

AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 9 MARCH 2020, 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 everyone to the meeting and reminded local residents present that he would close the meeting for Public Question Time after Agenda Item 4 and once the meeting was resumed, he would not allow any further interruptions during the meeting.

11244 APOLOGIES were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Greene	-	business commitment
Councillor Mercer	-	personal commitment

APOLOGIES were READ and APPROVED.

11245 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – members were reminded to declare their Interests before the start of each Agenda Item or when appropriate.

11246 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2020, copies circulated prior to meeting, were APPROVED and SIGNED as a correct record.

11247 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only):

a) Community Engagement – a brief report was given on the gathering at Christ Church Vicarage with the Vicar and members of her Youth Team. Further discussions would take place with this group, School Pastors, representatives from Edge Hill University, the local police and the Parish Council.

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 Agenda Item 6e Statement of Community Involvement, the Permission in Principle (PIP) procedure and planning application 2019/0980/FUL (amendment).

The Chairman welcomed Councillor David Westley to the meeting and invited him to speak. Councillor Westley gave an update on PIPs. Since his attendance at the February Parish Council monthly meeting, he had met with Development Control and asked for the PIP procedure to be reviewed – the current timescale was not long enough.

Councillor Westley left the meeting at this stage.

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

11248 VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR:

a) Item deferred from the last meeting – welcome to the new Parish Councillor for Town Green Ward and to complete the procedure (refer Minutes January 2020, Para.1120 & February 2020, Para.11233).

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 newly Co-opted member Councillor Anthony Mills.

b) Resignation of the Parish Councillor Holt Green Ward – it was with regret that the Chairman announced the resignation of Mrs Cynthia Morrison. Notice of the Vacancy would be given, pursuant to Section 87(2) of the Local Government Act 1972. The Chairman recorded his thanks to the local resident for her valuable contribution during her time in office.

11249 PLANNING:

a) Weekly List Items

There were NO COMMENTS in the cases of:

2019/0099/FUL 2020/0100 0101 0112 0113 0035 0141 0142 0058 0163

Additional Planning Item received 9 March 2020 for consideration:

2019/1311/FUL (Variation to Condition Numbers 1 & 5) – no comments

In the case of:

2019/0980/FUL 67 Gaw Hill Lane (Amendment) – members noted the amended plans received/additional information but their original objections to this application still remain. There was insufficient information in respect of an acceptable boundary treatment, improved landscaping scheme including details of the proposed lighting, addressing ‘noise pollution’ and the loss of ecological/biodiversity.

b) Appeals - none

Planning Control – members noted:

Planning Applications which received refusal decisions –

2019/1253/FUL Eastwood Farm (erection of agricultural worker’s dwelling) – Refused

2019/1299/FUL 65 Swanpool Lane – Refused

Information from Lancashire County Council via County Councillor O’Toole in respect of Surface Water Flooding at Town Green Primary School (further inspections to see what other assistance may be able to be provided); Reopening of Libraries (as many as possible), also improvement or replacement of the Mobile Library Vans; also Resurfacing of Public Footpath 16 (Delph Lane to Town Green Village).

c) Planning Committee Meeting held 20 February 2020 – 2019/0896/FUL 69 Town Green Lane (change of use from retail (A1) to a bar serving food (A3/A4 use class). New Shopfront and external alterations. Outdoor seating area to front and revised car parking to rear – the RECOMMENDATION was READ and the RESULT NOTED – Approved with Conditions.

d) Local Plan 2023-2038 – ‘Call for Sites’ from 13 February until 26 March 2020 – the exercise was being undertaken by WLBC to consider sites being put forward that could potentially be used for housing, business, employment land, Gypsy/Traveller accommodation, retail, commercial uses, or for people to build their own homes - Noted.

e) Statement of Community Involvement: How should the Council consult on Planning Matters? (circulated prior to meeting) - members views were NOTED and included in the response – consultation 27 February to 9 April 2020.

11250 VE DAY CELEBRATIONS – an invitation from West Lancashire Borough Council to join in the special parade through Ormskirk Town Centre in the presence of the Mayor, invited dignitaries and uniformed organisations to celebrate VE Day, on Sunday, 10 May 2020 . The Parade would be forming up at 10am outside the National Westminster Bank, Moor Street, Ormskirk with a Church Service commencing at 10.30am. Further details from the Clerk. Noted

11251 CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN/PARISH CLERK’S MARCH MEETING WITH THE LOCAL POLICE – a brief report was given on the meeting held 6 March 2020. There had been 23 reported crimes since the last meeting including: 2 vehicle crime (Delph Park Avenue, Delph Common Road); 6 criminal damage excluding a vehicle (Granville Park (5), Middlewood Drive); 1 breach of injunction (Town Green Rail Station); 8 domestic incidents; 1 burglary (Parrs Lane); 1 drug driving incident (Clieves Hills); 1 drug taking incident (Clieves Hills); 3 case of theft (Co-op Convenience Store (2), Noel Gate). Other than reported crime, there had been 95 incidents. Over the weekend there had been 1 incident of minor vandalism to the Sports Pavilion off Winifred Lane (officer attended, youngsters detained, ongoing matter).

11252 LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION (details circulated prior to meeting):

a) to consider entry and approve fee - it was AGREED to enter Holt Green (Small Village Class) - £20 entry fee and Town Green (Medium Village Class) - £30 entry fee. The entry fee of £50 for both villages was approved (LGA.s137) – subject to confirmation the event would take place.

Para.11252 (Continued)

b) In reply to a letter sent from the Secretary of the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition, the Borough Council's Head of Environmental Services had offered 'discussion/consideration would be given on how the Council's Environmental Services might assist the Parishes'.

11253 LALC SPRING CONFERENCE (details circulated prior to meeting) – approval was given for the Clerk to attend in the sum of £35 (subject to confirmation the event would take place).

11254 WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL: Capital Scheme 2018/2019 (full details of expenditure had been circulated to members prior to meeting) – the Partnership Scheme Allocation towards 2 Speed Awareness Signs on Prescott Road and Bold Lane in the sum of £3,000 had been received and NOTED.

11255 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: Consultation on Draft Guidance for the erection of bunting over the highway (previously circulated to members) – as the Parish Council, in the interests of health and safety, would not wish to participate in the 'erection of bunting over the highway', members noted the document without comment.

11256 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.

11257 PLAYAREAS: to receive inspection reports and approve payments (details circulated prior to meeting) – members noted the reports, the minor repairs, the proposal for repainting some equipment, and the proposal using Capital Partnership Funding for improvements to the safety surfacing. It was RESOLVED to approve payment of £200 (plus VAT) to Yates Playgrounds for the inspection of 4 playareas (budget allocation).

11258 ACCOUNTS/DELEGATED AUTHORITY (circulated to members):

Income

WLBC – Partnership Capital Scheme 2018/2019 (2 year timescale)

Speed Awareness Signs (2) – Prescott Road & Bold Lane	3,000.00
HM Revenue & Customs – VAT reimbursement	6,441.66
Interest from Bank	268.11
Interest from Investment	508.03
HM Courts & Tribunal Service – 'payback' towards Sports Pavilion damage	100.00

Expenditure

(includes VAT)

Imprest Renewal	94.09
S Moorcroft – expenses (1 month February)	27.90
Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping – re-roofing bowling green huts/boards, re-roofing some bus shelters, removing fallen trees (budget allocation)	1,134.05
Viking Tree Services (approved arboricultural contractor) – tree management at Rachel Taylor Memorial Playing Field (budget allocation)	1,860.00
E Rothwell & Son – annual gas/oil for Parish Council tractor	649.74
Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition – entry fee	50.00
LALC Spring Conference – delegate fee	35.00
Yates Playgrounds Ltd – inspection reports fee - 4 Playareas	240.00
Aughton Village Hall – hiring (3 months)	90.00

It was RESOLVED that all the foregoing accounts be paid.

Para. 11258 (Continued)

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to approve delegated authority to the Chairman/Vice-Chairman/one other cheque signatory to authorise payment for invoices outstanding between 9 March and 31 March 2020 (Viking Tree Services - £240.00; Lancashire Turf Supplies Ltd - £35.40; Rawsthorne Commercial Landscaping - £1,632.00; David Porter (Joiner) for replacement bus shelter - £1,350; S Moorcroft - £52.00; Graeme Jarvis (Property Repairs) - £95.00; Salaries £1,433.25; HMRC - £156.15) .

11259 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6 April 2020. WLBC's Chief Operating Officer Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey was pleased to have the opportunity to come and introduce herself at this meeting, to meet with the Parish Council and Clerk and to listen to and understand views as to how the Borough Council and the Parish Council could best work together going forward.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.