllr. Landles reported that he was handing over responsibility for communication to Cllr. Jackson. A plan of action was to be prepared. Suggestions for inclusion in the next issue of the Prattle were interesting items from the meeting, website development and did the parish council add value to village life.

14/04/1989 Repairs and Maintenance

The clerk reported that general grounds maintenance had been carried out since the last meeting and the cushionfall for the play area would be delivered on 27th May. Cllr. Slinger reported urgent repair to the mower had been carried out at a cost of £390. Members agreed the expenditure.

14/04/1990 Myerscough College Grounds Maintenance Course

Cllr. Jefferson reported that Jasmine Smalley needed to gain certification and Kyle Oram re-certification. Members agreed that reservations be made with the college at a cost of £450.

14/04/1992 Parish Council Vacancy

The chair reported that a suitable person had expressed an interest in becoming a member of the parish council. Members agreed that that person be invited to the next meeting to be co-opted as a member.

14/04/1993 Web Site Development

The chair reported that members had attended an informal presentation by Adrian and had noted the changes to the website made to date. Domain names Halton with Aughton and Halton Aughton to be registered.

14/04/1994 Link Path

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

14/04/1995 Bus Shelter Sealing

The clerk reported that two seats plus fitting kits had been ordered and delivery was awaited.

14/04/1996 Mill Lane Playground

Members agreed that in view of discussions held with Barratt Homes no further action be taken for the time being.

14/04/1997 Halton Garden Safari

Nothing further to report.

14/04/1998 Parish Plan

Members agreed to defer discussion to the next meeting.

14/04/1999 Halton Hydro

Cllr. Jefferson reported that construction had continued with the chamber excavation / land shuttering completed, ready for concrete pouring. A temporary barrier had been constructed into the river to enable work on the front face of the hydro to go ahead. The work had been approved by the Environment Agency and was being monitored on a weekly basis.

Cllr. Hepwood expressed concern at the shape of the fish pass and Cllr. Jefferson agreed to raise those concerns and report back to the next meeting.

14/04/2000 Headstone – Burial Ground

The clerk reported that the use of ground anchors under headstones was optional unless internment rules for the burial ground included a requirement for ground anchors to be fitted. Currently the burial ground had no such requirement whereas those controlled by Lancaster City Council had. In view of the cost to be incurred by the parish council to straighten those headstones already leaning it may be prudent to consider adding a ground anchor stipulation to the burial ground rules. Members discussed and agreed that such a rule be added.

14/04/2001 Appointment of Part Time Grounds Maintenance Person

Cllr. Jefferson reported that Jasmine Smalley had been recruited to the position for 8 hours per week with additional hours as required during May and June. The rate of pay to be £7 per hour. Members agreed to the terms of appointment.

14/04/2002 Road Improvements – St Wilfrids Church

Cllr. Jefferson reported that he had met with representatives of Lancashire County Council to discuss necessary improvements to the road for the safety of pedestrians. The provision of a pedestrian refuse had been proposed but had not been accepted. Alternatives under consideration were the provision of steps from the main church pathway onto the White Lion car park, interactive signs, mini roundabout or mirror. The section of road under consideration was from the existing mini roundabout to the church.

14/04/2003 Accounts for Payment

000075	Mr Rowland (refund for burial plot)	£ 300.00
000076	Envirocare grounds maintenance 1 st of 3 instalments	£1020.00
000077	HCA Hall hire April - June	£ 63.00
000078	HCA litter picking contribution April - June	£ 292.50
000079	Halton Garden Safari	£ 250.00
000080	Kyle Oram expenses	£ 173.12
000081	Kyle Oram salary	£ 423.28
000082	John Ball salary	£ 100.98
000083	Jasmine Smalley salary	£ 78.40
	TOTAL	£2701.28

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

14/0342004 Date of Future Meetings

Members agreed that the next meeting of the parish council be arranged for Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed..... Chair Date

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.