

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2018, AT AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Graham Jones

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

10890 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Walne	-	indisposed
Councillor Woolgar	-	indisposed

APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

10891 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests at the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10892 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 JANUARY 2018, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10893 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

- a) Public Footpath 10 (Winifred Lane to Church Lane) – a brief report was given on the opening of ‘the Ron Gordon Way’ attended by the Vice-Chairman and the Clerk (refer Minutes Jan 2018, Para.10885).
- b) Lancashire County Council: Improvements to local bus routes – further details received since the last meeting on the route of the 315 service, ie 2 hourly service from Ormskirk, Aughton Park, Town Green, Haskayne, Halsall, Shirdley Hill, Southport Hospital and on to Southport Town Centre (refer Minutes Jan 201, Para.10886 b).
- c) Traffic & Road Safety – following problems around most schools in Lancashire, details were given of Lancashire County Council’s proposals for a program of enforcement.

10894 VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR:

- a) Response to Notice dated 12 January 2018 in respect of resignation of a Councillor for Delph Ward – received from WLBC confirmation that no request had been received to hold an election to fill the Vacancy. The Parish Council could now seek to fill the Vacancy by co-option.
- b) Other Vacancies (procedure previously notified) – it was Agreed to re-advertise the other Vacancies in Town Green & Delph Wards to be filled by co-option. It was considered important for the survival and continuation of the Parish Council that the vacancies were filled forthwith.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the Chairman rearranged the order of business to enable Agenda Item 6b) to be taken next.

10895 PLANNING:

- b) Town & Country Planning Act 1990: Public Inquiry in respect of Appeals by Redrow Homes Ltd & Wainhomes Developments Ltd held 30 January 2018. The Parish Clerk represented the Parish Council at the Public Inquiry which lasted 4 days including a Site Visit by ‘interested parties’. The Inquiry had come about by Order of the High Court as the Inspector’s decisions of 9 December 2016 and 19 August 2016 were remitted to the Secretary of State for re-determination (the original decisions being quashed due to legal errors in each decision). A brief report was given on the basis and content of the Inquiry, including Proofs of Evidence from both parties and a list of the main issues drawn up for the Inspector, ie
 - 1) whether the proposed development accords with Policies GN2 and RS6 of the Local Plan and specifically whether any of the triggers for Plan B had been activated.
 - 2) the effect of the proposed development on best and most versatile agricultural land in light of the requirements of Policy EN2 of the Local Plan.

- 3) whether the Council could demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing sites.
- 4) whether specific policies in the National Planning Policy Framework indicated that development should be restricted on the sites in question.
- 5) if the Council could not demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing sites and specific policies in the National Planning Policy Framework did not indicate that development should be restricted, would any adverse impacts of granting planning permission significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefit, when assessed against the policies in the Framework as a whole.
- 6) if there was a conflict with the development plan, were there material considerations which justified granting planning permission.

After full debate, and following a round-the-table discussion by both parties, taking into account Local Plan Allocations, SHLAA sites, Extant Planning Permissions, Pending Applications, Windfall, Less Demolitions and Loss to C4 use, a Table of the Position on Components of 5 Year Supply dated 1 February 2018 was presented, ie

- Deliverable Supply (Council) - 2,493
- Deliverable Supply (Appellant) - 1,810

The Planning Inspector would now make the decision to Allow or Dismiss the con-joined Appeal.

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

A resident from Long Lane (Chairman of ARG 2012), who represented his group at the Planning Inquiry, referred to the Parish Clerk's report and offered a vote of thanks to the Parish Council for its support and to the Local Planning Authority for its robust defence of the Local Plan.

Borough Councillor David Westley spoke briefly on the emerging Local Plan; poor standard of services and grass-cutting over the past 12 months and the proposed improvements during the next financial year when some services would be returned to WLBC from LCC.

County Councillor Paul Greenall spoke about the LCC budget and the continuing cuts in funding. A decision had to be made on 'who does what' and 'who pays for it'.

