

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2015, IN AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL ANNEXE, COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Ian Grant

MEMBERS PRESENT: As recorded in the Register of Attendance

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked members of the Parish Council and local residents who attended the annual Ceremony of Remembrance at Granville Park War Memorial. He mentioned the flooding problems which had occurred recently at various locations around the Parish, due to the inclement weather, and thanked local residents for their input in reporting such matters, all of which would be taken up by the relevant authorities.

10506 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Mrs Atherley	-	personal commitment
Councillor Jones	-	personal commitment
Councillor Walne	-	personal commitment

All APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

10507 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

10508 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12 OCTOBER 2015, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

10509 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

a) Long Lane: Speeding Vehicles – notice that LCC would be deploying a SpID on Long Lane week commencing 16 November.

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

A resident from The Serpentine spoke on the proposed cuts to police funding, the possible reduction in police officers, and the generous Lease (Merseyrail) on Aughton Police Station. He asked the Parish Council to commit to saving the Police Station if it was at risk.

The Chairman said Aughton Parish Council was always committed to retaining a Police Station in Aughton and had made provision for it in its 'earmarked reserves'. However, the Parish could not retain a Police Station without the police officers to serve it or if Merseyrail withdrew the premises. The current police complement was confirmed for Southern Parishes, ie 1 Community Beat Manager and 1 Community Support Officer.

General discussion took place over 'policing matters'; the funding of the PCSO's in West Lancashire; the ever increasing Police Precept and police officer salaries; security of residents' properties and the duty of 'self-help' (better lighting, burglar alarms, secure window locks, secure garages and garden sheds); the reintroduction of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

A resident from Long Lane (also the Chairman of ARG 2012) asked for confirmation that Aughton Parish Council had submitted a representation on the Appeals Lodged in respect of Land to the East of Prescot Road and North-West of Parrs Lane.

The Chairman confirmed that additional comments had been submitted within the timescale.

A resident from Butchers Lane commented that not all residents in his area had been notified of the latest application at Gerard Hall, Prescot Road. In respect of Health & Safety, he considered that Network Rail needed to be consulted.

The Chairman advised that the Borough Council would have carried out its statutory duty in respect of 'notification of planning applications' but only those residents directly affected would have been notified. However, the date for response had now been extended. The list of planning applications was always displayed on Parish Council noticeboards and the Parish Council website, with individual notices secured to posts or lighting columns near the application site and sometimes printed in the local newspapers.

The reporter from the online newspaper 'qlocal' took the opportunity to thank local residents for supporting him during his 5 year appointment.

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

10510 PLANNING

(Councillor Gallagher, as a nearby neighbour, declared a NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST in 2015/1003)

a) Weekly List Items

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2015/1003/FUL 0994 1023 1051 1061 0996

In the case of:

2015/1007/FUL Land adjacent and to the rear of 31 Brookfield Lane – members raised no objections to the principle of growing trees at this location but expressed concern about any long term plans for the sale of Christmas trees on site including car parking, increase in traffic, impact on highway issues, loss of residential amenity for neighbouring properties.

2015/1086/FUL Site of former 12 Springfield Road – members raised no objections to the principle of development but were concerned about the overall size of the proposed dwelling compared to the one previously approved.

b) Appeals/Planning Control -

Notification of the dates for the Public Local Inquiry in respect of the Appeals lodged by Redrow Homes Ltd & Wainhomes Developments Ltd for the Land to the East of Prescot Road and North-West of Parrs Lane – 17, 18, 19 & 24 May 2016. NOTED

10511 LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY: POLICING OF AUGHTON – Police & Communities Together (PACT) – a brief report was given on the PACT Panel Meeting held 4 November 2015. There had been 18 crimes reported since the last meeting including 4 burglaries in a building other than a dwelling (Bold Lane, Brookfield Lane, Shepherds Lane, Convenience Store in Long Lane); 3 burglaries in dwellings (Bold Lane, Butchers Lane, Prescot Road); 1 attempted burglary in a dwelling (Smithy Lane); 3 thefts from vehicles (1 Belvedere Park, 2 Town Green Lane); 1 assault with injury (Delph Park Avenue); 1 damage to a vehicle (Dingle Close); 1 criminal damage to vehicle (Butchers Lane); 1 assault without injury (Moss Delph Lane); 1 assault (Care Home); 1 domestic type; 1 theft of 2 bicycles (New Lane). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 30 reported crimes with 18 of those being in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with other than reported crimes, there had been 221 incidents in Southern Parishes with 100 of those in Aughton.

A report was given on the successful police operation during 'Halloween/Mischief Night etc'.

A brief discussion took place over the PACT Panel Report and it was AGREED to release an article to the local newspapers in respect of 'Crime Prevention Advice' for local residents.

10512 COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- a) Aughton's Best Kept Garden Competition 2015 – a brief report given on the Presentation of Awards event held Saturday, 31 October 2015, at 11am in Aughton Village Hall Annexe was NOTED.
- b) Festive Lighting Switch-on at Town Green Lane Shops – the revised date of Thursday, 3 December 2015 was NOTED (so as not to coincide with local schools' nativity plays).
- c) Remembrance Sunday – to consider donations arising from the occasion. It was RESOLVED to make a donation of £50 to Aughton (Old Hall District) Guides for making and serving refreshments at the gathering in Aughton Village Hall after the Ceremony of Remembrance and taking part in the 'Poppy Appeal Challenge' (PAPERBANK FUND). It was FURTHER RESOLVED to approve payment of £17 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for the supply and delivery of the wreath ('Free Resource' LGA Section 137) plus a donation of £50 to the Royal British Legion (PAPERBANK FUND).

10513 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: Lancashire Parish Based Public Transport Scheme – consultation – response deadline 11 December 2015. The Introductory Guide, sent on-line, had been READ and NOTED. Members discussed a number of issues including 'the good train service'; 'underuse of the buses but a lifeline for those who needed the facility'; double-rating – Aughton residents were already paying towards running a bus service across Lancashire. After consideration of this complex matter, it was AGREED that the Parish Council would not show an interest in taking control and ownership of its own Parish Based Public Transport Service.

10514 WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL: Meeting the Budget Challenge 2015 – consultation on the policy options for savings, efficiencies and increases in income to balance the budget for 2016/17 – response deadline 10 January 2016. ITEM DEFERRED TO DECEMBER MEETING.

10515 PARISH FINANCE: FINANCE COMMITTEE/ESTIMATES MEETINGS – to consider and confirm dates. It was AGREED to hold the next meeting of the Finance Committee on Wednesday, 2 December 2015 in the Committee Room at Aughton Village Hall and the Estimates Meeting on either Wednesday, 20 January or Wednesday, 27 January (to be confirmed).

10516 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

Income

WLBC – CIL Receipts 2015/16: 1 April – 30 September	2664.75
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Expenditure

(includes VAT)

Imprest Renewal	179.32
Lancashire Turf Supplies – intensive bowling green maintenance	1529.86
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – Winter maintenance/additional Work in respect of Remembrance Sunday	2922.00
Mike Dolling of Rufford (arboricultural approved contractor) – emergency tree felling at Delph Quarry	400.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – supply of wreath (Free Resource)	17.00
Royal British Legion – donation (Paperbank Fund)	50.00
Aughton (Old Hall District) Guides – donation	50.00
Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1181.00
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	173.21

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

10517 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 14 December 2015.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.