

**HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL****MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2014  
AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON**

**Present:** Cllrs: Jackson, Jefferson, Hepwood and Slinger, 6 members of the public.  
**Clerk:** S Wadeson  
**Chair:** Cllr Slinger

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

**14/12/2101 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

**It was resolved that:** the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**14/12/2102 Council**

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

**14/12/2103 Suspension of Standing Orders**

Four residents from Low Road, Halton attended to discuss the potential development in that area. They were shown the Parish Plan which shows the councils view as to planning developments within the parish. However, councillors explained that the plan is not a legal document and would therefore be unlikely to hold any weight in a complaint against any such planning application. It was then explained that a Local Neighbourhood Plan is a different type of document that does have legal standing and that this is something which needs to be drawn up as soon as possible. Cllr Jefferson explained what this document would achieve and what is entailed and also explained the history regarding the legislation which has been passed in recent years regarding the number of houses which are required to be built in the area. The parish council asked the residents if they would be interested in forming a group with other residents from around the village in order to put together a Local Neighbourhood Plan and provided details of the resources available to support the preparation of such a document. The individuals stated that they would go away and discuss this amongst themselves before making a decision.

A further member of the public came to speak about footpaths and bridleways following the latest issue of the Prattle and asked whether there would be a possibility to develop more bridleways. It was explained that this could form part of the Neighbourhood Plan but is not something which is within the remit of Parish Council.

**Standing Orders were reinstated.**

**14/12/2104 To consider and approve Reports**

**a) Police Report** – The report covers October only being the only information available on the website:-  
During October, 7 crimes were reported within Halton with Aughton:-  
5 reports of anti-social behaviour,  
1 case of criminal damage/arson – under investigation  
1 case of violent/sexual offence – unable to prosecute suspect

Due to the constant lack of information regarding crime in the area, the Clerk has been requested to write to the inspector to complain.

**b) Planning Report and Planning**

The EIA Screening opinion has been submitted to the Council for the proposed housing development south of Low Road (60 houses with new access).

Parish Council intend to submit comments as follows:-

- This area of land was withdrawn from the original SHLAA list at the request of the Parish Council due to the unsuitability of this land but was included once again without consultation with the Parish Council.
- The developer has not taken into consideration all the building and development which has taken place within the village in recent years.

- The safety impacts of a new highways access onto Low Road must be addressed in detail.
- The development site is very close to the Forest of Bowland AONB and is in the “setting” of this AONB. The developer needs to specifically address this issue and the impacts of this development on the AONB and it’s setting.
- The developer has not mentioned bats; a detailed bat survey should be undertaken as part of the planning application.

#### c) Finance Report – Responsible Finance Officer

<b>Bwfd 12/11/2014</b>	<b>£ 18,423.80</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Interest	£ 0.89
Burial Ground	£ 30.00
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Cheques 000137 - 000145	£ 3,861.25
<b>Balances as at 10/12/2014</b>	<b>£ 14,593.40</b>
<b>Made up of</b>	
<b>General a/c</b>	£ 5,722.09
Village improvement	£ 6,901.73
Play Equipment	£ 1,969.58

**It was resolved:** to accept the Financial Report to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

#### d) Environmental and Landscape Report

No report available this month.

#### e) Community Centre and Recreation Area Report

A Schedule is being put together for the work required over the next 12 months within the centre to include decking outside the café, roof work and kitchen work. Other than that, HCA is working very well.

The path which was previously proposed to run alongside the football pitch is not a feasible option. However, each entrance to the pitch will now be altered to include a platform for wheelchair access.

#### f) Communication Report

Nothing to report this month.

#### 14/12/2105 Repairs and Maintenance

Discussions have been held with a resident on Lythe Fell regarding the boundary between their property and the link path. It was agreed that the boundary lay at the mid-point of the beech hedge and that the parish council would maintain the height of the hedge and the side which faces the link path. It was further agreed that the parish council would speak to the gardening club about managing the small area of land where the beech hedge stops and that any work would not go past the mid-point of the hedge, being the boundary line.

#### 14/12/2106 Local Neighbourhood Plan

Parish Council intend to express an interest with Lancaster City Council than there is an intention to put a Local Neighbourhood Plan together and wait to hear from local residents as to whether a group can be formed to undertake this project as detailed under minute reference 14/12/2103.

#### 14/12/2107 Grass Cutting Quotes

**It was resolved:-** that Cllr Slinger would obtain 3 quotes for the work required for 2015/16 for the next meeting.

#### 14/12/2108 Wages Review

**It was resolved that:-**

The handyman's wage remain at £8 per hour

The Handyman's assistant remain at £7.50 per hour

The Clerks salary be increased by 1% from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

#### 14/12/2109 Burial Ground Rates

**It was resolved:-** From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 to increase the fee for the interment of a resident of the parish from £98 to £100 and for the interment of a non-resident from £195 to £200. It was further resolved to increase the fee for the placement of a plaque on a cremated remains plot from £38 to £40. No further increases are to be made.

**14/12/2110 Castle Hill Rent Review**

**It was resolved:** That the rent for grazing remains unchanged at £125 from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

**14/12/2111 Precept**

Cllr Slinger presented the accounts to 12/11/2014 and the anticipated income & expenditure until 31/03/2015. **It was resolved that:** £1,000.00 be transferred from the general account into the Village Improvement Capital account leaving an anticipated balance of £481.53 on which to base the precept calculations.

The Draft Precept was discussed and it was agreed that the precept be set at 26,377.00.

**It was resolved:** that Lancaster City Council is asked to pay Halton with Aughton Parish Council the sum of £26,377.00 as per the workings of Appendix 1. To meet the expenses of the Parish Council for 2015/16.

**14/12/2112 Christmas Trees**

Cllr Jefferson proposed the purchase of a potted Christmas Tree at a cost of £80 as recommended by David Redmore.

**It was resolved:-** to approve this cost.

**14/12/2113 B4RN**

Cllr Jackson asked the parish council whether they thought there was anything they could do as a council to bring B4RN throughout the village. It was agreed that there was little the Parish Council could do as an organisation in order to take this forward but are open to listen to any proposals by any groups who may be able to take action on this.

**14/12/2114 Parish Council Website**

Training for the new website is to be arranged for January. This training is at no additional cost to the Parish Council and will include training for Cllrs Jackson and Slinger and also the Clerk. Cllrs Sarney and Fell will be asked if they wish to be included also due to their absence from this meeting.

**14/12/2115 Landscape Maintenance Programme**

Cllr Jefferson has been in discussions with David Redmore with regard to putting together a Landscape maintenance programme for the area around the Centre and also the Plantation to ensure the areas a managed in the most effective way. It was proposed to allow David Redmore to undertake the work required to put this plan together for a fee of £400.

**It was resolved:-** to approve this cost.

**14/12/2116 Internal Audit**

The External Interim Audit took place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November and no issues arose from the audit.

**14/12/2117 Accounts for Payment**

000137	CEF Lighting – Lighting for Centre	£1,081.73
000138	Imperative Training Ltd – Defib Cabinet	£ 585.60
000139	Kyle Oram – Wages for Nov	£ 349.36
000140	Jasmine Smalley – Wages for Nov	£ 317.48
000141	S Wadeson – Clerks salary	£ 325.26
000142	S Wadeson – Expenses	£ 92.17
000143	WEL Medical Ltd – Defibrillator	£1,010.10
000144	Maureen Richardson – Graffiti Remover	£ 10.49
000145	S Wadeson – Spare keys for stores	£ 89.10

**TOTAL**

**£3,861.29**

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

The bank mandate has been submitted to the bank with updated signatories.

**14/12/2118 Date of Future Meetings**

Members agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council be arranged for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.