The Parish Council considered the Parish of Aughton had, over the past 12 months, seen a decline in services and appearance due to the fact that LCC and WLBC were not carrying out their responsibilities. Aughton residents were high council tax payers and deserved high standards. It was hoped that the standards regime would improve by both councils in this next financial year.

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

10895 PLANNING (Continued)

- a) Weekly List Items – there were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:
PNP 2017/1336/FUL 1288 0012

In the case of 2017/1119/FUL Aughton Grange EMI Care Home 26 Granville Park – members noted the Amendment and iterated its comments on the original application.

- c) Appeals/Planning Control – Notice of a householders appeal decision in respect of 26 Swanpool Lane – Appeal dismissed.
- d) Town & Country Planning (fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits (England) (Amendment) (Regulations 2017)) – notification was received in relation to Regulation 2 which provides for an increase of approximately 20% of all existing fees and Regulation 5(2) which allows for an application fee to be charged where the local planning authority has made an Article 4 Direction withdrawing permitted development rights or where permitted development rights had been withdrawn by a condition imposed on a planning permission. NOTED

e) West Lancashire Local Plan Review: Preferred Options Stage – a brief report was given on the meeting, covering the Spatial Area of Ormskirk & Aughton, held 22 January 2018.

10896 CHAIRMAN/PARISH CLERK'S FEBRUARY MEETING WITH THE LOCAL POLICE – a brief report was given on the meeting held 7 February 2018. There had been 11 reported crimes since the last meeting including 2 cases of harassment; 2 cases of malicious communication; 1 public fear, alarm and distress; 1 criminal damage to vehicles (Norris House Drive); 1 assault with injury; 1 burglary in a dwelling (off Springfield Road); 1 burglary, business & community (St Michael Road); 1 criminal damage (other) (Long Lane); 1 case of fraud (still under investigation). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 29 reported crimes with 11 of those being in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with other than reported crimes, there had been 248 incidents in Southern Parishes with 94 of those being in Aughton. Discussion took place on other issues including a) 'drug issues' – one man was in court for 'dealing' b) antisocial behaviour – around Cherry Tree Lane area – the CBM stated none reported direct to him and the local police were satisfied with the height reduction of the playarea boundary hedge on Cherry Tree Lane.

Members discussed some progress with Neighbourhood Watch and the workload for the CBM & PCSO covering Southern Parishes. It was AGREED to invite Chief Inspector Jill Halliwell to the Annual Parish Assembly in May to report on the 'Policing of Aughton'.

10897 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.

(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')

10898 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE & SETTING THE PRECEPT FOR 2018/2019 – copies of Minutes of Estimates Meeting held 31 January 2018, circulated prior to meeting, were:

- a) RECEIVED, APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record AND
b) After consideration, it was RESOLVED to approve all the RECOMMENDATIONS.

After discussion, it was RESOLVED to approve the Parish Precept amount as follows:

Precept to be raised for Council Tax £57,389 with a Tax Base of 3523.06 giving a Band D equivalent tax level of £16.29 keeping the same Band D equivalent as the previous year.

10899 AUGHTON SPORTS ASSOCIATION – the proposed date of the next meeting was provisionally agreed as Tuesday, 27 March 2018, commencing 7pm in the Sports Pavilion (to be confirmed).

10900 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income	-
Expenditure	(includes VAT)
Imprest Renewal	61.87
iD Business Ltd – replacement cctv camera (colour HD) monitoring car park entrance, upgrade to cabling and cable transmission units (budget allocation)	477.60
Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd – intensive bowling green maintenance	32.04
P & R Electrical Contractors Ltd – Sports Pavilion annual electrical check	212.40
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – Winter grounds maintenance including B.green & reduction in height of playarea boundary hedge on Cherry Tree Lane	2,014.80
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1,227.71
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	154.83

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

10901 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 12 March 2018.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.