



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2015
AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Present: Cllrs: Jackson, Jefferson, Hall, Hepwood, Slinger and Sarney
Clerk: Vacant
Chair: Cllr Slinger

No apologies received.

15/03/2146 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 11th February 2015.

It was resolved that: the minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2015 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

15/03/2147 Council

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

15/03/2148 Suspension of Standing Orders

Not required at this meeting.

15/03/2149 To consider and approve Reports

a) Police Report – None received.

b) Planning Report and Planning

New applications - None

It was resolved: To write to the planning department regarding application 14/01217/FUL demolition of former lawnmower services, to object to the recommended refusal of this application. The PC believe that demolition is required on the grounds of health and safety.

c) Finance Report

Bwfd 11/02/2015 £ 12, 238.79

Income

Interest	£ 0.57
Burial Ground	£ 360.00
Allotment Rent	£ 47.00
Grant from Less	£ 852.42

Expenditure

Cheques 000163	£ 12.61
Adjustment chq 000107	£ .10
PWLB DDR	£ 2,069.05

Balance as at 11/03/2015 £ 11,417.02

Made up of

General a/c	£ 1,545.71
Village improvement	£ 7,901.73
Play Equipment	£ 1,969.58

The Chair reported that there is still income outstanding of £940 from HCA and £1578.87 VAT refund.

It was resolved: to transfer £1000 to the Village Improvement Capital Account and to accept the Financial Report to 11th March 2015.

d) Environmental and Landscape Report

Nothing to report this month.

e) The Centre@halton and Recreation Area Report

Water usage seems high at the Centre and this is being investigated for possible leakage.
Still ongoing problems with ground source heat pump.

f) Communication Report

Prattle report will include article to encourage new councilors.

15/03/2150 Repairs and Maintenance

The handyman will make the repairs to the Skate Park shelter his priority for this month.

It was resolved: to arrange immediate repair to the perimeter fencing of the younger childrens play area as this a requirement of the OFSTED inspections.

Cllr. Slinger will organise replacement sand for the sand pit.

The hedge cutting along the army camp carried out by Costain last August was unsatisfactory and has damaged parts of the hedge. Cllr. Jefferson will contact Costain about this and also ask them to litter pick along the stretch from the Motorway bridge to the parish boundary.

15/03/2151 Parish Clerk Vacancy

It was resolved: that Cllr Slinger carry out this position as a temporary measure and was appointed Finance Officer. The clerks post is being re-advertised.

15/03/2152 Handyman Vacancy

The current handyman has agreed to renew his contract for 12 hours per week. It was agreed to seek a second handyman to cover the remaining 12 hours per week. Cllr. Jefferson to pursue.

15/03/2153 Break-in of outside store and theft of Grounds Maintenance Machinery

The store was broken into on Wednesday 18th February with the theft of several ground maintenance items. The incident was caught on CCTV and passed to the police. An insurance claim has been submitted.

The company who supplied to store have been to view the damage to the doors and will repair and improve security measures.

It was resolved:- to approve up to £500 for additional security measures including a retractable bollard in front of the doors. Cllr. Slinger to organize in liaison with the insurers.

15/03/2154 Damage to Giant Nest Swing

CCTV has been handed to the police of 2 people with a dog causing damage to the Giant Nest Swing. The swing has now been repaired.

15/03/2155 Grass Cutting Halton and Aughton 2015-16

A letter from St Saviours PCC has been received asking for a donation of £800 towards the cutting of the churchyard and the village green at Aughton.

It was resolved to: Donate £800 as requested.

It was resolved to: renew the contract with Envirocare for 2015/16 for the grass cutting in the parish at a cost of £2,550.00 plus VAT.

15/03/2156 Website

Cllrs. Jackson and Slinger met with the volunteer who is keen to help with the website. The website will be updated gradually over the next few months.

15/03/2158 Fidelity Guarantee Insurance Cover (Including Assessment)

The current fidelity cover of £150,000 was reviewed together with the risk assessment..

It was resolved: that the level of fidelity guarantee insurance cover of £50,000 is adequate.

15/03/2159 Accounts for Payment

000163	B Jefferson (fixings for orienteering posts)	£ 12.61
DDR	PWLB ½ yearly loan repayment	£2,069.05
	TOTAL	£2,081.66

It was resolved that: the above payments be approved and the cheques were duly signed by Cllrs. Jackson and Fell.

15/03/2160 Date of Next Meeting

Members agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council be arranged for Wednesday 8th April 2015 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed..... Chair Date
Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.