



HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL 2017 AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Chair: Cllr Carol Slinger
Present: Cllrs: Brian Jefferson, Bob Bauld, 35-40 members of the public
Clerk: Luke Mills

17/04/2489 Apologies for absence:

Karen Gibson, Barbara Duffy

17/04/2490 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting

It was resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2017 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

17/04/2491 Council

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

17/04/2492 Suspension of Standing Orders

35-40 members of the public attended to object to the proposed Russell Armer development off Kirkby Lonsdale Road.

A resident of Pointer Grove provided a summary of the reasons for objecting to the development:

- Landscaping. The development would be on a hillside overlooking the village and so will be visible from a wide area, in what is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It would be a large extension to the village. The proposed two storey units are not in keeping with the local buildings which are predominantly single storey.
- Increased Flood Risk. A small stream flows down the field into a field drain beneath the gardens on Pointer Grove and joins a drain under Arrow Lane then onto the main one on High Road. The field drain under Pointer Grove is in poor condition. Additionally, both the current size and angle of the drains on Arrow Lane and High Road prevent water draining quickly enough under heavy rainfall. This has led to regular episodes of flooding in the locality; particularly around High Road. United Utilities have refused permission for the development to connect to the drains directly on High Road. There is a strong risk that the development will increase water run-off and flooding.
- Road Safety: A recent traffic survey on the Kirkby Lonsdale Road indicates traffic speeds are in excess of 40mph in what is a 20mph zone. There is reduced visibility on that stretch of road due to the bend and high boundary hedges. Pedestrians would be forced to cross the road on a fast, blind bend due to the lack of footpath.

Additional comments made by other residents in the area:

- A resident on High Road has experienced several instances of flooding in the last 2 years. They have spent a lot of money to try and redirect this water. The water comes up from the drains in both summer and winter. She is very worried that this development will make matters worse.
- A resident's property on Pointer Grove resident was flooded to 1ft deep.
- A resident is concerned about the sheer number of developments; why so much in Halton? The school is full; how can the infrastructure of the village cope?
- A resident is concerned about the traffic on High Road, which due to the on-street parking is already difficult to navigate; this will only make matters worse.
- A resident feels there is little evidence of a need for this new housing.

- A resident thinks that the flooding risk needs to take account of future weather patterns and the possibility of increased heavy rainfall.
- A resident wondered if the Village Plan still has any relevance.
- Cllr Jefferson responded that:
 - the developer has not engaged with the Parish Council since last year's consultation
 - **it is very important residents to object in writing to the Planning Department by 30th Apr**
 - residents have a right to speak at the Lancaster City Council planning meeting
 - it would be helpful if the School Governors could write a letter to the Planning Dept.
 - the current drains are known to be inadequate. The Parish Council will write to County Council & United Utilities.

17/04/2493 To consider and approve reports

a) Open Spaces Report

Cllr Jefferson reported that the following tasks have been completed:

- Repairs to the War Memorial Bus shelter are complete (patched mortar, 2nd coat of paint).
- Further bramble and gorse clearance along the Link Path.
- All gates in the Junior Play Area now repaired so that they open and close correctly.
- Levels of the safety surfacing "steps" in Junior Play Area raised to reduce trip risk
- Gate castor fitted to allotment gate so that it is easier to open and close.
- Kubota ride-on lawnmower booked in for an annual service at Dennis Barnfields.
- The tools and equipment inventory has been completed.

The Parish Clerk reported that the groundsmen claimed 107 hours work + holiday pay in March, which means that the total budget overspend was £690. They will prioritise repairing the boardwalk in the play area after the Easter break.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will ask the groundsmen to reduce the height of the hawthorn hedge on the eastern side of the Link Path.

Cllr Jefferson reported that Story Homes are willing to contribute to the enhancement of the football pitch. This will require a scope of works so that the Parish Council can understand the likely cost of the work. The drain outside the Centre also needs improving, ideally by connecting to the main drain on Low Road.

It was resolved: that Cllr Jefferson will draft a scope of works for the playing field enhancements.

b) HCA Report

Cllr Jefferson reported that when the floor was repaired, evidence of wood worm was found underneath the floor. This might require significant work to rectify. There have also been some issues with teenage behaviour recently.

c) Finance Report

The Parish Clerk reported that:

- The Lloyds bank accounts are now closed and the funds transferred to the Unity Trust Deposit Account. Unfortunately a couple of issues arose:
 - The PWLB loan payment failed. This has now been resolved.
 - The precept was due to be credited to the now closed account. Lancaster City Council was contacted as soon as the mistake was spotted, so payment should be received shortly.
- A declaration of compliance was completed on 10th March 2017 for the Pensions Regulator, after confirming with all existing staff that they do not wish to join a pension scheme.
- The current spending commitments amount to £5,589:
 - £3,542 remaining for the Lancashire Flood Recovery Fund Grant and Disaster Plan
 - £126 remaining for an Arboriculture Report

- £690 to cover the additional Groundsmen hours
- £901 remaining for the B4RN work
- £330 remaining for the Lighting and Security for the Generator Shed

Brought Forward	10,781.82
Income	
Bank Interest	1.16
Burial Ground	360.00
Expenditure	
Payments (Mar)	1,887.22
Payments (Apr)	1,678.89
Carried Forward	7,576.87
made up of:	
General Account	-1,318.89
Village Improvement Account	8,895.76

It was resolved: to transfer £1,505.97 from the Village Improvement Account to the General Account to ensure that the General Account balance is £0.00 as of 31st March 2017.

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will review the items listed in the Miscellaneous budget and move them to the Asset budget where appropriate.

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 12th April 2017.

d) Allotments

The Parish Clerk reported that:

- Three comments have been received following notices asking for feedback on the proposal for closing the steps. The deadline for feedback is 30th April.
- Plot 2b has been re-let.
- A gate castor has been fixed to the allotment gate to make it a little easier to open.
- The shed has been moved from the wall & path onto Plot 1b, but has been placed in the wrong location. The plot holder will be contacted.
- Plot 13a is looking unkempt with little sign of any work. The plot holder will be contacted.

e) Burial Ground

The Parish Clerk reported that:

- The two green bins have been removed by the City Council.
- A new fence panel has been purchased and installed, to replace the previous rotten one.
- Most additional ornaments/memorials have been removed from around the graves and placed in labelled boxes in the burial store. The odd memorial was left, eg. on new interments.

f) Planning

New Applications

- Erection of 70 dwellings with associated access, landscaping, open space, drainage, highway and parking arrangements and land re-profiling works
 - Land To The Rear Of Pointer Grove And Adjacent To High Road Halton Lancashire
 - Ref. No: 17/00224/FUL
- Existing lawful development certificate to remove the agricultural workers dwelling use
 - High Tarn Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU
 - Ref. No: 17/00274/ELDC
- Erection of a two storey rear extension
 - 25 Clougha Avenue Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NR

- Ref. No: 17/00342/FUL
- Screening request for residential development for up to 90 dwellings
 - Land South Of Low Road And East Of Forge Lane Halton Lancashire
 - Ref. No: 17/00229/EIR

Decisions

- Erection of a 4.45 metre deep, single storey rear extension with a maximum roof height of 3.94 metres and a maximum eaves height of 2.46 metres
 - 59 St Wilfrids Park Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PN
 - Ref. No: 17/00267/PAH | Status: *Prior Approval Refused*
- Pruning work affecting a single sycamore, and felling work to remove natural sycamore regeneration with a stem diameter less than 150mm
 - 18 Forgebank Walk Halton Lancashire LA2 6FD
 - Ref. No: 17/0025/TPO | Status: *Permitted*
- Erection of a two storey and single storey rear extension and detached garage
 - 11 Schoolhouse Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QU
 - Ref. No: 17/00209/FUL | Status: *Refused*
- Demolition of single storey side extension, erection of a two storey side extension, construction of a dormer extension to the front elevation and two dormer extensions to the rear elevation
 - Mayfield Schoolhouse Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QX
 - Ref. No: 17/00114/FUL | Status: *Permitted*
- Demolition of existing garage and replacement of a single storey rear extension
 - 165 High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PY
 - Ref. No: 17/00159/FUL | Status: *Permitted*

The Council raised no objections or comments apart from below (17/04/2494).

