



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th JULY 2014
AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Present: Cllrs: Landles, Jackson, Jefferson, Sarney, Slinger and Williams, District Councillor Woodruff and two members of the public.
Clerk: S Wadeson with assistance from J W Ball
Chair: Cllr Landles

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Fell.

14/07/2035 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 4th June 2014.

It was resolved that: the minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2014 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

14/07/2036 Clerks Report

In light of the lack of police presence at parish council meetings and the lack of police reports available for the meetings the clerk suggested to councillors that a representative of the council attend the next LALC meeting where a complaint could be made to the police representative attending the meeting. It is likely that other parish councils intend to take this action and therefore will bear more weight if several make a complaint together. Councillors will consider this.

Fly tipping – whilst part of the problem has now been resolved and the rubbish removed, there does still remain a considerable amount of tree cuttings and debris alongside Footpath 6. However, this is on private land and cannot therefore be dealt with by the City Council.

Fitting of bus shelter seating – The handyman has confirmed that he will be available to fit the seating in September. Cllr. Slinger to organise the generator.

The clerk was thanked for his report.

14/07/2037 Council

- a) Declaration of member's interests in Agenda Items - None
- b) Change in declaration of member's interests - None

14/07/2038 Suspension of Standing Orders

Items raised by members of the public:-

- a) A member of Halton Juniors Football Club attended the meeting to discuss the possible purchase of a defibrillator to be kept at the Centre. Lancashire FA are very keen for the club to have access to such equipment. They have sought advice from the Ambulance Service and have been recommended 3 different models ranging from £650 to £850 Excl. of VAT. It is the overall consensus that the model costing £850 would be the preferred model due to its simplicity in terms of use. HCA have agreed to host the unit and supply the power outside the building to ensure quick access. The appropriate box would be alarmed with an access code at an estimated cost of £400. It was confirmed that the Ambulance Service would have the access code and anyone needing to use the equipment could phone them for the code. Regular users of the Centre would also have the code.

Councillors in principal supported this proposal and will be on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting so that it may be formally discussed and a decision made.

- b) Cllr Woodruff wished to inform councillors that Planning Application 14/00592/OUT for 4 residential detached dwellings to the East of St Wilfrid's Nursing Home will go through as an officer decision rather than committee decision. If the Parish Council would like it to go through a committee, they would need to inform Cllr Woodruff of this as soon as possible.

Cllr Woodruff also informed councillors that there have been two cars parked on Quarry Hill for several weeks. One of the vehicles is taxed but in a poor state, the other vehicle is not taxed. This therefore needs to be reported.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

14/07/2039 To consider and approve Reports

a) Police Report – no report available.

b) Planning Report and Planning

New Applications

14/00724/FUL – Construction of a new dormer window to the front roof elevation at 12 Sykelands Avenue, Halton – No objections from Parish Council.

14/00655/FUL – Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and erection of a replacement two storey extension at 15 Clougha Avenue, Halton – No objections from Parish Council.

14/0072/TCA – Felling of 3 trees and Beechdene, Church Brow, Halton – Parish Council to obtain further information on this application.

c) Finance Report – Responsible Finance Officer

Bwfd 04/06/2014 £ 33,171.34

Income

Burial Ground £ 615.00

VAT Refund £ 625.48

Expenditure

Cheques 000091-0000102 £ 4,100.00

Plus grass cutting bill

Balances as at 09/07/2014 £ 30,311.82

Made up of

General a/c £ 21,440.51

Village improvement £ 6,901.73

Play Equipment £ 1,969.58

It was resolved: to accept the Financial Report to 9th July 2014.

d) Environmental and Landscape Report

Cllr Sarney is currently checking all footpaths throughout the parish. So far he has not found any major problems and will proceed to check the remaining footpaths.

There are several places along the river which have large amounts of Himalayan balsam weed. The problem is quite severe in some parts and will need third party involvement in the near future to remove this.

e) Community Centre and Recreation Area Report

There is currently a lot of investigative work going on regarding the old end of the building in order to establish what is required in order to bring it up to the same standard as the rest of the building. Work is currently underway on the roof and the electrics in that part of the building are being replaced.

Inside the hall, a small kitchen has been installed in the large store as a temporary measure as it is intended that the small kitchen in the hall is replaced. It is possible that this may happen over the summer.

HCA have looked at LED lighting possibilities and are hoping to replace many of the lights with these in order to save energy.

Business is running very well, the café continues to be a huge success as well as the luncheon club which now regularly seats 30 for lunch.

Cllr Williams thanked the Centre on behalf of the Gardening Club for their involvement in the Garden Safari which has been a huge success. Income in excess of £800 was received with approximately 190 visitors. The money will be used for community planting projects.

f) Communication Report

Items for the next issue of the Prattle were discussed and agreed.

The website designer has now completed the design and the next stages of the development are reported under minute reference 14/07/2045.

g) Hydro Report

Construction work on the Hydro is now well underway and it is hoped that this will be producing electricity by November this year. The project has proved to be a huge success.

