

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 13 JULY 2015, IN AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Ian Grant

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

10459 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Gallagher - personal commitment

APOLOGIES read and APPROVED.

10460 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10461 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 JUNE 2015, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10462 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

a) Long Lane: speeding of vehicles – the Road & Transport Safety section at Lancashire County Council had confirmed that the suggested most appropriate times for police enforcement had been reported to the Speed Management Team and would be discussed with the police at the next meeting of the Speed Tasking Group (this group was a partnership of Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Constabulary and has been set up to prioritise requests for speed enforcement). Long Lane had already been identified as an area of concern therefore the police would consider comments from local residents alongside existing enforcement data recorded in order to determine the most appropriate actions for the location. NOTED

10463 VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR: to complete the final stage of the co-option process. The Chairman reported on the procedure to date, including the two meetings of the Interview Selection Panel, and said that all the applicants had different skills and interests but all appeared to be committed to contributing to the Parish Council's aims and objectives in serving the local community. It was pointed out that one of the applicants interviewed was not eligible to become a Parish Councillor until his eighteenth birthday later in the year so, with this in mind, the following recommendations were made:

i) to fill five of the vacancies and readvertise for the one remaining vacancy later in the year.

This recommendation was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

ii) to fill the five vacancies from those interviewed who were most able, at this moment in time, to bring ideas and add strength to the Parish Council.

This recommendation was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chairman then announced the names of the successful applicants:

Margaret Boulton & Mark Gibbons	-	Delph Ward
Peter Cullington & David Willman	-	North East Ward
Julia Woolgar	-	Town Green Ward

All new members then READ and SIGNED their DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE in the presence of the Clerk/Proper Officer of the Council. A Form of Written Undertaking to observe the Code as to the Conduct which was expected of Members of Aughton Parish Council was signed by each new member. Members were advised of the action to be taken in respect of the completion of the Disclosable Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests Form. The Clerk would grant a Dispensation to all new members in respect of the Budget and Setting the Parish Precept. Without the Dispensation, 'the number of persons prohibited from participating in this particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business'.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – the Chairman adjourned the meeting at this stage and invited comments/questions from members of the public present. He welcomed to the meeting Mr Clive Grunshaw, the Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner, Borough/County Councillors David O’Toole and David Westley and Inspector June Chessell & Sgt Lynette Kelly from Lancashire Constabulary,

Borough Councillor David O’Toole gave an update on the two planning applications for solar farms in Back Lane and Formby Lane advising that these had been withdrawn pending further information. On the recent presentation of a Retirement Village on land in Winifred Lane, no planning application had been submitted, the land was in Green Belt and there would need to be very special circumstances for any application to be considered.

A resident from The Serpentine raised questions with the Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner, on the future of Aughton Police Station and the Police Precept.

The Chairman of ARG 2012 thanked the Parish Council for its representation at the Planning Committee Meeting and its support in opposing the planning applications for Parris Lane Plan ‘B’ site, which were contrary to Local Plan Policy.

A resident from Long Lane raised an issue with the police representatives on the Public PACT meetings and another resident from The Serpentine complained about the speed of traffic on Prescott Road particularly near the approach to the local primary school.

Sgt Kelly advised that ‘speeding’ was always an issue right across the Borough. She spoke about the roles of Lancashire County Council, the Road Traffic Unit, Community Road Watch and the local police and that everything would be done to focus on ‘speeding’ and try and solve the problems on Long Lane and Prescott Road.

Mr Clive Grunshaw said it was his second visit to Aughton in recent months and he was always very pleased to attend. He outlined his role as the Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner, he spoke about the Police & Crime Plan and invited everyone to view his website which gave full details of what was being delivered in Lancashire, an insight into decisions being taken, performance of policing and the various operations being undertaken. He wanted residents across the county to help him ‘refresh/review’ the Crime Plan and he handed out surveys/questionnaires which would assist him with the task. On-line surveys and details of his roadshows were available on his website. He spoke on Finance and the Police Budget, making the best use of technology and resources, Citizens in Policing, the Police Cadet Scheme etc. He said there were no plans at present to close any Police Stations and that Aughton Police Station was not under threat but he could not give guarantees in perpetuity. Neither could he guarantee that crime would continue to fall in the year to come. On ‘speeding’, Mr Grunshaw suggested the Cabinet Member for Highways at Lancashire County Council may be able to assist the police with this matter. On the ‘101’ issue raised at his last visit to Aughton, he hoped that the problems had been sorted out and the system was now working well.

The Chairman thanked the Police & Crime Commissioner for visiting Aughton again and for his updating and to Inspector Chessell and Sgt Kelly for attending.

There being no further questions/comments on ‘Policing or Planning’, the Chairman resumed the meeting.

(Councillor Walne, as a close neighbour, declared a NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST in planning application 2015/0569/FUL)

10464 PLANNING

a) Weekly List Items

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2015/0569 0523 0527 0586 0560

In the case of:

2015/0570/FUL 9 Turnpike Road – members wished to ensure there would be no loss of residential amenity to neighbouring properties by way of overlooking or loss of privacy.

2015/0592/FUL 18 Narrow Lane – members considered the proposal was ‘over-development’ of the site.

The proposed alterations would detrimentally affect the residential amenity of the neighbouring properties.

2015/0666/FUL South Springs, St Michael Road – members raised concern about the additional traffic from the proposed development onto St Michael Road which could affect the character and appearance of St Michael Conservation Area.

