

**HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 9th April 2025 7:15pm @ The Centre, Halton**

Chair: Cllr Slinger
Present: Cllr Coates, Cllr Sewell, Cllr Rigby
Clerk: Luke Mills

25/04/01 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given
Cllr Turner, Cllr Buntin and Cllr Lamb provided apologies.

25/04/02 To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2025
It was resolved: that the minutes be accepted as a true record and to be signed by the Chair.

25/04/03 To receive declarations of interests and dispensations
• Nothing to report.

25/04/04 Suspension of Standing Orders
• Nothing to report

25/04/05 To consider and approve reports:

a) District Councillor Report

- The budget for the year has been agreed.
- Following a Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) in April 2024, the council was told how it could make improvements to the way it serves the public. A recent review of a plan for delivering these changes found that 85% of recommendations are on track and progressing well
- There are continued discussions around new unitary councils, a Lancashire mayor, etc. The city council doesn't have a preferred option but there may be a possible option of Preston joining with Lancaster and Ribble Valley.

b) Open Spaces, allotments & burial groundGeneral

- The dog bin attached to the fence by the swing on Schoolhouse Lane has disappeared.
- Action: Clerk to report that Schoolhouse Lane bin need emptying
- Action: Clerk to ask City Council to empty the new Castle Hill and existing Meadowfield bins.

Current Job List

- Installing the St Wilfrid's benches
- Repairing the car park fencing
- Repainting lines in the car park.
- Repainting the skate park shelter

Staffing

- Revised hours agreed with two members of staff.

Open Spaces

- Action: Cllr Slinger & Clerk to discuss s106 grant with Halton Juniors.

Burial Ground

- Action: Clerk to further investigate misaligned headstone.

Financial Statement - 31st March 2025				Balance b/f 1st April 2024		33,581.16
Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	
8,320	Salary - Clerk	8,814	49,132	Precept	49,132	
18,252	Salary - Groundstaff	15,483	990	Allotments	1,100	
6,654	Grass Cutting	6,824	20	Rent	135	
200	Hedge Cutting	220	1,600	Burial Ground	1,285	
540	Pest Control	600	600	Bank Interest	1,453	
550	Play equipment inspections	520	-	Damage	-	
4,914	Repairs & Renewals	5,013	-	General	-	
380	Weed & Feed Pitch	400	-	Grants	6,114	
2,000	Tree works & surveying	1,050	-	Donations	-	
145	Alarm Maintenance	257		VAT	6,656	
590	Audit	590				
72	Bank Charges	92				
300	Clerks Expenses	338	52,342	TOTAL	65,875	
449	HCA	264				
2,022	Insurance	2,183				
751	Subs	827				
400	Training	-		CASHBOOK BALANCES	ACTUAL	
100	Water	105		Gross Receipts	99,456.02	
184	Website	190		Gross Payments	81,577.43	
20	S137	410		CASHBOOK BALANCE	17,878.59	
46,843	BUDGET TOTAL	44,179.80		BANK BALANCES (31/3/25)		
				Current a/c	1,020.46	
-	Assets	16,981		Deposit a/c	16,858.13	
-	Misc services	3,224		BANK BALANCE	17,878.59	
-	Recreational Area Improvements (S106)	2,982		FUND BALANCES		
-	Refunds	2,520		General A/C	969.47	
-	Castle Hill - REPF Grant (£18,491)	6,153		General Reserves A/C	6,700.02	
	VAT claimed	2,982		MUGA Sink Fund A/C	2,000.00	
	VAT to be claimed	2,556		S106 Recreation Area	8,209.10	
46,843	GROSS TOTAL	81,577		FUND TOTAL	17,878.59	

FY 25-26

- The Precept of £51,400 has been received from City Council.
- **It was resolved:** to make the following fund transfers as per the precept budget:
 - £4,000 from the General fund to the Play Area fund
 - £500 from the General fund to the Muga Sink fund
 - £500 from the General fund to the General Reserves fund

Financial Statement - 6th April 2025				Balance b/f 1st April 2025 17,878.59			
Budget	PAYMENTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining	Budget	RECEIPTS	Actual	Forecast Remaining
8,512	Salary - Clerk	682	7,830	51,400	Precept	51,400	0
18,490	Salary - Grounds	1,520	16,969	990	Allotments	-	990
1,107	HMRC	332	775	20	Rent	-	20
7,318	Grass Cutting	371	6,946	1,500	Burial Ground	-	1,500
200	Hedge Cutting	-	200	600	Bank Interest	-	600
540	Pest Control	616	76	-	Damage	-	-
550	Play equipment inspections	-	550	-	General	-	-
4,831	Repairs & Renewals	369	4,462	-	Grants	-	11,225
400	Weed & Feed Pitch	-	400	-	Donations	-	-
2,000	Tree works & surveying	-	2,000		VAT	-	2,982
145	Alarm Maintenance	-	145				
625	Audit	-	625				
72	Bank Charges	9	63	54,510	TOTAL	51,400	17,317
409	Clerks Expenses	-	409				
449	HCA	-	449				
2,233	Insurance	-	2,233		CASHBOOK BALANCES	ACTUAL	Forecast
20	S137	-	20		Gross Receipts	69,278.59	86,595
786	Subscriptions	-	786		Gross Payments	4,173.77	49,850
500	Training	-	500		CASHBOOK BALANCE	65,104.82	36,745
70	Water	9	61		BANK BALANCES (31/3/25)		
255	Website	-	255		Current a/c	1,020.46	
49,510	BUDGET TOTAL	3,909.28	45,676.51		Deposit a/c	16,858.13	
					BANK BALANCE	17,878.59	
-	Assets	-	-		FUND BALANCES		Forecast
-	Misc services	-	-		General	43,195.70	
8,209	Recreational Area Improvements (S106)	-	-		General Reserves	7,200.02	17,675.93
-	Refunds	-	-		Play Area	4,000.00	-
	VAT claimed	-	-		MUGA Sink Fund	2,500.00	6,500.00
	VAT to be claimed	264			S106 Recreation Area	8,209.10	-
57,719	GROSS TOTAL	4,174	49,850		FUND TOTAL	65,104.82	

- **It was resolved:** to accept the Finance Report to 9th April 2025

e) Planning

New Applications (Awaiting Decision)

- [25/00290/PLDC](#) | Proposed lawful development certificate for the erection of a single storey rear extension and construction of a dormer extension to the rear roof slope
 - 23 Lythe Fell Avenue Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6NH
- [25/00062/LB](#) | Listed building application for the rebuilding of columns and replacement boundary walls/entrance gate, Open for comment icon
 - Ghyll House Aughton Brow Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU
- [25/00061/FUL](#) | Rebuilding of columns, replacement boundary walls/entrance gate, new boundary fencing and landscaping works to include construction of a pergola and patio area
 - Ghyll House Aughton Brow Aughton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 8LU

Permitted/Not required

- [25/00035/FUL](#) | Construction of dormer extensions to front and rear elevations and erection of single story rear extension
 - 7 Oak Drive Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6QJ

Withdrawn

- [24/01295/FUL](#) | Demolition of existing dwelling (C3) and erection of a replacement self-build dwelling (C3) with associated landscaping
 - Curlew Cottage Park Lane Halton Lancaster Lancashire LA2 6PD
- **Action:** Clerk to check the planning permission on the site off Foundry Lane.

25/04/06 To consider communications from the publicEmail from resident

They would like to carry-out some voluntary work with others to control the spread of Himalayan Balsam in the area, which is an invasive plant. ***Would the council be able to support us with promoting the removal of the plant and publicising any volunteer days?***

Action: Clerk to see if the resident has contacted Lune Rivers Trust.

It was resolved: that the Council is happy to provide publicity to support this work.

25/04/07 To consider updates on the:**a) Castle Hill Project**

- The official opening will happen on the 12th April, funded by a grant from the Halton Lune Trust.
- An official sign providing details of the site will be ordered if sufficient funds remain.
- The final REPF grant report has been submitted.

b) St Wilfrid's play area refurbishment

- No progress on identifying further suitable grants.

c) Mill Lane play area

- No progress, but there is the possibility of Lancaster City Council taking ownership of the site, which may be dependent on the adoption of Mill Lane.
- The County Councillor has been asked if they can get an update on the adoption progress.

d) Lancashire Orchard Grant

- The scheme has been extended by 12 months, so work will be deferred until later in the year.

e) High Road collapsed wall

- Three builders have been asked to quote and two of them suggested the need for a surveyor report.
- The County Councillor has been asked if they can find someone in Highways who could give advice on dealing with the wall.
- **Action:** Cllr Slinger to see if a volunteer team could help rebuild it.

25/04/08 To purchasing a bus stop bench

- **It was resolved:** to purchase a plastic recycled bench from Kedel with a budget of £230 + vat.

25/04/09 To consider preparations for the Annual Parish Meeting

- **Action:** Clerk to ask Neighbourhood Watch, Halton Lune Hydro, Halton Lune Trust, Burton in Rigby Trust, HCA, Womens Institute, Halton Gardening Group, Lune Valley CLT and Halton Heritage Group if they wish to provide a report for the Annual Parish Meeting.

25/04/10 To consider and approve accounts for payment for expenses incurred since the last meeting

Payments in March (already made)

Ref	Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
148	P Smith	Salary - Mar	632.02	632.02	-
149	L Mills	Salary - Mar	657.10	657.10	-
150	Chris Coates	Castle Hill - Reimbursements for sign materials	375.60	313.00	62.60
151	Chris Coates	Castle Hill - Construction and installation of signs	513.00	513.00	-

Payments for April

Ref	Payee	Description	TOTAL	NET	VAT
1	Water Plus	Burial Ground water supply	9.16	9.16	-
2	Envirocare	Grass cutting - Mar	445.40	371.17	74.23
3	HMRC	National insurance due for 24-25 Period 12	211.43	211.43	
4	HMRC	NI / Tax deductions for 25-26 Period 01	120.81	120.81	
5	Lancaster City Council	Annual pest control	738.72	615.60	123.12
6	G Bretherton	Salary - March	363.95	363.95	
7	L Mills	Reimbursements	436.14	369.00	67.14
8	P Bucklow	Salary - April	488.30	488.30	
9	P Smith	Salary - April	668.20	668.20	
10	L Mills	Salary - April	682.21	682.21	
11	Unity Trust	Fees - March	9.45	9.45	
		TOTALS	£ 4,173.77	£ 3,909.28	£ 264.49

It was resolved: to approve the above expenditure.

25/04/11 To confirm the date of next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be arranged for 14th May 2024 starting after the Annual Parish Meeting which commences at 7:15pm at The Centre.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:00. Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed..... Chair Datej