

## AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2018, 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 local residents and County and Borough Ward Councillors to the meeting.

11022 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Gallagher	-	indisposed
Councillor Pendleton	-	indisposed

All APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

11023 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their Interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

11024 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 OCTOBER 2018, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

11025 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- a) Safety barrier on Prescott Road – reinstatement completed by LCC.
- b) Gullies on Town Green Lane – flooding during heavy rain was a major issue at Town Green School and on Town Green Lane due to a possible problem downstream. The matter to be progressed by LCC Highways.
- c) WLBC Sweeping Schedule – the Street Scene Services Manager had confirmed the street cleansing programme for the Borough – manual cleanse (litter pick etc) 10 working day cycle, mechanical cleanse (footways and channels) 12-14 week cycle - and advised sweeping took place in the Aughton area during weeks commencing 22 October and 29 October 2018 and that during the leaf collection period which runs from October to mid December, extra resources were deployed to areas of ‘high leaf fall’ on a more frequent basis during this time.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – the Chairman adjourned the meeting and approved an extended time for the Public Forum. He welcomed Councillor John Hodson, WLBC Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development, who would be giving a brief presentation on the West Lancashire Local Plan Review: Preferred Options document and taking part in a question and answer session with Aughton residents.

Councillor Hodson thanked the Chairman for his invitation and said his role tonight was ‘to seek to understand and seek to be understood’. He gave the reasons why the Borough Council was reviewing the current Local Plan 2012-2027 when it still had 9 more years to run – recent significant changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requiring all Local Authorities (LA) to work within a framework (a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development could be produced); a requirement for all LA’s to refresh and keep up to date policies in local plans at least once every 5 years; that Plan in being refreshed must have policies that are strategic for 15 years; the emergence of Spatial Frameworks for the Liverpool City Region and for Greater Manchester; the Duty to Co-operate (required through the NPPF and other national legislation, which requires neighbouring authorities and certain key stakeholders to co-operate as they prepare Local Plans to ensure that cross-boundary issues were suitably addressed and collective development needs were met in full). Councillor Hodson spoke about the Parrs Lane Public Inquiry (Appeal Dismissed) which was a Plan ‘B’ site on Safeguarded Land (land suitable for development but at a later date). The Preferred Options document now proposes to dispense with the use of

(Public Question Time Continued)

Safeguarded Land and means there should be no need to review the Green Belt boundary in West Lancashire again for the next 20-25 years - the NPPF and its accompanying Planning Practice Guidance provides the key context for all planning matters in the Local Plan, with 'sustainable development' and the presumption in favour of sustainable development but encouraging a 'plan led system'. He referred to HM Government Guidance and what was expected of LA's. The Housing Land Survey figures Government will produce in November each year will be compared with LA figures and if the two did not match, the Government would impose. The Government currently wants 300,000 units per year. Looking nationally at the housing situation, he spoke about the 'Test of Viability' (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/viability>) and said the 'housing situation' was now considered 'broken' and he referred to 'Affordable Housing' problems. He said the Borough Council wanted to move away from the Test of Viability and build Affordable Homes where it wanted. The growth in housing need in West Lancashire would be redirected from the Liverpool City Region by the change in commuting patterns and employment opportunities these proposals create in West Lancashire. A further part of the Liverpool City Region's housing need between 2027-2050 would not be able to be met within the City Region due to significant environmental constraints limiting capacity for development in some parts of the City Region and so under the Duty to Co-operate, West Lancashire was obliged to meet these future unmet housing needs if it could do so.

A lengthy question and answer session then took place with Councillor Hodson, the main comments being: the Duty to Co-operate and the release of Green Belt land to accommodate mainly the Liverpool City Region; the fact that Skelmersdale was built as a new town for some 80,000 people but with only around 40,000 people currently living there; releasing land from the Green Belt – the Best and Most Versatile Land was vital to the agricultural/farming industries in West Lancashire and there was no justification for its release; there should be more building on Brownfield Land – reference was made to the LA's Brownfield Land Register; the motivation factor for such large scale development, was it for new revenues; CIL monies, potholes, road repairs – would this money be used on infrastructure; traffic and congestion problems would be exacerbated with further development in Aughton including the proposal of a Link Road from the University through to Prescott Road which would worsen the existing traffic congestion by the creation of a 'rat run' for vehicles trying to avoid Ormskirk – a Masterplan would be undertaken to consider and ensure highway improvements; a Local Delivery Scheme – a timetable of Local Plan Policy options; further development in Aughton would impact on parking for rail passengers and result in further on-road parking; land in Aughton was going to prove too expensive to build Affordable Homes; why the need for more student accommodation as there had been a decline in student numbers at Edge Hill University – there was a need for more homes to come back into residential use and more students on campus; Aughton is a Parish and Ormskirk is a Town so why are they being grouped together for planning purposes – a hierarchy approach for calculation purposes only but each has its own identify. Finally, Councillor Hodson was asked if he had evidence of a shortfall in numbers at Liverpool City Region or other LA's such as Sefton. He said the calculations go back to the SHELMA Study but officers were communicating with Liverpool City Region and if evidence doesn't come forward to support the figures, these figures should come down.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Hodson for engaging with the Parish Council and local residents and asked for any comments on other matters.

One local resident passed comment about the cleaning of Granville Park War Memorial; and another commented on the installation of a new boundary fence on Church Lane, Holt Green.

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

#### 11026 PLANNING

a) Weekly List Items – to receive and consider

There were no comments in the cases of:

2018/0910/FUL 1024 1050 1016 1040 1106

In the case of:

2018/1010/FUL Walsh Hall Farm, Formby Lane – members noted the application and raised concern about:

- i) the current drainage proposals and the effect on neighbouring properties should the proposals go ahead.
- ii) the proposed access track was a Public Right of Way, ie PF.30 running through the site towards Back Lane (two other Public Rights of Way also cross the site, ie PF.8 and PF.29. There should, therefore, be no obstruction of these paths if approval given for the development and no detrimental impact on the farm track (Birches Brow).
- iii) there appears to be some concern about land ownership/site development which needs clarification before a decision is made on the application.

(Councillor Ian Mercer, as a tenant farmer and landowner in the Parish, declared his DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS in the next item and left the meeting during discussion.

b) West Lancashire Local Plan Review: Preferred Options – to consider the Parish Council’s response to the proposals. Members discussed the matter at length taking into account local residents’ views during Public Question Time and it was AGREED to draft the Consultation Response objecting to Policy SP8: the inclusion of the Parrs Lane sites; object in principle to having a Plan for the next 30 years; to amend to, say, 15 years; more realistic numbers were required, etc. The final draft to be considered and approved at the December meeting.

(Councillor Mercer resumed the meeting at this stage)

- c) Sefton Brownfield Land Register Part I – consultation by 26 November NOTED.
- d) Joint Lancashire Minerals & Waste Local Plan Review – consultation by 28 November NOTED.

11027 CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN/PARISH CLERK’S NOVEMBER MEETING WITH THE LOCAL POLICE – a brief report was given on the meeting held 7 November 2019. There had been 25 reported crimes since the last meeting including 2 assaults with injury (Prescot Road, Moss Delph Lane); 5 domestic type incidents; 1 stalking/harassment/domestic type incidents (both linked); 2 incidents of harassment; 3 public fear, alarm or distress (Noel Gate, Swan Delph estate, Northway); 3 criminal damage to vehicles (Noel Gate, Town Green Lane, Hallmoor Close); 1 criminal damage (other) Moss Delph Lane; 4 burglary in a dwelling (Bold Lane, Delph Park Avenue, Liverpool Road, Town Green Lane); 1 fraud investigation (Whalley Drive); 1 possession of article with blade or point linked to 1 wounding; 1 theft of a vehicle (Prescot Road). Additional information, on a comparison of reported crimes in Southern Parishes, there had been 47 reported crimes with 25 of those being in Aughton. In respect of the number of incidents dealt with other than reported crimes, there had been 211 incidents in Southern Parishes with 104 of those being in Aughton. There had been 9 cases of nuisance in Aughton.

11028 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: notices of Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic Orders for Mickering Lane (part) on 7<sup>th</sup> December until 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (utility works); Bold Lane (part) on 10<sup>th</sup> January until 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (carriageway resurfacing works); Sandy Lane (part) on 15<sup>th</sup> until 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (carriageway resurfacing works); Scarth Hill Lane (part) on 14<sup>th</sup> January to 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (carriageway resurfacing works); Butchers Lane (part) on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (tree cutting works) were NOTED.

11029 COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- a) 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 (Paperbank Fund); a donation of £15 to the Royal British Legion (Paperbank Fund); a payment of £17 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for the supply and delivery of the wreath (Free Resource LGA s.137) and a donation of £25 to Mr Bob Morris for playing the bugle at the Ceremony of Remembrance (Paperbank Fund).
- b) The Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2018 - the results for the trophy and certificate of merit winners were READ and NOTED (Holt Green – 7<sup>th</sup> in the Small Village Class).

11030 PARISH FINANCE:

- a) Granville Park War Memorial – to note the offer from the approved contractor Specialist UK Restorations to carry out the project Free of Charge for the benefit of the local community (contract

(Para.11030 Continued)

acceptance £1,000 plus VAT – DOFF specification, approved method statement) – refer Minutes October 2018, Para.11018.

b) External Audit: to receive and note the Final Certificate of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2018 stating ‘we certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 & 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2018.’ Minor comments were noted. There were no additional fees in respect of the above.

c) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – to receive notification of CIL receipts paid to the Parish Council October 2018 in the sum of £6,012.90 (period 1 April – 30 September 2018). NOTED

## 11031 ACCOUNTS (circulated to members)

## Income

WLBC – CIL monies 2018/2019 – period 1 April – 30 September 2018	6,012.90
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## Expenditure

(includes VAT)

Imprest Renewal	192.90
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S R Moorcroft (contractor) – materials/repairs to noticeboards and Sports Pavilion	124.50
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Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – grounds maintenance plus additional work	
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Across the Parish for Remembrance Sunday; planting, leaf collection, removal of one timber bus shelter (wear and tear) plus installation of one new	
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wayside seat (budget allocation)	4,434.95
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Mr R Morris (bugler) – donation (Paperbank Fund)	25.00
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Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – supply and delivery of wreath (Free Resource)	17.00
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Royal British Legion – donation (Paperbank Fund)	50.00
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Aughton (Old Hall District) Guides – donation (Paperbank Fund)	50.00
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Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd – intensive bowling green maintenance (budget allocation)	1,983.38
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S Moorcroft – part-time Park-keeper (mileage 4 months)	111.60
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Viking Tree Services – essential tree management (Quarry Woodland)	1,140.00
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Salaries – part-time Clerk/part-time Park-keeper	1,253.24
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HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax & NIC	155.80
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It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

11032 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 10 December 2018.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00pm.