

**HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING****Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 19:15 – Virtual meeting****Chair:** Cllr Carol Slinger**Present:** Cllr Naomi Turner, Cllr Brian Jefferson, Cllr Anne Lamb, Cllr Chris Coates, 6 members of the public**Clerk:** Luke Mills**21/01/001 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given**

None

**21/01/002 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 as an accurate record****It was resolved:** that the minutes be accepted as a true record, to be signed by the Chair at a later date.**21/01/003 Declarations of Interests**

C Buntin declared an interest in planning application 20/01441/AD

**21/01/004 Suspension of Standing Orders**Halton Gardening Group (HGG)

The Chair of HGG attended along with another member. HGG would like to refurbish three of the flower beds in the Memorial Gardens, which are currently full of old, overgrown shrubs. The aim is to create a friendlier, more colourful, biodiverse flower beds. They have so far raised over £2,000 and are hoping to get more grants and funds. They hope that they can get some help from volunteers.

They have the following requests of the PC:

1. There is a large dominant tree which creates a lot of shade; ideally this would be reduced in size. The PC would need to apply for planning permission given that it is located in a Conservation Area.
2. They would like the PC to pay for a green bin so that there is way of removing green waste; one of the members has been using their own paid bin to date.
3. The wall a joining Church Brow is in poor condition; this could do with rectifying.
4. They have found someone to remove and chip some of the unwanted shrubs/branches, but they would need to store the chippings somewhere temporarily, ideally Castle Hill.

**21/01/005 To consider co-option of new Parish Councillor(s)****It was resolved:** that Claire Buntin be co-opted onto Halton with Aughton Parish Council.**It was resolved:** that Joe McAleer be co-opted onto Halton with Aughton Parish Council.**It was resolved:** that Jonathan Sewell be co-opted onto Halton with Aughton Parish Council.**Action:** Clerk to distribute the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Interests and Code of Conduct forms to the new councillors.**21/01/006 To consider and approve reports:****a) Open Spaces, Burial Ground, Allotments**Completed/In Progress

- General maintenance around the Centre and Link path
- Tidying the Burial Ground
- Kubota & tool shed maintenance

Planned

- Topcoat of paint for top shops bus shelter
- Planning repairs to steps at the hydro and woodland footpath to the Crook O'Lune
- Replacement of failed post on boardwalk
- Identifying and purchasing new bins
- Identifying and purchasing gaps in the equipment and tools

Hours

- 69 hrs for December

Open Spaces

- There is a second PlayDale invoice for the play area inspection. The one paid last month covered the Centre & Schoolhouse Lane. This one relates to St Wilfrid's Park.

- The security bollard was repaired by the installers.
- The car park has been temporarily closed due to the surface becoming muddy and slippery.
- We have received a quote for the construction of an additional supporting wall on the banking near the Centre. This will need agreeing at another meeting.

**It was resolved:** to apply for permission to prune the tree in the Memorial Gardens.

**It was resolved:** to apply for a green bin for the Memorial Gardens.

**Action:** Clerk to investigate the condition of the boundary wall in the Memorial Gardens.

#### Allotments

- 6 out of 30 tenants yet to pay the rent. Reminder letters will be sent out later in the month.

#### Burial Ground

- Three burials since November

#### b) HCA Report

Staff still on furlough. Some decoration taking place. Only pre-school and a couple of support groups.

#### c) Finance Report

- The current forecast end of year balance is £13,237 though this will be affecting by the groundsmen hours and repairs.
- A cheque for £420 from Preston Ireland & Bowker did not clear mid-December. They will re-issue a new cheque.

Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
6,994	Salary - Clerk	5,815	1,179	38,213	Precept	38,213	-
11,383	Salary - Groundstaff	9,571	1,395	935	Allotments	660	275
300	Training	585	-	151	Rent	20	-
6,842	Grass Cutting	5,620	-	1,200	Burial Ground	1,102	-
1,587	HCA Litter	-	-	40	Bank Interest	46	-
150	Hedge Cutting	150	-	-	Damage	-	-
450	Play Inspection	390	-	-	General	-	-
3,400	Repairs & Renewals	4,656	400	-	Grants	10,500	-
380	Pitch Feed	375	-	-	Donations	-	-
4,500	Public Works Loan	-	-		VAT	6,727	
200	Audit	200	-				
72	Bank Charges	60	18	40,539	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57,268.53</b>	275
240	Clerks Expenses	81	50				
369	HCA Hire	-	-		<b>ACTUAL</b>		
2,287	Insurance	2,341	-		Gross Receipts	£69,408	
660	Subs	640	-		Gross Payments	£53,327	
74	Water	22	7		<b>BALANCE IN HAND</b>	<b>£16,080.80</b>	
130	Website	60	70				
20	S137	20	-		<b>FUND BALANCES</b>		
-	Refunds	-	-		General A/C	£10,346	
-	Assets	17,083	-		Village Improvement A/C	£5,735	
-	Misc	-	-		<b>FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>£16,080.80</b>	
36	B4RN	-	36				
1,235	Emergency Response & Flood Grant	322	913				
328	War Memorial Restoration	-	328				
41,638	<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>47,991.83</b>	4,396		<i>FORECAST (incl outstanding commitments)</i>		
	VAT claimed	5,063			Receipts		69,683
	VAT to be claimed	272			Payments		57,722
41,638	<b>GROSS TOTAL</b>	<b>53,326.79</b>	57,722		Balance (less allocated budgets)		11,960
					<b>Forecast Balance</b>		<b>13,237</b>

**It was resolved:** to accept the Finance Report to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

#### d) District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

## e) Planning

### New Applications

- [20/01441/AD](#) | Agricultural determination for erection of a storage building
  - Land To The North Of 72 Beech Road Halton Lancashire
- [20/01308/FUL](#) | Construction of a dormer extension to the front
  - 24 Oak Drive Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QL
- [20/01298/FUL](#) | Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian use, erection of a stable block and creation of an area of hardstanding and yard area
  - Field Northwest of Middle Highfield Aughton Lancashire

### Permitted/Granted/Not required

- [20/00613/FUL](#) | Erection of 16 affordable residential dwellings and 2 residential buildings comprising a total of 4 affordable apartments, with associated parking and hard landscaping
  - Land Adjacent Forge Lane Halton Lancashire

### Taylor Wimpey Development

The PC are concerned about the lack of consultation about this proposed development to the west of the parish.

**Action:** Clerk to contact Slyne-with-Hest Parish Council to ask what stance they have taken with the proposal.

**Action:** Clerk to ask Avis & Young to leaflet drop in Carus Park ensure that the PC is added as a formal stakeholder.

### **21/01/007 To consider a response to the County Council Flood Report**

Thanks to D. Whiteley for summarising the report.

It was noted that the report did not cover the condition of the existing drains, which the PC considers to be crucial.

Supporting the new Flood Action Group might be the best way to apply some pressure on the various responsible bodies.

### **21/01/008 To consider support for wildflower verges**

Cllr Lamb spoke to Caton PC to see what they have done. They had a mixed response from a public consultation. One option is to proceed on a small area initially.

**Action:** Cllr Lamb & Cllr Slinger will meet to identify suitable small areas, e.g. the grassed area outside the allotments.

**Action:** Cllr Slinger to speak to City Council about their new grassland management regime.

### **21/01/009 To consider updates on Lune Valley Greenway Extension**

Cllr Lamb reported on a meeting in Dec for creating a multi-use path from Bull Beck to Wennington. They are in negotiations with various landowners. If everything goes well then work could start next year.

### **21/01/010 To consider a Parish Council representative for Halton Lune Trust**

**It was resolved:** that Cllr Slinger will remain the representative for the Parish Council on the Halton Lune Trust.

### **21/01/011 To consider and approve precept for 2021-22**

**It was resolved:** that Lancaster City Council is asked to pay Halton with Aughton Parish Council the sum of £41,206 to meet the expenses of the Parish Council for 2021-22

**Action:** Clerk to complete and return the precept form

### **21/01/012 To consider purchasing a grit bin for Aughton**

**Action:** Clerk to ask Highways if they can provide an extra grit bin at Aughton.

### **21/01/013 To consider changes to the Trustees of the Halton War Memorial Institute**

Still no progress. Defer to the next meeting.

### **21/01/014 To consider response to correspondence from members of the public**

North Lancashire Bridleways Society has asked whether the Parish Council would support the creation of multi-use paths within the proposed Taylor Wimpey development.

**It was resolved:** that the Parish Council does support the creation of multi-use paths within the development.

A takeaway pizza business asked if they could use the Centre car park a couple of evenings per week. The Parish Council had concerns that this would encourage too much traffic/people to a single location during lockdown.

**It was resolved:** that permission to use the car park is refused.

**21/01/015 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting**Reimbursements for Purchases

Who	Item	Net	Vat	Gross
LM	Rock salt	38.15	7.63	<b>45.78</b>
LM	Webhosting fee	59.90	11.98	<b>71.88</b>

Payments for Approval

Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
Water Plus	Burial ground water supply (direct del	<b>2.16</b>	2.16	
ICO	Annual fee (direct debit)	<b>35.00</b>	35.00	
Dennis Barnfield	Repairs to leaf blower	<b>127.55</b>	106.29	21.26
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Playground inspection (St Wilfrids)	<b>234.00</b>	195.00	39.00
Rampost Services Ltd	Repairs to security bollard	<b>148.20</b>	123.50	24.70
C. Richardson	Salary	<b>306.90</b>	306.90	
G. Bretherton	Salary	<b>298.53</b>	298.53	
L. Mills	Salary & reimbursements	<b>700.45</b>	680.84	19.61
Unity Trust Bank	Bank fees	<b>24.00</b>	24.00	
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£ 1,876.79</b>	£ 1,772.22	£ 104.57

**It was resolved:** to approve the above expenditure.

**It was resolved:** to add C. Buntin, J. McAleer & J. Sewell onto the bank account.

**21/01/016 To confirm the date of next Parish Council Meeting**

**It was resolved:** to hold an Extraordinary Meeting as soon as practical to consider:

- a) approving the construction of a support wall near the Centre
- b) approving consultancy work to support the recreational area improvements.
- c) the planning application 20/00277/FUL

The next normal meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 19:15. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:50. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

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