14/07/2040 Barratt Homes Planning Application

The application for 14 detached units to be built in two batches of 7 properties next to Mill Lane, Halton has now been approved.

14/07/2041 Repairs and Maintenance

- The grounds staff have strimmed under the hedge alongside the football pitch and have been working on the footpath behind the playground at the Centre.
- The wall by Lythe Fell Avenue still needs repairing – Clerk to speak to the grounds staff regarding this.
- The Hawthorn bush on the Link Path needs to be lowered after July. Parish council staff are unlikely to be able to undertake this work and third party involvement is therefore required. Cllr Slinger is to obtain three quotes for this work and circulate them by email.
It was resolved:- to approve the work at cost of no more than £500.
- Link path – a member of public has complained about the brambles along the path – Clerk to speak to the grounds staff regarding this and request that they are cut back further.
- The metal net hooks on the goal posts at St Wilfrid's need to be removed – Clerk to arrange this.

14/07/2042 Halton Bus Promotion Project

A local resident has contacted the Parish Council to inform them that he will be co-ordinating a small bus promotion project in the village of Halton on behalf of LESS, a local sustainable living promotion company, over the next two or three months. The Parish Council have been informed that the project is funded from the income from the solar panels on Wenning House. The focus will be on household visits and improved publicity, with the aim of sustaining and hopefully increasing bus use in the face of the disruption from the United Utilities work and the construction of the M6 Link Road. The impetus is next year's review of Lancashire County Council supported services, which could again propose cuts in Halton.

Parish Council are broadly supportive of this project but believe it is not currently going in the direction that the Parish Council would have taken and believe that the Council should be consulted on the best way forward with this problem. Many councilors believe that a survey in order to determine the needs and wishes of all the residents of Halton would be an appropriate course of action.

It was resolved:- that this subject be added as an item on the agenda for the September meeting and that the parties involved at LESS be invited to the meeting.

The Clerk is to convey this to the parties involved. Cllr Williams is happy to be involved in any bus project and will introduce herself to the representative from LESS in due course.

14/07/2043 Commemoration of the Centenary of World War I – Lights Out

LIGHTS OUT is a UK-wide shared moment of reflection, taking place on 4th August, 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1 which is likely to involve lights being turned out around the parish on the evening of 4th August 2014 for approximately one hour.

Halton with Aughton Parish Council is in support of this project.

14/07/2044 Planning Application 14/00592/OUT

Outline Application for 4 residential detached dwellings to the East of St Wilfrid's Nursing Home - Whilst the Parish Council have sympathy for the residents who are finding this application difficult and can understand their concerns it was confirmed that there are no legal planning grounds on which parish council can make an objection to this application.

14/07/2045 Web Site Development

The website designer has confirmed that the new website is ready to go live in technology terms. However, there is still a considerable amount of work required by the Parish Council in order to ensure all the correct information is loaded onto the new website. It was suggested that a workshop is held in August with as many councilors as possible to go through the website together and finalise the information contained therein. Clerk to arrange this meeting.

14/07/2046 Rural Development

Link path – Clerk to contact LCC solicitor establish how to move forward with the adoption of the link path.

14/07/2047 Parish Plan

Cllr Williams has produced a list of actions which require urgent attention to ensure the Parish Council is fulfilling all of the aims set out in the Parish Plan. Some of the items discussed are already in progress and the remaining actions were allocated to different Cllrs to move forward. Each of these actions will be reported on separately at future meetings as work progresses. One action in particular was the development of the land at Castle Hill and it was suggested that a Community Group is formed to work on this project. Cllr Sarney will write an article for a future edition of the Prattle in order to promote this idea and generate some interest.

Land Allocation for New Rural Housing Developments 2014 – 2031

Parish Council do not accept the way in which these proposals are being approached. Whilst the Parish Council are not opposed to development within the village entirely but do question whether there is any need for additional housing within the parish.

Wray Parish Council have set up a Development Subgroup to consider the proposals and have suggested that a one-off meeting of all the rural Parish Councils is held to see whether or not there are some common messages that might best be delivered to City Council collectively in order to give them maximum weight. The meeting is to be held on 15th July.

It was resolved:- that at least one representative of Halton with Aughton Parish Council will attend this meeting.

14/07/2048 Accounts for Payment

000091	Kyle Oram Salary	£ 264.76
000092	Kyle Oram Expenses	£ 140.09
000093	John Ball Salary	£ 115.40
000094	Jasmine Smalley Salary	£ 362.08
000095	Jasmine Smalley underpaid June	£ 287.62
000096	HMRC PAYE Months 1-3	£ 648.15
000097	Myerscough College	£ 500.00
000098	United Utilities	£ 13.94
000099	Glasdon U.K. Ltd	£ 636.74
000100	K Bryne War Memorial Planting	£ 21.22
000101	Paint for railings at Aughton	£ 90.00
000102	Grass Cutting	£1,020.00
	TOTAL	£4,100.00

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

14/07/2049 Date of Future Meetings

Members agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council be arranged for Wednesday 10th September 2014 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton

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.