

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2016, IN AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Ian Grant

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

10636 APOLOGIES – none.

10637 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10638 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 JUNE 2016, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10639 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

- a) Highway Verges: Grass Cutting – current and future responsibility was confirmed and noted. The cutting schedule to be confirmed.
- b) OPSTA: Loss of Rail Service from Southport to Manchester Piccadilly & Airport – an update was given and NOTED.

10640 VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR – to complete the final stage of the co-option process. The Chairman reported on the current situation. There had been two applicants, one of whom was currently unavailable for interview due to long term work commitments. The Interview Selection Panel had interviewed the remaining prospective candidate who appeared to be committed to contributing to the Parish Council's aims and objectives in serving the local community. The following recommendations were then made:

- i) that Mr Glenn Wohlers be invited and co-opted onto Aughton Parish Council to fill the vacancy in Christ Church Ward.
- ii) that the remaining vacancy be held in abeyance and revisited in 6 months time.

The recommendations were both APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The new member then READ and SIGNED the DECLARATION 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 the new member, Councillor Glenn Wohlers.

All members were reminded of the action to be taken in respect of Disclosable Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests.

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

The Chairman welcomed back Ms Lynn Wareing, the Lancashire Constabulary Watch Liaison Officer, to give an update on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme initiative in the Parish.

Ms Wareing reported the setting up of 4 new schemes since her last visit (list of all schemes to date to be forwarded to the Parish Clerk – for data protection reasons, the Co-ordinators would not be named). She spoke about her bid for property marking equipment for shared-use in all her county scheme areas and the possibility of the shortfall in funding which she would need to address at a future date. She also covered the role of the NWS Co-ordinator, the benefits of NW, possible funding streams, 'signage' and the need for close liaison with the Highway Authority. From a police point of view, Neighbourhood Watch reduced crime. Ms Wareing thanked the volunteers at Aughton Police Station for working with her in carrying out a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme audit. It was agreed that she would liaise with the Clerk over all progress and arrange a revisit in approximately 6 months time.

The Chairman thanked Ms Wareing for her attendance.

A question and answer session then took place on various issues raised by local residents including:

- The proposal to change the Cockbeck Tavern into a Co-op Convenience Store and concerns in respect of pedestrian and highway safety.

The Chairman said the application had been 'called-in' for consideration of all matters including road safety.

- The current situation on land adjacent Mount Carmel Gardens where a Co-op Convenience Store, a Dr's Surgery & Pharmacy were proposed but given the relocation of the Aughton Surgery would not be proceeding, the future of the site and the viability of two Co-op Convenience Stores in the Parish was questioned.

The Chairman said the Parish Council had received no official information on the development of the site but confirmed the planning permission was attached to the land and not to the 'occupiers'.

- Flooding problems at Yew Tree Farm and the repercussions for the Parrs Lane Plan B site if the Burscough development could not make progress.

The Chairman advised the development had gone beyond Outline Stage so there were statutory obligations in legislation.

- The increase in the number of conversions of bungalows to houses and the need to 'keep bungalows for the elderly' with a request for the Parish Council to intervene, also the need to protect the Green Belt.

The Chairman said the Parish Council was a consultee on planning matters but could only comment on each planning application on merit and taking into account planning policy. A significant proportion of West Lancashire was Green Belt and in order to balance the Government's requirements to provide a certain number of houses, land had to be made available for building.

- Speeding of vehicles and farm traffic in Long Lane.

The Chairman advised that information was being gathered with regard to SPID's but any proposal would require the full support of the police and highways before any action could be taken. He commented that sometimes it was difficult even getting up to speed on parts of Long Lane due to the number of parked vehicles.

Councillor David Westley was attending the meeting as a Borough Councillor but offered some useful information on Agenda Item 8a.

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

10641 PLANNING:

a) Weekly List Items

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2016/0009/FUL 0566 0631 0662 0649

In the case of:

2016/0541/FUL Beechfield, 40 Granville Park – members raised no objections to the proposed replacement of the dilapidated brick boundary wall with TIMBER fencing – they did not consider the proposal would harm the character or appearance of the Conservation Area.

