

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9 FEBRUARY 2015, IN AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE,  
COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor David Gallagher

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

10383 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Mrs Brown	-	personal commitment
Councillor D Addison	-	business commitment
Councillor J Addison	-	indisposed
Councillor Jones	-	business commitment
Councillor Mrs Naylor	-	personal commitment

All APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

10384 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10385 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12 JANUARY 2015, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10386 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only) – none.

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

A resident from the Serpentine gave his views on setting of the Parish Precept, the Scoping Opinion for land in Parrs Lane and the Screening Opinion on land off Formby Lane.

The Chairman of ARG 2012 also spoke on the Scoping Opinion for the WLLP Plan B Site in Parrs Lane and the fact that local residents and the Parish Council were not listed consultees (a copy of ARG's representation on this matter had been circulated to members prior to the meeting – for information).

The Chairman thanked the residents for their views but confirmed that the Parish Council was not a Statutory Consultee on Scoping & Screening Reports.

Another local resident, an architect, raised the issue of accommodation for the elderly, the Parish Plan, and suitable sites in the Parish.

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council was a consultee on planning applications and some other planning matters but there was no provision for suggesting/naming sites for developments in the Parish (refer to West Lancashire Local Plan 2012-2027 Development Plan Document).

A resident from Brookfield Lane raised his objections to planning application 2014/1299 – pollution, nuisance, Chimney erected without approval.

The Chairman noted the objections.

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

10387 STANDING ORDERS – confirmation that Standing Orders had received an annual review and would be displayed on the APC website in due course.

(All members present 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)

10388 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE & SETTING THE PRECEPT FOR 2015/2016 – copies of Minutes of Estimates Meeting held 28 January 2015, circulated prior to meeting, were RECEIVED, APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record. It was RESOLVED to approve all the RECOMMENDATIONS. After discussion, it was RESOLVED to approve the Parish Precept amount as follows:  
£59,744 (Grant Allocation 3,295 Precept (after Grant) £56,449 Estimated Tax Base 3466.21  
Band D £16.29 (NB: 2014/2015 = Band D £16.36).

It was NOTED that the next phase of the drainage improvement works on Winifred Lane and Redsands Park would be undertaken during March, weather permitting. APPROVED

10388 LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY: POLICING OF AUGHTON – Police & Communities Together (PACT) – a brief report was given on the PACT Panel Meeting held 3 February 2015. There had been 9 crimes reported since the last meeting including 1 damage to an illegally sited sign (Winifred Lane); 3 burglaries in dwellings (Delph Close, Town Green Lane, Noel Gate); 3 burglaries other than in dwellings (Shed in Standhouse Lane, Sheds in Clieves Hills); 1 arson not endangering life (Horsebox in Gaw Hill Lane); 1 theft from an insecure vehicle (Fir Tree Lane). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 26 reported crimes with 9 of those in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with, other than reported crimes, there had been 177 incidents with 66 of those in Aughton, mainly dealt with by the PCSO’s. Other information included a Community Speed Watch Team visit to parts of Prescot Road and Long Lane and ‘Community Awareness’ in relation to the 20mph speed limit. Local residents were directed to the Lancashire Police website for all information on crime statistics, ways of contacting the police etc (raised during Public Question Time at the January meeting).

10389 CHARITY NAME ‘RACHEL TAYLOR FOR A PLAYING FIELD’ – in compliance with current regulations, it was confirmed that an Annual Update Form had been submitted to the Charity Commission. NOTED

10390 AUGHTON’S PARISH PLAN 2010 REVIEW – the Chairman thanked Aughton Community Together (ACT) and the Parish Council representatives who were involved in the review (copies circulated to members prior to the meeting). Members approved the draft update which would be displayed on the ACT and APC websites in due course.

#### 10391 PLANNING

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

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

\*2014/1387/FUL \*1389 1362 1404/ARM Withdrawn

In the case of:

2014/1299/FUL Lyncroft, Butchers Lane – members had no comments/objections in respect of the cantilever canopy extension to the existing agricultural building. Members did, however, strongly object to the retrospective application for the erection of a Flue, serving a biomass boiler, sited in close proximity to dwellings in Butchers Lane and Brookfield Lane. Smoke from the Flue was causing nuisance and detrimentally affected the residential amenity of neighbouring properties. It was NOTED that a Statutory Nuisance Abatement Notice had been served.

2014/1370/FUL 76 Swanpool Lane – members wished to ensure the alterations/extensions in totality would not affect the residential amenity of the neighbouring property.

2015/0044/FUL Town Green Inn, 17 Town Green Lane – members had no objections to the proposed improvements to the ‘Town Green building’ provided the alterations would not reduce the number of on-site parking spaces.

2015/0036/FUL Holt Green Cottage, 191 Bold Lane – members wished to ensure a new vehicular access to the front of this Victorian cottage would not affect highway safety at this particular location on Bold Lane or impact on the ‘street scene’ of Holt Green Conservation Area.

2015/0038/FUL 9 Turnpike Road – members noted a greater increase in height from previous applications which, together with the siting and layout of the 5 bedroom dwelling, would detrimentally affect the residential amenity of surrounding properties.

b) Appeals/Planning Control – none.

c) Supplementary Planning Documents on Affordable & Specialist Housing and on Green Belt issues (previously circulated to members) – members had no comments to raise on the content of the SPDs.

d) Scoping Opinion on WLLP Plan B Site in Aughton (land to the West of Parrs Lane) – after discussion, it was AGREED to comment as follows:

- The Scoping Application was very premature given the following facts:
  - i) West Lancashire Local Plan Policy GN2(a) applies.
  - ii) West Lancashire Local Plan Policy RS6 applies (setting out the trigger mechanism’)
  - iii) The land was safeguarded for development until Plan B was required or beyond 2027.
  - iv) Housing Delivery Targets were being achieved.
  - v) An application for housing on this land would, therefore, be contrary to Local Plan Policy at this time.

Whilst it was appreciated that Parish Councils were not Statutory Consultees on Scoping Applications, with the detailed information being of a technical nature, members considered notice of all Scoping and Screening applications should be given to Parish Councils to allow them the opportunity to pass general comment.

- As a Scoping Application had been made on this Plan B Site and WLBC was intending to give an opinion, members requested that consideration be given to the significant issues raised in the APC letter dated 17 February 2012 at the Preferred Option Stage of the Local Plan (issues listed).

e) Screening Opinion on land to rear of Old Waggoners Cottage, Formby Lane – for information. Notice received of a Planning Delegated Decision in respect of a Screening Opinion: Environmental Statement – Proposed Solar Farm Development. Decision – an Environmental Impact Statement was not required (reasons listed – refer 2014/1381/SCR).

f) Sefton Local Plan Publication (previously circulated to members) – it was NOTED that the document was available for comment until 27 March 2015. It was FURTHER NOTED that Site Reference A514 Land east of Northway (the A59) and north of Kenyons Lane, Lydiate gave a Site Assessment Conclusion that the land was currently in Green Belt, was poorly contained and would undermine the Green Belt function of adjacent land. It would also reduce the existing gap between Maghull and Aughton Village by 50% at its narrowest point. The site would contribute to meeting Sefton East Parishes high affordable housing need. However, the Green Belt impact was such that the site was not proposed for allocation in the Local Plan. (refer Minutes Sept.2013, Para.10152d)).

#### 10392 TREE SURVEYS AND REPORTS:

a) to approve payment for professional services rendered – it was RESOLVED to approve payment to WLBC in the sum of £865 (plus VAT) for carrying out the preliminary visual assessment of all trees which were the responsibility of the Parish Council - ‘Trees are dynamic, living, growing things that cannot be guaranteed safe’.

- b) to approve payment for recommended tree felling and priority tree management – ITEM DEFERRED pending full completion of the work.
- c) to note further tree management on parks and open spaces – a programme of works, to the standard set out within BS 3998, would be undertaken in order of priority (Funding Allocation from Tree Management Fund). NOTED

10393 CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND – it was RESOLVED to renew membership in the sum of £36. It was NOTED that the Planning Hotline for planning enquiries and assistance with planning applications was available/helpful to Parish Councils.

10394 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income	-
Expenditure	(includes VAT)
Imprest Renewal	58.96
S Moorcroft – expenses (3 months)	89.73
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – Winter Mnt/Tree Work	1742.00
Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd – intensive Bowling Green maintenance	96.12
CPRE – membership renewal	36.00
Aughton Village Hall – donation towards improvements to the acoustics in the Annexe (Parish Improvements Fund)	600.00
West Lancashire Borough Council – professional services for tree surveys & reports	1038.00
West Lancashire Borough Council – festive lighting installation	279.60
Crossroads Care North West – donation (approved at January Meeting from Paperbank Fund)	100.00
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1185.46
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	156.14

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

10395 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 9 March 2015.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.