17/04/2494 Russell Armer Development on Kirkby Lonsdale Road

The Council is in agreement to local resident concerns.

It was resolved: that Cllr Jefferson will prepare a response from the Parish Council (cc. CC Education, CC Highways, United Utilities).

It was resolved: that the Parish Clerk will inform Lancaster City Council Planning Department that the Parish Council will wish to speak at the Planning Meeting and will be providing a written response.

17/04/2495 War Memorial Phase 1 Works

Cllr Jefferson reported that he asked for quotes from two suitable firms, but has only been able to received one response for restoring the War Memorial. The quote is as follows:

- Phase 1: £1,960 + vat
- Phase 2: £7,500 + vat

A successful grant application will cover 75% of the costs, so the Parish Council would need to fund the following amounts:

- Phase 1: £490
- Phase 2: £1,500

It was resolved: that the works for Phase 1 be accepted and expenditure of £1,960+vat approved.

17/04/2496 Traffic Calming on Church Brow

Cllr Bauld reported that the temporary speed sign on Church Brow seemed to slow down traffic whilst it was operation.

It was resolved: that Cllr Bauld will contact Paul Snape & Dan Chalmers from Highways to see if a permanent speed sign can be installed and whether any further traffic calming measures are planned.

17/04/2497 Emergency Plan**a) Funding of electricity supply for emergency generator**

Cllr Slinger reported that various electrical works are required to enable the Centre to be powered off the generator.

It was resolved: to approve expenditure of £3,075 + vat for electrical works.

b) Storing of fuel for Halton Mill emergency generator

Halton Mill has asked if fuel for the emergency generator based there, can be store in the generator store at the Centre.

It was resolved: that Halton Mill can use the generator cabinet for storing fuel.

17/04/2498 Fields in Trust membership

Cllr Jefferson reported that the playing field has been registered with Fields in Trust for a few years.

It was resolved: that the membership for the Fields in Trust is renewed at a cost of £50.

17/04/2499 Preparation for Annual Meetings & Date of AGM

It was resolved: that Cllr Jefferson will write the HCA report

It was resolved: that Cllr Slinger will write the Chair's and Charity report

It was resolved: that Parish Clerk will advertise the Annual meeting.

It was resolved: that the Annual General Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for Wednesday 10th May 2017 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton.

17/04/2500 To approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Payee	Description	Gross
Luke Mills	Salary – Mar	400.80
Carl Richardson	Salary - Mar + Expenses	368.41
Garry Bretherton	Salary – Mar	420.67
Kyle Oram	Salary - Mar + Expenses	287.57
Unity Trust Bank	Quarterly bank fees	18.00
HMRC	PAYE - Months 10-12 (Jan-Mar)	107.83
United Utilities	Water bill (Dec 16 - Mar 17)	10.32
Dennis Barnfield Ltd	Gloves	33.01
Vex (Adrian Jones)	Website hosting	240.00
Mrs Cooper	Refund for Allotment plot 13a	15.62
Signs Express	Sign	9.14
Parish Church Council	Grass cutting in Aughton	960.00
LALC	Annual subscription for LALC&NALC	353.16
Luke Mills	Expenses - Tools & materials	356.59
	TOTAL	3581.11

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure and the cheques duly signed.

17/04/2501 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council, which will be the Annual Meeting, be arranged for Wednesday 10th May 2017 at 7:15pm at The Centre @ Halton. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8:50pm.

Signed..... Chair Date

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.