(Councillor Jones declared a NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST in 2016/0625, as he was known to the applicant, and left the meeting during discussion)

2016/0625/FUL 183A Long Lane – members could not support the most recent planning application on land which was previously garden land to Number 183 Long Lane. The proposal would detrimentally impact on the neighbouring properties of 183 & 185 Long Lane and also 239 Black Moss Lane. The layout was a 'tight fit' and represented over-development of the site. It did not complement the character of the area. With

regards to highway issues, the proposal offered inadequate off road parking provision for the size of the development which was situated close to an extremely busy road junction.

(Councillor Jones resumed the meeting)

2016/0668/FUL The Cockbeck Tavern, Town Green Lane – members fully supported an Organised Site Visit by the Planning Committee to allow members the opportunity to view the important village location of this planning proposal. The planning regulations in respect of the Change of Use from Use Class A4 to Use Class A1 were noted. The site was situated on an extremely busy stretch of road between the busy junctions of Bold Lane/Winifred Lane, with traffic entering and leaving the car park area behind the row of shops onto this junction – a Supermarket and a Local Butchers, Bakers and Fruit & Veg Shop – and Bold Lane/Granville Park/Town Green Lane. It lies adjacent Granville Park Conservation Area and the Grade II Listed Granville Park War Memorial and gardens. It was therefore important to preserve the setting, character and views into and out of the Conservation Area. The Parish Council's main concerns were:

a) impact on the street scene b) the detrimental impact on pedestrian and highway safety at the front and side of the building c) the increase in traffic from early morning to late evening entering and leaving the site onto a busy junction merging Bold Lane/Granville Park/Town Green Lane traffic d) the increase in all day activity to and from the car park, together with additional noise from delivery, waste and refrigerated vehicles would result in loss of residential amenity to surrounding properties e) external lighting of the car park would need to be enhanced affecting residential amenity of surrounding properties f) the proposal could have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the Conservation Area and the adjacent Heritage Asset. (Councillors Ms Woolgar & Gibbons declared NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS in 2016/0584 & 0659, as they were nearby neighbours of the application site, and left the meeting during discussion)

2016/0584 & 2016/0659 39 Bold Lane – members would support an organised site visit by planning committee members to consider and ensure the current proposals would not result in loss of residential amenity to neighbouring properties.

(Councillors Ms Woolgar & Gibbons resumed the meeting)

b) Appeals/Planning Control -

Notice of an Appeal Decision in respect of Planning Application 2015/0639/COU 78 Redsands – change of use of property to student HMO (resubmission of 2015/0451/COU) – APPEAL ALLOWED subject to Conditions (full notes circulated to members)

10642 LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY: POLICING OF AUGHTON – Police & Communities Together (PACT) – a brief report was given on the PACT Panel Meeting held 5 July 2016. There had been 10 reported crimes since the last meeting including 2 burglaries in buildings other than dwellings (Liverpool Road & Scarth Hill Lane); 1 unauthorised taking of a motor vehicles (Aughton Park Drive); 1 theft of a motor bike (Aughton Park Drive); 1 robbery of personal property (theft with force) (Aughton Park Drive); 1 domestic type; 1 damage to property (Teal Close); 2 burglaries in dwellings (Turnpike Road); 1 damage to a building (Bold Lane Dental Practice). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 20 crimes with 10 of those being in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with other than reported crimes, there had been 210 incidents with 97 of those in Aughton. Discussion took place over the 'hotspots' in the area and the need to encourage more people to engage in NWatch.

10643 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

a) Changes to where LCC delivers its services – consultation. After discussion, it was AGREED to comment on the issues affecting 'the children and the elderly', ie the relocation of Moorgate Children's Centre to the Library; the closure of the Derby Street Day Centre. It was felt that the 2 main tiers of local government should be looking at working together to maximise the use of premises whoever owned them in order to maximise the economy.

b) Planned Highway Works: to enable utilities works to take place – view various location on the Lancashire County Council website. NOTED

10644 PARISH FINANCE: Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council to consider and approve the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the Meeting, Councillor Grant. Members present having all been granted Dispensations in respect of any matters relating to 'discussing/debating the Budget and Setting the Parish Council Precept'.

10645 WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL/CLERKS' LIAISON MEETING – a brief report on the meeting held 17 June 2016 was READ and NOTED (copies circulated to members).

10646 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income	-
Expenditure	(includes VAT)
Imprest Renewal	57.44
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – grounds maintenance	3778.00
Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd – intensive bowling green maintenance	148.32
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1313.79
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	157.69

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

10647 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – a short meeting for Planning, Accounts & Urgent Items would be held on 8 August 2016.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm.