

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2015, IN AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm.

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Ian Grant

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

10518 APOLOGIES – none.

10519 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10520 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9 NOVEMBER 2015, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10521 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

a) Speeding Vehicles – notification from a County Councillor that mobile speed cameras and SpID's would be deployed in Long Lane & Prescott Road from early December. NOTED

10522 MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2 DECEMBER 2015, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record. It was RESOLVED to approve all the RECOMMENDATIONS.

10523 DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2016 and to consider a date and venue for the Annual Parish Assembly – the list of dates, which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting, was APPROVED and it was AGREED to hold the Annual Parish Assembly on 9 May at approximately 8.15pm, following the Annual Meeting of the Council commencing 7.15pm. The Estimates Meeting would be held on 20 January 2016 (as previously approved) and it was AGREED to hold the 2015/16 Accounts Approval Meeting on 22 June 2016.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – as notified on the Agenda, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at this stage and welcomed the Lancashire Constabulary Watch Liaison Officer, Lynn Wareing and PCSO Jillian Reid to the meeting. He first invited questions/comments from Aughton residents.

A resident from The Serpentine asked the Chairman how secure Aughton Police Station was? The Chairman reinforced what was said at the last meeting that 'Aughton Parish Council was always committed to retaining a Police Station in Aughton and had made provision for it in its 'earmarked reserves'. However, the Parish could not retain a Police Station without the police officers to serve it or if Merseyrail withdrew the premises.' In respect of the Lease, this matter was between Lancashire Constabulary and Merseyrail.

A resident from Long Lane (also the Chairman of ARG 2012) referred to the application by United Utilities for a Certificate of Lawfulness on land off Springfield Road for the proposed installation of ground mounted solar panels – some of the work was under construction. He asked if the Parish Council had been consulted?

The Chairman advised that it had not been brought to the Parish Council or Borough Councillors for consultation. The matter was officer-led in accordance with current legislation (fully delegated to officers). The only body required to be consulted with was MEAS.

A resident from Brookfield Lane said the application was for temporary permission of 25 years and he considered it would be 'change of use'.

The Chairman said the Clerk would make enquiries about the application, the legislation and the possibility of alerting Parish Councils of such applications even though there was no provision for consultation with the minor authority.

Another resident from Long Lane thanked the Parish Council for its support in respect of 'speeding vehicles' in Long Lane. He queried the location of the 'speed testing' by Community Road Watch but PCSO Jill Reid, who regularly accompanied the group, gave an assurance in respect of 'risk assessment' of locations and sites chosen.

The Chairman then invited the representative from Lancashire Constabulary, Lynn Wareing, to give her presentation on Neighbourhood Watch. The Watch Liaison Officer gave details of what the setting up of a NHW scheme entailed, the number of properties involved (between 5 & 20), and the role of a Co-ordinator for each scheme. She introduced the Chairman of Chorley & District Neighbourhood Watch Association who brought his experience to the meeting and full details on how a Co-ordinator would set up a Neighbourhood Watch, manage a Scheme and listed the benefits which included: bringing people closer together, building a stronger community spirit, helping to reduce crime. Leaflets on Neighbourhood Watch were circulated at the meeting and would be available at Aughton Police Station.

Following a question and answer session, the Chairman thanked the officers for their attendance and, in order to make progress, requested 'Neighbourhood Watch' be included as an Agenda Item at the January Meeting.

There being no further questions/comments, the Chairman resumed the meeting.

10524 LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY: POLICING OF AUGHTON – Police & Communities Together (PACT) – a brief report was given on the PACT Panel Meeting held 8 December 2015. There had been 6 reported crimes since the last meeting including 1 criminal damage to moving vehicles (Long Lane); 1 other theft or unauthorised taking (Springfield Road); 1 theft from a person (Long Lane); 1 criminal damage to a vehicle (Scarth Hill Lane); 1 wounding/domestic type (New Lane); 1 theft or unauthorised taking (St Michael Road). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 20 reported crimes with 6 of those in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with other than reported crimes, there had been 230 incidents with 90 of those in Aughton. Discussion took place over the number of volunteers manning the police station and the possibility of 3 new recruits awaiting training, also the reintroduction of Neighbourhood Watch. An update was given on the Community Roadwatch Operations including Long Lane, Aughton (details reported).

10525 PLANNING

(Councillors Mrs Atherley & Roberts declared NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS in 2015/1197/FUL, as they were known to the applicant)

a) Weekly List Items (items marked* were considered under the Parish Council Prior Notification Procedure to meet the deadline for response)

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

*2015/1125 1159 1065 1131 1168 1193 1218 1223

In the case of:

2015/1127/FUL 161 Prescot Road – members noted the mature trees on site and wished to ensure full 'tree protection' in order to maintain the aesthetic appearance of the location.

2015/1138/FUL 3 Parris Lane – members wished to ensure all highway issues were adequately addressed for this particular location and taking into account the possibility of 'over-development' of the site.

2015/1173/FUL Birches Brow, Formby Lane – members wished to ensure this second application (first application withdrawn) was not an application for an HMO (WLLP RS3) and that any such change of use would require additional planning permission. Concern was expressed, however, about ‘noise impact’ at this rural location from 9 serviced guest rooms. The proposed new entrance appeared to be located on Green Belt land (change of use – impact on Green Belt) and the proposed location of the drive and car parking area could affect the residential amenity of the neighbouring property. Additional traffic accessing and egressing the site, the entrance of which was still very close to the bad bend in the road, could detrimentally affect the flow of traffic on Formby Lane.

2015/1197/FUL Springfield Court Nursing Home – members expressed concern about the increased footprint of the building to enable the additional care facilities to be provided. This Nursing Home had an excellent reputation for providing essential services but the car parking provision appeared quite inadequate at times. An additional unit with additional staff could exacerbate the situation with regards to on-road parking.

b) Appeals/Planning Control

Planning Appeal 2014/0601/FUL Gerard Hall Solar Farm – Notice of Decision still outstanding.

Notice of Appeal Lodged – 2015/0252/FUL 136 Prescott Road (erection of replacement dwelling) – written representations.

Notice of Appeal Lodged – 2015/0777/FUL 201 Long Lane (first floor extension to the side and single storey extension to the front of detached property (Householder Appeals Service – written representations).

c) Planning Committee Meeting held 10 December 2015 – the RECOMMENDATIONS were READ and the RESULTS noted.

2015/0709/FUL Robbins Bridge Farm, Springfield Road (Approved with Conditions)

2015/1086/FUL Site of former 12 Springfield Road (Refused)

d) Planning Policy: West Lancs Provision for Traveller Sites DPD – Options & Preferred Options. Chosen sites – identified and NOTED without comment.

e) Review & Update of West Lancashire’s List of Locally Important Buildings – the list for Aughton was READ and the inclusion of Coronation Memorial, Holt Green (submitted for consideration by APC) was NOTED.

10526 BOUNDARY COMMISSION: ELECTORAL REVIEW OF LANCASHIRE – Draft Recommendations (Map displayed at meeting) – after discussion, members considered that ‘in the best interests of Aughton Parish, the current boundaries seemed to work well so there was no need for change. The current pattern of divisions reflect the interests and identities of local communities well and there was no need for change. The electoral arrangements currently provide for effective and convenient local government so there was no need for change.’

10527 PUBLIC OPEN SPACES: Land Enquiries – to review policy. After discussion, it was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that Aughton Parish Council would maintain its current policy in respect of Public Open Space Land enquiries. For the benefit of the whole community, it would not approve the sale of public open space for the financial gain of local residents wishing to extend their garden curtilages. APPROVED

10528 LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – a brief report was given on the 71st Annual General Meeting held on 7 November 2015, at County Hall, Preston and attended by 2 APC representatives. Copies of the report were circulated to members.

10529 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income	-
Expenditure	(includes VAT)
Imprest Renewal	107.73
BT Payment Services - One Bill – telephone/business broadband	175.75
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – Winter grounds maintenance	1,671.00
*Dr D Gallagher – reimbursement re Website unlimited hosting/domain renewal (2 years)	252.00
S Moorcroft (part-time Park-keeper) – expenses (3 months)	89.73
Aughton Village Hall – hiring fee (3 months) plus additional use	97.00
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1,180.80
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	173.41

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid. *The Chairman expressed his thanks and appreciation for the input and updating of the website.

10530 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 11 January 2016.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm and offered everyone his best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.