

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 10 JUNE 2019, AT AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Graham Jones

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

The Chairman welcomed the Borough Ward & County Councillors to the meeting.

11124 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Pendleton - personal commitment

APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

11125 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

11126 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD 13 MAY 2019, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

11127 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

a) Uncontested Election 2019 - to confirm that Councillor Mrs Margaret Boulton had made and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, in the presence of the Clerk to the Council/Proper Officer, before the start of the meeting.

11128 ITEM DEFERRED FROM ANNUAL MEETING HELD 13 MAY 2019:

a) Representation of the Council on Other Bodies and Committees/Responsible Members – the list submitted was considered and the changes in representation were APPROVED and the outstanding vacancies NOTED (to be filled in due course). A new list would be circulated to members.

11129 MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD 13 MAY 2019, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED as a correct record (for signature at the 2020 Annual Parish Assembly).

11130 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

a) The Annual County Report from County Councillor David O'Toole was received and NOTED.
b) Neighbourhood Planning Workshop – a brief report had been circulated from the Council to Protect Rural England (CPRE) introductory workshop held 22 May 2019 at Ormskirk School. After discussion, it was AGREED to convene a Working Group to consider the matter further (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors Pendleton & Ms Woolgar). A meeting to be arranged in September/October.

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

Local residents gave their views on the planning application for the erection of 10 dwellings and associated works on land to the rear of the Dog & Gun Inn, Long Lane – overdevelopment; 'cramming'; totally unsuitable access; insufficient parking for proposed number of houses, visitors to the Public House (since the recent refurbishment there had been an increased use) and current users of the bowling green; no affordable housing element; loss of trees and hedgerows; traffic issues on Long Lane, etc.

Local residents raised additional comments on the amendment to the planning application for the proposed installation of a substation on land adjacent to Railway Line, Sandy Lane – the revised Noise Assessment and Topography, no landscaping plans (to be covered by conditions), alternative sites should be considered.

Public Question Time (Continued)

The Chairman invited the Borough Councillors to speak. Councillor David O'Toole spoke on the Local Plan Provision of Affordable Housing, Planning Pre-Applications, Planning Appeals and costs.

A local resident referred to the Agenda for the WLBC Cabinet Meeting on 11 June 2019 which included a 'Called in Item' on the Local Plan and Councillor David Westley responded.

Finally, a brief discussion took place on the current West Lancashire Local Plan 2012-2027 which was adopted in October 2013, reviewed every 5 years, and the possibility of a new Preferred Options Paper over the coming months.

A Mickering Lane resident complained about work carried out recently through the night on the railway, without prior notice. The Environmental Health Officer had been informed.

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

(Borough & County Councillors left the meeting at this stage)

*(Councillor Ian Mercer declared his DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST in land in his ownership (Members' Register of Interests Form) which could be considered in the future for alternative siting of the Proposed Installation of a Substation by Network Rail (refer Planning Application 2019/0060/FUL Amendment)

11131 PLANNING

a) Weekly List Items

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2019/0376/FUL 0442 0452 (Amendment) 0502

In the case of:

2019/0136/FUL Robbins Bridge Farm, Springfield Road (Amendment) – members noted the proposal to move the housing for the generator, which would be used only as standby for those occasions when there were power outages, and wished to ensure the noise from such use and the relocation would not detrimentally affect nearby neighbours in particular Springfield Montessori Nursery.

2019/0394/FUL Land at the junction with Long Lane/Aughton Park Drive – members noted the proposal to vary the approved plans and wished to ensure the changes would not detrimentally affect residential amenity of nearby properties by loss of privacy or overlooking.

2019/0468/FUL 1 Red Fold – members noted the application without comment (noted pre-application advice meetings)

2019/0472/FUL Mews Cottage, 31 Brookfield Lane – members noted comments from nearby residents mainly on additional housing and flooding & drainage problems. The Parish Council had previously raised concerns on 2016/0694/ARM about foul and surface water drainage problems. However, the principle of development had been established by the granting of Outline permission and Policy GN3 of the Local Plan requirement that new development would not result in unacceptable flood risk or drainage problems, so this should be taken care of. As this latest application was to vary the approved plans to increase first floor headroom only (currently insufficient), the Parish Council had no further comments to make.

*Councillor Mercer left the meeting at this stage.

2019/0060/FUL Land adjacent to Railway Line, Sandy Lane (Amendment) – the Parish Council had noted the recommendation that the decision to grant planning permission be delegated to the Director of Development and Regeneration to consider the final detail of the conditions. The Council and local residents were still raising concerns in respect of the accuracy of the Noise Assessments undertaken on behalf of Network Rail and awaited a second report from the Principal Environmental Health Officer since her site visit to reassess the noise impact calculations before any decision was made on this application. As previously stated, the proposal constitutes an inappropriate form of development in the Green Belt and detrimentally impacts on the residential amenity of residents in close proximity. Consideration should be given to moving the Network Rail equipment to an alternative site which would be more acceptable to the local community. It was understood that one or two alternative sites were currently being considered and negotiated with Network Rail for the benefit of the local community. Whichever site was chosen, a good Landscaping Scheme should be produced before any development takes place.

*Councillor Mercer resumed the meeting at this stage.

Para.11131 (Continued)

2019/0390/PNP Gorse Hill Nature Reserve, Holly Lane – members had no comments to raise on the PNP for this agricultural enterprise other than to note the comments raised from LCC Planning on the archaeological/history importance of the site.

2019/0528/FUL 18 Town Green Lane – members wished to iterate comments made on the previous application 2018/1317/FUL, which was refused permission due to scale and size. With local knowledge, members were extremely concerned about pedestrian and highway safety should this planning application receive permission. The dwelling was situated adjacent Aughton Town Green Primary School & Portico Nursery – Town Green Lane, between 8.20am & 9.00am was extremely congested so, in the interests of children's safety, requested consideration be given to a 'working hours condition' for the contractor and delivery vehicles.

2019/0516/FUL Land to the rear of Dog & Gun Inn, Long Lane – erection of 10 dwellings and associated works – members considered the proposal for 10 dwellings on this backland site was 'overdevelopment'. With the recent refurbishment of the Public House proving very popular with locals and visitors from outside the Parish, the proposal for car parking to accommodate the dwellings, the Public House and the users of the bowling green at the rear was totally inadequate (spoiling the enjoyment of the bowlers on this well established green). With local knowledge, there were already traffic issues on Long Lane, which were well documented, and the proposed access and egress arrangement for all proposed users appeared totally inadequate. The 2.5 storey dwellings would be out of keeping with the immediate area and detrimental to neighbouring properties by way of loss of privacy and overlooking. An organised site visit was considered desirable to allow the Planning Committee the opportunity to view the size and scale of the housing development and the impact on highway safety.

b) Appeals/Planning Control:

i) Allegation of Breach of Planning Control – land off Butchers Lane: the use of bird scarers was not a planning matter but an Environmental matter (under investigation).

ii) Allegation of Breach of Planning Control – land off Butchers Lane: creation of bunds without planning permission (under investigation).

iii) Planning application comments – delays displaying on line (reported).

c) WLBC Cabinet Meeting to be held 11 June 2019 – the Agenda Item on the Local Plan 'Called in Item – referred from Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee' was READ and NOTED.

11132 CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN/PARISH CLERK'S JUNE MEETING WITH THE LOCAL POLICE – a brief report was given on the informal meeting held 5 June 2019. There had been 21 reported crimes since the last meeting including 6 domestic incident, 1 case of theft from an ex Care Home (garden furniture), 2 burglary - garden furniture (Brookfield Lane), 1 criminal damage excluding vehicles (Whalley Drive), 4 cases of theft (Co-op Convenience Store), 2 criminal damage excluding vehicles (Town Green Lane, junction of Parris Lane/Long Lane), 1 case of theft of a meal (Restaurant), 1 public order offence (Aughton Park Rail Station), 1 theft of a vehicle (Granville Park), 1 dispute/public assault (local business), 1 assault on staff (Care Home), wilful damage at the Quarry Woodland (residents to ring '101' to report incidents). In Aughton, other than reported crimes, there had been 106 incidents.

11133 APC WEBSITE – an update was given on the 'rebuild' – the new address being www.aughtonparishcouncil.uk or redirected from the old address www.aughtonparishcouncil.co.uk.

11134 AUGHTON'S BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION – a preliminary discussion took place and members offered their services for this popular community event. There would be no change to the arrangements and it was AGREED to take all expenses from the 's.137 Free Resource'.

11135 WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL:

a) Annual Code of Conduct Training to be held on Tuesday, 9 July 2019, 6pm at the Council Offices, Ormskirk – members wishing to attend should contact the Clerk as soon as possible.

b) Parish Clerks' Liaison Meeting – a brief report was given on the meeting held 7 June 2019 which included information on the Standards Committee and the reinstatement of 2 Parish Council representatives

Para.11135 (Continued)

back onto the Committee; an update on Policing in West Lancashire from Inspector Adrian Jolly, the review of the Parish Charter and discussion on the lack of street cleaning and weed control in the Parishes.

11136 LOCAL AREA COMMUNITY EVENT: Ormskirk Fire Station – an Open Day and Community Safety Event was proposed for Saturday, 6 July 2019 commencing at 10am until 4pm. NOTED

11137 COMMUNITY PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATOR AT WINIFRED LANE SITE – it was reported that the replacement case was ‘in delivery’ and it was RESOLVED to approve payment to Defib Store Ltd for the robust case plus vinyl instructions for community use in the sum of £605.00 (plus VAT) (discount via NWS). Arrangements would be made for the Village Hall Electrician to install the new case and NWS to complete the necessary checks and installation.

11138 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income

Aughton Village Hall Management Committee – contribution towards garden maintenance	550.00
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Expenditure

(includes VAT)

Imprest Renewal	91.15
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Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – some hedging, maintenance to all areas, plus additional work clearing weeds in gullies in Holt Green	3,625.00
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Defib Store Ltd – replacement (robust) case plus vinyl instructions for community defib.	726.00
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Shaw Savage Business Services Ltd – Guildhall Accounts Register	41.40
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Aughton Village Hall – hirings (3 months)	100.00
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Lancashire County Council – loan repayment (half yearly, 7 day invoice)	716.58
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Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1,430.05
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HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	154.46
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It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

11139 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Extraordinary Meeting to approve the Accounts 2018/2019 to be held on Wednesday, 26 June 2019, at Aughton Village Hall Annexe, commencing 8pm and the next monthly meeting to be held Monday, 8 July 2019 at Aughton Village Hall Annexe, commencing 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.