

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2020, AT AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Mrs Margaret Boulton (Vice Chairman)

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

11229 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Jones (Chairman of the Council) - personal commitment

Councillor Mrs Morrison - personal commitment

APOLOGIES were READ & APPROVED.

11230 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their Interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

11231 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 JANUARY 2020, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

11232 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

a) Community Engagement – details were confirmed for the meeting with the Youth Committee Members from Christ Church.

b) Speed Awareness Signs – confirmation that all 4 signs had been installed and the project completed.

11233 VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR (Item DEFERRED until the March 2020 Meeting).

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – the Chairman adjourned the meeting at this stage and invited comments/questions from members of the public present.

A local resident spoke on a recent successful community litter-pick in the Parish, interest in a community Facebook Page, and gave her views on planning application 2019/1273/FUL 46 Long Lane and issues with a boundary fence on Moss Delph Lane. Other residents gave their views on planning application 2019/1321/FUL 75 Long Lane, the Permission in Principle application for land off Parrs Lane and raised comments on the timetable for Agenda Item 6c.

The Chairman welcomed Borough Council David Westley to the meeting and invited him to give a brief update on the new Local Plan. Councillor Westley explained as much as he could on the matter and confirmed that there was still a Local Plan Cabinet Working Group in existence, cross-party members: 2 Conservative, 6 Labour & 1 Our West Lancashire, to prepare proposals for 2023-2038. He said the Government had changed the methodology for calculating the Local Housing Need figure. The basic housing requirement was now less than anticipated.

A question and answer session then took place with Councillor Westley on ‘safeguarded land & existing sites’, the ‘call for sites’ exercise, Permission in Principle applications, brownfield sites (none left in West Lancashire). Finally, Councillor Westley said he was unable at this stage to give any assurance there would be ‘safeguarded land sites’ in the new Local Plan. It was likely that the first set of Preferred Options would be out in October 2020.

Councillor David Westley left the meeting at this stage.

(The Updated Housing Land Supply Position, using the current formula, shows the requirement for 2019-2024 = 1,038 dwellings. The anticipated deliverable housing land supply for 2019-2024 in West Lancashire = 2,242 dwellings. Therefore, against a LHN requirement of 1,038 dwellings, the number of years of deliverable housing land supply for West Lancashire Borough on 1.4.19 was 10.79 years).

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

(Councillor Ian Mercer, as the owner of the land/properties, DECLARED A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST in planning applications *2019/1306/FUL & 1311/FUL Land to the rear of 69-75 Town Green Lane, and left the meeting during discussion)

11234 PLANNING

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2019/1299/FUL 1309 1321 1323

In the case of:

2019/1273/FUL 46 Long Lane – Trafalgar House, known locally as ‘the back to front local landmark’ because of its front entrance overlooking the garden at the rear of the site, was a 1800’s detached Villa with some degree of architectural and historical interest. Members considered it had genuine local merit for some form of ‘listing’ given its original internal layout, its rather grand front appearance, uninterrupted views of the River Mersey and its Victorian Suburban Villa status. The application to erect a new dwelling on the site, given the design, scale and mass proposed, would be ‘out of keeping’ with the ‘street scene’ in this particular location sited in close proximity to its neighbouring Villas. It was not clear from the plans what the boundary treatment proposals were, eg retaining the unusual decorative wall (decorations featured on the front boundary wall) off Long Lane. Further clarification should be sought.

2019/1320/FUL Blakewater House - members noted the proposal, including the assessment of the trees on site which were considered ‘low grade’, without comment

2019/0980/FUL 67 Gaw Hill Lane – members noted the additional information received but iterated previous objections

(Councillor Mercer left the meeting at this stage)

*2019/1306/FUL & *2019/1311/FUL – Land to the rear of 69-75 Town Green Lane members noted the amendments/variations without comments

(Councillor Mercer returned to the meeting)

2019/0087/FUL Mews Cottage, 31 Brookfield Lane – members noted the alterations to elevations and internal layout

b) Appeals - none

Planning Control – members noted:

Planning Applications which received refusal decisions – 2019/1128/OUT Narrow Lane Barn, Narrow Lane, Clieves Hills – Refused.

Permission in Principle Procedure (previously circulated to members). PIP application 2020/0098/PIP Land North-east of Round Thorn Barn, Parrs Lane – consultees = Strategic Planning, Strategic Planning & Implementation Manager, Heritage & Conservation Manager. NOTED

2019/1134/SCO Proposed residential development of up to 500 dwellings – Decision: Scoping Opinion issued.

Information from Lancashire County Council via County Councillor O’Toole in respect of ‘Flooding Advice’ – view www.lancashire.gov.uk & an update on the Fracking Application re Gt Altcar also the proposed improvement to the surface of Public Footpath 16 and the temporary closure Notice. NOTED

c) Cabinet Meeting held 14 January 2020 – a brief report was given on Agenda Item 7k ‘A Local Development Scheme for a new Local Plan’. NOTED

(All members present had declared their DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS in the next item, having all been granted DISPENSATIONS in respect of any matters relating to ‘discussing/debating the Budget and Setting the Parish Council Precept’)

11235 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE & SETTING THE PRECEPT FOR 2020/2021 – Minutes of Estimates Meeting (full Council) held Tuesday, 21 January 2020, copies circulated prior to meeting, were:

a) Received, Approved and Signed as a correct record and it was RESOLVED to approve all the recommendations.

b) The Parish Precept 2020/21 was confirmed as follows:

Precept to be raised for Council Tax £59,832 with a Tax Base of 3563.57 giving a Band D equivalent tax level of £16.79 (£16.29).

11236 CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN/PARISH CLERK'S FEBRUARY MEETING WITH THE LOCAL POLICE – a brief report was given on the meeting held 7 February 2020. There had been 26 reported crimes since the last meeting including 3 malicious communication/harassment, 9 public order/neighbour dispute/domestic/assault, 5 vehicle crime (Granville Park (3), Holt Coppice, Delph Common Road), 2 burglary residential (Bracknell Way, Bold Lane), 3 theft (Granville Park, Butchers Lane, Noel Gate), 1 missing from home (found safe), 2 theft/shop-lifting (Co-op Convenience Store), 1 criminal damage excluding a vehicle (Fernhurst Gate – youths detained). Other than reported crimes, there had been 84 incidents. There were also 12 cases of 'suspicious circumstances' and local residents were asked to be observant, ensuring cars, doors, windows, garages were locked and sheds were secured. Anything suspicious to be reported via '101' service.

11237 CHARITY NAME 'RACHEL TAYLOR FOR A PLAYING FIELD' – in compliance with current regulations, it was confirmed and NOTED that an Annual Update Form had been submitted to the Charity Commission. There were no funds or bank accounts for reporting, just information for record purposes.

11238 LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS:

- a) West Lancashire Area Committee – a brief report was given on the meeting held 16 January 2020 which included a presentation from Mr Clive Grunshaw, the Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner, confirmation of the Parish Council Representatives on the Standards Committee, ie Councillor Justin Stopford (Parbold) & Councillor Linda Webster (Bickerstaffe), a County Executive Report and information about a Hydrology Report (Rufford Parish Council).
- b) LALC Constitution Update 2019 – previously circulated to members – received and NOTED.

11239 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

- a) Budget Consultation 2020/2021 – previously circulated to members – received and NOTED without comment.
- b) Temporary Road Closure Dates Amendment: Clieves Hills (17.2.20) amended to 9.3.2020-13.3.2020 & Small Lane (17.2.2020) amended to 16.3.2020-20.3.2020 - NOTED

11240 WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL:

- a) Clerks' Liaison Meeting – a brief report was given on the meeting held 24 January 2020 which included an update on the LCC Town & Parish Charter, One West Lancashire Partnership, Digital Inclusion/Buzz It Campaign, Parish Precepts & Concurrent Grants, Parish Council Elections, the New Model/Operating Structure of the Borough Council, Appointment of Parish Council Representatives on the Standards Committee, Planning Committee Extension of Public Speaking for Parish Council Representatives (consideration was given by the Planning Committee to extend the time limit for Parish Council representatives to speak from 3 minutes to 5 minutes – the Committee RESOLVED 'that the time limit for Parish Council representatives to speak at Planning Committee remain at 3 minutes'. NOTED
- b) Tree Warden Scheme (a national initiative led by the Tree Council to help local people play an active role in conserving and improving trees in the area) – the Tree Wardens were volunteers linked to Parish Councils or other community organisations. After discussion, it was AGREED to readvertise for a replacement Tree Warden(s) in Aughton. (the Clerk was awaiting an updated pamphlet from WLBC for displaying on the noticeboards, website and for distribution to local groups)

11241 AUGHTON SPORTS ASSOCIATION – the suggested date of the next meeting, as previously arranged/scheduled by ASA members at the last meeting in October 2019, was Tuesday, 24 March or Wednesday, 25 March 2020. An alternative date of 18 March was requested. The date would, therefore, be confirmed at the next meeting.

11242 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income

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Expenditure

(includes VAT)

Imprest Renewal	27.01
S Moorcroft – expenses (1month)	31.50
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – Winter Maintenance including additional work to improve the aesthetic appearance of the open spaces	1,900.00
Yates Playgrounds Ltd – playarea replacement parts	224.40
Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd – intensive bowling green maintenance	70.80
British Telecommunications plc – One Bill Telephone/Business Broadband	7DayInv
Shaw Savage Business Services Ltd – printer ink	106.20
Global Maintainance Ltd – power sweeping of tennis courts	360.00
P & R Electrical Contractors Ltd – attention to car park lights	259.20
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1,315.05
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	154.46

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

11243 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 9 March 2020.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.