2015/0639/COU 78 Redsands – members, having noted the Article 4 Directive applicable to Aughton and Local Plan Policy RS3b, considered that a HMO for 5 students would be totally inappropriate in this particular location and out of character with surrounding residential properties. This property was a 3 bedroom house, which was situated on a right angled bend in the road with a small front garden. Although the current proposal now offered 3 no. off road parking spaces, the LCC parking standard had not been fully met resulting in the inevitable problem of on-road parking to the detriment of other residential properties on this narrow road. The Crime Impact Statement from Lancashire Constabulary was noted and including comments in respect of the risk of noise, nuisance and anti-social behaviour impacting on the quality of life of nearby residents in this particular residential area. Aughton Parish Council would, therefore, object to this application in order to protect the residential amenity for residents living in Redsands.

b) Appeals/Planning Control

An update on the Appeal by HIVE Energy Limited in respect of the land off Butchers Lane, north and south west of Gerard Hall, Prescott Road. Notification - ‘Recovering’ Appeals: ‘Although under the Town and Country Planning (Determination of Appeals by Appointed Persons) (Prescribed Classes) Regulations 1997, the Appeal was to have been decided by an Inspector, the Secretary of State considers that he should determine it himself. Accordingly, in exercise of his powers under section 79 and Para.3 of Schedule 6 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the Secretary of State hereby directs that he shall determine this Appeal instead of an Inspector. This means that instead of writing a decision, the Inspector will prepare a report and recommendation, which will be forwarded to the Secretary of State. The reason for this direction is that the Appeal involves proposals for significant development in the Green Belt.’

c) Planning Committee Meeting held 25 June 2015 – the RECOMMENDATIONS were READ and the RESULTS NOTED.

2015/0274/FUL Land at the junction with Long Lane/Aughton Park Drive – erection of A1 retail unit and D1 medical centre with associated pharmacy, car parking and service area and public open space – application deferred to allow the applicant the opportunity to revise the design of the proposed buildings.

2015/0329/OUT Land to the North-West of Parrs Lane – outline planning application including details of access for residential development of up to 250 dwellings – REFUSED

2015/0335/HYB Land to the East of Prescott Road – full application for the erection of 50 dwellings and associated works. Outline application, including details of access for the development of up to 100 dwellings plus D1 uses – REFUSED

10465 CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY VILLAGE – members NOTED the holding of a public meeting at St Michael’s Church Hall on 3rd & 4th July. The land was in Green Belt, the proposal was contrary to Local Plan Policy and there had been no pre application with the Local Planning Authority to date.

10466 LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY: POLICING OF AUGHTON – Police & Communities Together (PACT) - a brief report was given on the PACT Panel Meeting held 8 July 2015. There had been 7 crimes reported since the last meeting including 1 damage to a vehicle (Long Lane); 1 robbery at the Royal Oak Public House; 1 criminal damage (property on Liverpool Road); 1 assault with injury (Winifred Lane); 2 domestic incidents; 1 burglary in a dwelling (Long Lane). At the Public PACT session, a resident from Long

Lane had complained about the high speed of traffic on Long Lane with another resident reporting several incidents of littering outside his property on Prescott Road. Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 30 reported crimes with 7 of those being in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with, other than reported crimes, there had been 230 incidents with 94 of those being in Aughton. Items reported at the PACT Panel Meeting included further problems at Winifred Lane Car Park, playareas and other open spaces with regard to ASB and drug-taking. An assurance had been given by the police that during the summer months, they would be targeting the areas of concern including Delph Quarry.

Members NOTED the report and reference was made to the inadequate car parking for rail users at Aughton Park Station, inconsiderate parking/double yellow lines, etc – the matter would be raised with the police at the next PACT Panel Meeting.

10467 ITEMS DEFERRED FROM LAST MEETING:

- a) Representation on other Bodies and Committees/Internal Audit/Cheque Signatories/Responsible Members: - the list had been circulated to members and the vacancies noted. It was RESOLVED to approve the elected representatives on other Bodies & Committees, the Responsible Members, the Internal Auditor and cheque signatories. (amended list to be circulated to members).
- b) Cheque Signatories (3 signatories, one of whom must be the Clerk) – it was AGREED to make the necessary arrangements with the Royal Bank of Scotland. It was RESOLVED that:
- The signing rules in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in Section 2 of the RBS Form, be replaced in accordance with section 4 and/or
 - The authorised signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in Section 2 of the RBS Form, be changed in accordance with Sections 5 & 6 and the current mandate will continue as amended.

All within the RBS timescale.

10468 PARISH FINANCE: Drainage Improvement Work: Redsands Park Playarea – to confirm the project had been completed by Pope's (Hightown) Ltd and it was RESOLVED to approve the payment of this Capital Partnership Scheme in the sum of £9,219.60 (plus VAT).

10469 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income	-
Expenditure	(includes VAT)
Imprest Renewal	55.07
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – grounds maintenance	4,211.00
Pope's (Hightown) Ltd – drainage improvement work scheme (completion)	11,063.52
S R Moorcroft (Contractor) – minor repairs	48.12
Lancashire County Council – loan repayment	833.74
S Moorcroft (part-time Park-keeper) – expenses (3 months)	90.21
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1,282.52
HMRevenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	173.41

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

10470 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 10 August 2015.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm.