

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 MARCH 2017, IN AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE,  
COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Ian Grant

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

10736 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Jones - personal commitment

APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

10737 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10738 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 FEBRUARY 2017, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10739 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.

Two residents from Old Rectory Green raised their objections to the planning application at 11 Old Rectory Green including over-development, overshadowing, overbearing, loss of residential amenity plus concern that two large public sewers directed through this property and they felt it was important that United Utilities were one of the consultees for this planning application. Referring to the previous application which had been refused planning permission, although the current application showed a reduction in ridge height the overall size appeared wider and larger.

The Chairman thanked the local residents for their comments and advised that United Utilities were Statutory Consultees on most planning applications.

A resident from The Serpentine gave his views on the recent opening of 'Moor Hall' in relation to traffic and road safety; the non-completion of the WLBC Environmental Scheme on Housing Land fronting the flats on Town Green Lane and the untidy state of the grass on the triangle shaped highway verge at the corner of Winifred Lane/Town Green Lane which boasted daffodils; he spoke about the meeting to be held in Halsall to raise awareness of 'Fracking' and asked if the Borough Councillor for Halsall would be allowed to speak on this matter.

The Chairman welcomed Borough Councillor Maureen Mills to the meeting and invited her to confirm details of the meeting.

Councillor Mills referred to the background to the 'fracking issue' which included correspondence relating to the seismic surveys from both Aughton & Halsall Parish Councils with Tesla Exploration/Aurora. The meeting 'Halsall against Fracking' would be held on 21 March 2017, at the Memorial Hall in Halsall, commencing at 7.30pm, to raise awareness. Aurora may, in the future, be applying for planning permission which could affect both Parishes.

Aughton residents would be most welcome to attend the meeting.

A resident from Long Lane spoke about the next milestone of the current West Lancashire Local Plan, the proposed Local Plan Review consultation 16 March to 28 April 2017 and the future Inquiry planned in July

## Public Question Time (Continued)

with regard to the Plan 'B' site on land off Parrs Lane. He also referred to the temporary SPID on Long Lane which, in his opinion, had been sited in the wrong place and in the wrong direction, and the large pothole at the junction of Long Lane and Prescott Road (at traffic lights travelling towards the Church).

The Chairman commented briefly on the planning matters raised and Borough Councillor Sam Currie gave details of the grass cutting regime for highway verges with bulb planting and offered to take up the issue of the siting of the SPID on Long Lane with Lancashire County Council.

The Chairman thanked local residents for their comments and resumed the meeting.

## 10740 PLANNING

## a) Weekly List Items

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2017/0131 0125 0140 0144 0145 0192

In the case of:

2017/0038/FUL 11 Old Rectory Green – members considered the proposal was similar to, if not larger than, the previous application which was refused planning permission in March 2016 on the grounds that it conflicted with Local Plan Policies GN1 & GN3. The current proposal could not be supported in its current form due to the increase in the size of the dwelling which would impact on the adjacent neighbouring properties by way of overlooking, overbearing and loss of residential amenity. An organised site visit was considered desirable to allow members of the Planning Committee the opportunity to view the proposals for this Cul-de-sac development and to address the concerns of local residents including over-development of the site, the size and scale of the proposal, the loss of important space between dwellings and the detrimental impact on the 'street scene'.

2017/0129/ADV Moor Hall, Prescott Road – with local knowledge, members repeated previous comments (2015/0524/FUL) in relation to highway safety 'this is a fast stretch of 'B' road despite a 30mph speed limit and the entrance is not visible to traffic from either direction until it is 'on top of it'. Signage and barriers were already in place on this bend and 100m further on, in the Kirkby direction, the speed limit increases to 50mph'. Members now considered the proposed external lighting signs should be of a low luminance with anti-glare casing to avoid the distraction of motorists. Now that part of the Moor Hall development was completed and the restaurant was open, and the level of construction vehicles will have reduced, it was important to ensure the damage to the highway verges in the vicinity of the site was reinstated as soon as possible.

Amendment to 2016/1205/FUL 20 Granville Park – members wished to ensure the proposed alterations including the height and design of the replacement dwelling, position of garage and boundary treatment would fully support 'the special character and appearance of Granville Park Conservation Area'.

b) Appeals/Planning Control – none.

c) Planning Committee Meeting – to receive a brief report on the meeting held 9 March 2017 – the RECOMMENDATIONS were READ and the RESULTS NOTED.

2016/1183/FUL 'Charlton' Quarry Drive – REFUSED ('the proposed development involved the demolition of an existing property which makes a positive contribution to the character and appearance of Granville Park Conservation Area. The loss of the existing dwelling would harm the character and appearance of the CA and fails to meet the Council's statutory duty under s.72 of P(LBCA) Act 1990, was contrary to Policy EN4 and guidance in NPPF and Supplementary Design Guide document')

2016/1202/FUL 7 Beech Road – Approved with Conditions.

## 10741 WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL:

a) Annual Stakeholder Survey 2017 – an invitation to submit the views of the Parish Council on where WLBC should make reductions in spending or increase income – consultation deadline 7 April 2017. The

Para.10741 (Continued)

Chairman called an Extraordinary Meeting to consider the Survey in more detail – date and venue to be confirmed.

b) Local Plan Review:

- i) Advance notice of consultation – 16 March to 28 April 2017 – NOTED (future Agenda Item)
- ii) LP Review Workshop – an invitation for 2 representatives – it was AGREED to send 1 Parish Councillor plus the Clerk to the briefing on Tuesday, 21 March 2017.

10742 CHAIRMAN/PARISH CLERK'S MARCH MEETING WITH THE LOCAL POLICE – a brief report was given on the meeting held 9 March 2017. There had been 16 reported crimes since the last meeting including 1 attempted burglary in a building other than in a dwelling (Fir Tree Lane), 4 burglary in a dwelling (Fir Tree Lane, Prescott Road, Narrow Lane, Bold Lane), 1 criminal damage to a dwelling (Rothwell Drive), 4 domestic type, 1 vandalism (inside Aughton Village Hall), 1 arson (outside Aughton Village Hall), 2 theft from a vehicle (Moss Delph Lane, Granville Park), 1 theft in a dwelling (Narrow Lane), 1 theft of a pedal cycle (Narrowcroft). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 24 reported crimes with 16 of those in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with other than reported crimes, there had been 216 incidents with 100 of those being in Aughton.

10743 COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- a) Christ Church Aughton celebrates 150 years – members were invited to attend a special Family Service on Mothering Sunday, 26 March 2017. NOTED
- b) Civic Sunday – an invitation to attend St Michael's Church on 21 May 2017 was accepted with thanks. Invitations to representatives of local schools, clubs and organisations was AGREED. Light refreshments would be served in the Church Hall after the service (all expenses Section 137).

10744 LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2017 – to consider entry and approve fee. It was AGREED to enter a) Holt Green and b) Town Green Villages in the competition and appropriate entries for Certificates of Merit. The entry fee of £40 for both villages was APPROVED (Section 137). The competition was supported by LALC, Lancashire Life, The Villa at Wrea Green, and several Lancashire County Councillors. Judging period 3 June-16 July with the final judging taking place early September.

10745 LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PUBLICITY A/C) (EXEMPTION) ORDER – to review (notes circulated prior to meeting) – it was RESOLVED that Aughton Parish Council would not spend more than £3,000 on publicity and would not exceed that expenditure in the next financial year.

10746 PARISH FINANCE (notes circulated prior to meeting):

- a) Memorials Cleaning – 4 invitations to tender had been returned but subject to clarification. The outcome would be confirmed at a future meeting – funding from Earmarked Reserves.
- b) Playareas – it was RESOLVED to approve payment to Yates Playgrounds Ltd for the Part I of the partnership schemes at Winifred Lane and Redsands Playareas in the sum of £6,230 (plus VAT) (Earmarked Reserves).
- c) CCTV upgrade – full details were given of Upgrade I which would involve the installation of a stand-alone system at the Sports Pavilion, in the sum of £1,306 (plus VAT) plus associated electrical work. A quotation for cleaning and maintenance of all cameras plus an upgrade of the system viewing the Parish Council Car Park, which is held in the Village Hall, plus associated work for resiting of main equipment/electrical work alterations, was awaited. Delegated Authority was given to the Chairman & Vice-Chairman to authorise the work at Upgrade II.
- d) Lighting Columns at Winifred Lane Car Park & Floodlights on Tennis Courts – following the annual electrical inspection at the Sports Pavilion by P & R Electrical Contractors Ltd of Skelmersdale, the recommendation of an upgrade was NOTED. It was AGREED to upgrade the tennis court floodlights to LED, to a similar luminance to existing columns, with anti-glare covers (to protect residential amenity) in the sum of £3,200 (plus VAT). It was further AGREED to upgrade the two floodlighting columns in the Car Park in the sum of £1,200 (plus VAT) (Earmarked Reserves).

e) Litter Collection – it was AGREED to purchase a small trailer with extension caged sides/drop-down tail gate/tow bar for the Parish Council Park-keeper to accommodate the proposed changes to the WLBC litter/dog waste collection over the coming months. Delegated Authority was given to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to consider and authorise the purchase of the lowest priced, most suitable equipment.

10747 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income

HM Revenue & Customs – VAT reimbursed	1,889.20
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Expenditure

(includes VAT)

Imprest Renewal	85.44
S Moorcroft – expenses (1 month)	27.45
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – tree management work following recent storms plus bowling green maintenance work (pre-season)	3,488.00
P & R Electrical Ltd – fixed wiring test at Sports Pavilion	151.20
Desktop NW Ltd – printer part/toners	191.66
Aughton Village Hall – hiring fee	115.00
Yates Playgrounds Ltd – replacement play equipment (Part I)	7,476.00
Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd – intensive bowling green maintenance	143.76
Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2017 – entry fee	40.00
British Telecommunications plc – One Bill Business Broadband/Telephone	159.68
Sportsline of Wigan – replacement tennis court equipment	375.60
Dr D Gallagher (Webmaster) – reimbursement of payment for Domain Registration Renewal	35.88

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to approve delegated authority to the Chairman & Vice-Chairman to authorise payment for invoices outstanding between 14 March and 31 March 2017 for Imprest Renewal, S Moorcroft (expenses 1 month), Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping (materials and repairs), Salaries and HMRC (Income Tax and NIC).

10748 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 10 April 2017.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.