

**HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 13th March 2024 7:15pm @ The Centre, Halton**

Chair: Cllr Slinger
Present: Cllr Sewell, Cllr Buntin, Cllr Turner, Cllr Lamb
Clerk: Luke Mills

24/03/01 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given
Cllr Coates, Cllr Rigby

Joe McAleer resigned as Parish Councillor. The Parish Council would like to thank him for his support and input over the last three years.

Action: Clerk to inform Lancaster City Council of changes to the Parish Council and advertise Casual Vacancy.

24/03/02 To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2024
It was resolved: that the minutes be accepted as a true record and to be signed by the Chair.

24/03/03 To receive declarations of interests and dispensations
Nothing to report.

24/03/04 Suspension of Standing Orders
Nothing to report.

24/03/05 To consider and approve reports:

a) District Councillor Report

From District Cllr James Sommerville:

- **Traffic:** He may try to meet with County Cllr Matthew Maxwell-Scott to discuss the traffic and parking on High Road, though there is very little funding for any works.
- **Lancashire Combined Authority:** the County Council is pressing ahead, along with Blackpool and Blackburn, to create a 'Combined Authority' from this autumn, despite objections from District Councils that it's not going to achieve much. It might get delayed if the general election gets in the way of the legislation passing parliament.
- **Plans:** the City Council has released its plans for taking forward development in Frontierland in Morecambe, parking in Lancaster City Centre, and the new Local Plan. Details on the city council's website.

Action: Clerk to raise state of library with County Cllr Matthew Maxwell-Scott.

b) Open Spaces, allotments & burial ground

Open Spaces

Completed/In Progress

- General maintenance

Planned

- Fencing for the allotments (one company approached for a quote so far)
- Repairing the toolshed roof (on the agenda below)
- Skip for allotments/tool shed
- Repair/rebuilding of seats around sand pit

Ground Staff Hours

- February 85 hrs (excl. of holidays)

Open Spaces

- A relative of someone who died recently would like to commemorate them with a bench or tree somewhere.
- **It was resolved:** that the Clerk suggests St Wilfrid's Park as a location

Burial Ground

- There is quite a large gap in the M6 boundary following the tree felling and fence replacement which will need filling-in next winter.

Allotments

- All annual payments received from tenants and the last available plot (5b) is awaiting signed paperwork
- **Action:** Clerk to thank Marion who has started managing the communal compost pile

c) HCA

- Handover of renewables at the end of the month

d) Finance Report

A VAT refund of £5,566.97 has been received.

It was resolved: to transfer £9,890 from the General a/c to the Village Improvement a/c

Financial Statement - March 2024				Balance b/f 1st April 2023			
Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
7,800	Salary - Clerk	7,756	-	47,399	Precept	47,399	-
15,600	Salary - Groundstaff	15,873	-	1,020	Allotments	945	30
5,600	Public Works Loan	-	-	160	Rent	145	-
6,400	Grass Cutting	6,549	-	1,300	Burial Ground	3,924	-
150	Hedge Cutting	200	-	100	Bank Interest	1,090	-
540	Pest Control	600	-	-	Damage	-	-
550	Play Inspection	520	-	-	General	501	-
4,600	Repairs & Renewals	6,274	-	-	Grants	25,940	-
380	Pitch Feed	-	-	-	Donations	-	-
2,000	Tree Works	-	-	-	VAT	7,273	-
145	Alarm Maintenance	-	-				
500	Audit	500	-				
72	Bank Charges	72	-	49,979	TOTAL	87,217	30
300	Clerks Expenses	401	-				
343	HCA	254	-				
2,179	Insurance	1,933	-		CASHBOOK BALANCES	ACTUAL	Forecast
670	Subs	718	-		Gross Receipts	123,126	123,156
400	Training	-	-		Gross Payments	90,271	90,271
100	Water	71	-		CASHBOOK BALANCE	32,855	32,885
130	Website	249	-				
20	S137	120	-		BANK BALANCES (29/02/24)		
48,479	BUDGET TOTAL	42,089.71	-		Current a/c	91.03	
					Deposit a/c	35,063.05	
					BANK BALANCE	35,154.08	
-	Assets	975	-				
-	Misc services	28,911	-		FUND BALANCES		
-	Recreational Area Improvements (S106)	4,014	-		General A/C	58.21	
-	Refunds	5,000	-		Village Improvement A/C	16,500.02	
882	Emergency Response & Flood Grant	-	-		MUGA Sink Fund A/C	4,500.00	
	VAT claimed	-			S106 Recreation Area	11,967.83	
	VAT to be claimed	9,280			FUND TOTAL	33,026	
49,361	GROSS TOTAL	90,271	90,271				

It was resolved: to accept the Finance Report to 13th March 2024

e) Planning

A new ball-stop fence application has been submitted (see below) with the revised plans from Archihive.

New Applications (Awaiting Decision)

- [24/00270/FUL](#) | Erection of fencing and gate
 - Halton Community Association The Centre Low Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NB
- [24/00055/DIS](#) | Discharge of condition 3 on approved application 22/01414/FUL
 - Lune Garth The Hermitage Estate Low Road Halton Lancashire
- [24/00219/FUL](#) | Change of use and conversion of former butchers shop (E) to a single dwelling (C3)
 - Halton Village Butchers 99 High Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PS
- [24/00175/LB](#) | Listed building application for the installation of a flue to the rear elevation and internal wall insulation
 - Aughton Old Hall Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU
- [24/00174/FUL](#) | Installation of a flue to the rear elevation, a ground mounted solar panel array, 2 air source heat pumps and a sewage treatment plant
 - Aughton Old Hall Aughton Road Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU

Permitted

- [24/0018/TCA](#) | T1 (Sycamore) – Fell
 - Ivy Cottage Low Road Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6LZ

Other

- [24/00062/EIR](#) | Screening request for the erection of 2 general purpose agricultural buildings and construction of retaining wall
 - Lower Barn Aughton Brow Aughton Lancashire
 - **ES Not Required**

It was resolved: that the Council supports application 24/00219/FUL

24/03/06 To consider update on the Neighbourhood Plan

A meeting with Lancaster City Council and Kirkwells was held on the 12th March to discuss the informal comments from the screening process. Minor amendments to the plan will be required.

Action: NP Steering Group to consider how to handle the Area of Separation.

It was resolved: that the informal public consultation will occur between Monday 8th April and Sunday 5th May, with public drop-in sessions at The Centre on Thursday 25th April 3-7pm and Saturday 27th April 10-1pm.

24/03/07 To consider update on Castle Hill

No news yet on the Rural Prosperity funding application for Castle Hill, though the initial response indicates that a decision will be made in late March.

24/03/08 To consider request for an additional garden waste bin in the Memorial Garden

The Gardening Group have asked whether a second garden waste bin could be provided at the Memorial Garden, since the current one fills up quickly. The annual cost is £45, plus the cost of ordering a bin which is approx. £30.

It was resolved: that in principle another bin can be provided, subject to a suitable location.

24/03/09 To consider repairs to the toolshed roof

It was resolved: that the Clerk will obtain one or more quotes for repairing the roof.

24/03/10 To review and approve:

a) Financial Regulations

It was resolved: to approve the Financial Regulation

b) Payment Procedures

It was resolved: to approve the Payment Procedure.

24/03/11 To consider Prattle article

It was resolved: to agree the article which includes details of the Neighbourhood Plan public consultation and Parish Council changes.

24/03/12 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Ref	Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
122	Water Plus	Burial Ground water supply	8.68	8.68	-
123	Lancaster City Council	Pest control	60.00	50.00	10.00
124	Halton Juniors FC	s106 Reimbursement for pitch marking	263.86	219.88	43.98
125	L Mills	Salary & reimbursements	714.93	711.60	3.33
126	G Bretherton	Salary	360.00	360.00	-
127	C Richardson	Salary	548.40	548.40	-
128	P Bucklow	Salary	384.00	384.00	-
129	Unity Trust Bank	Bank charges	18.00	18.00	-
130	Kirkwells Ltd	Support for NPD	1,296.00	1,080.00	216.00

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure.

24/03/13 To confirm the date of next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for 10th April 2024 starting at 7:15pm at The Centre. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:20. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed..... Chair Date