



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 13th December 2021 at 7.30pm. The meeting was held in the Venue, Liverpool
Road, Much Hoole.**

Present; Cllrs N. Woodcock (Chairman), E. Houghton, K. Hayes, R Lea, T. Hewitt, A Taylor
Clerk R. Weaver in attendance

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr T Hewitt

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None

3. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to sign the Minutes of the meeting of 8th November 2021 as an accurate record.

4. Adjournment for Public Participation

One member of the public attended to inform the Council of an ongoing campaign to replace the old pipe bridge which is now in a state of disrepair, with a new bridge crossing the River Douglas. The intention of the campaign is to lobby United Utilities and other agencies to provide a river crossing as part of the plans for a coastal footpath. English Nature are instrumental in this campaign and a request was made for Much Hoole Parish Council to lend its support. The Council was grateful for the information and agreed that the matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

5. Cycle track update

There are no issues with the track. IT was noted that SRBC are asking for more places to place the impressive wildflower displays and this would be an ideal location.

12. Village Hall development update

It was agreed that this item would be taken earlier in the agenda as it contained information that might be relevant in the budget discussions. Following the completion of the hall, a survey had been conducted by SRBC to ask local people what further developments they wished to see in relation to the hall itself or the land which surrounds it. 60% of those who responded supported the development of the land to provide young peoples' facilities in the form of a MGA (Multi Use Games Area)

In respect of the hall, usage is encouraging and there is a healthy interest in bookings for events. The recent Christmas Fair raised £1,000. The financial position of the hall is encouraging and the new trustees have been appointed.

6. Finance

It was resolved to pay the following:

- a) Clerk salary for November in sum of £240 to PR Weaver
- b) Clerk mileage expenses for November in sum of £23.99
- c) HMRC for PAYE in November in sum of £60.00
- d) Lengthsman's invoice number 111 and 112 to G McKenna in sum of £25 and £78.24 respectively - totalling £103.24
- e) It was agreed that the British Legion commemorative wreath invoice for £28 should be paid without delay.
- f) The budget against spend summary was noted
- g) The bank reconciliation as at 5th December was noted

7. Budget and precept

The proposals for spending were discussed and the following budget and precept for 2022/23 was set:

Budget heading	Budget
Clerk salary	£3,600
Clerk expenses	£900
Audit fees	£500
Subscriptions	£500
Insurance	£600
ICT	£700
Meeting expenses	£300
Training	£500
Newsletter	£1,000
St George	£100
Burial Ground grant	£500
Lengthman fees	£3,000
CIL money	£0 unless notified otherwise
Christmas decorations	£500
Community projects	£8,000
Grants	£5,000
Recreation facilities	£6,000
Contingency	£11,000
Section 137 spending	£750
TOTAL BUDGET	£43,450

Taking into account the projected spend in the remainder of 2021/22 and likely carryover bank balance into 2022/23, this will require a precept of £18,450

8. Grant applications

A proposal to award a grant of £150 (or the cost of an equivalent specification notice board) for the Village Shop was considered. The board serves as a general community notice board advertising local events and services and the current one has deteriorated to a point where it is no longer serviceable.

9. Community Projects update

IT was noted that three proposed locations for the artwork which has been proposed in one form or another for some considerable time, is now with a named officer in SRBC planning department. A response with advice on how to obtain the required planning consent is awaited, although the Christmas break will slow things down somewhat.

10. Planning

The planning application was noted

11. Casual Vacancy

The resignation of Councillor Chris Hewitt was duly noted with thanks for the work he had undertaken as a member of the Council. It was agreed that the process for a casual vacancy should commence as from the day following the meeting, beginning with a notice regarding the need for a bye election, followed by a co-option if no such request is made

13. Christmas decorations

It was noted that the Christmas trees and lights had been erected in the village

14. Reports from other meetings

Cllr Houghton had attended the LALC AGM and reported an interesting presentation on Climate Change. LALC has also recently re-structured radically with the departure of a full time manager, in favour of two part-time posts, one dealing with membership, engagement and services and the second co-ordinating the provision of training.

Councillor lea and the Clerk had attended two meetings aimed at improving contact with parish Councils. The first was LCC which had provided very impressive presentations on climate change, public health and crime and disorder. It was noted that the quality of speakers was of an extremely high standard.

The second meeting was hosted by SRBC. Numerous topics were discussed including the existence of the community funds available via grants, some suggested improvements in the involvement of parish councils in allocation of CIL monies and local dialogue with community hubs. Co-ordination of activities for the Jubilee and a forthcoming local plan meeting to discuss development plans in South Ribble were noted. It was reported that SRBC have many things available to them which could benefit the parish and these meetings were a useful means of accessing them.

13. Items for next agenda

Review of standing, financial, asset and risk assessment documents.

Remembrance day arrangements 2022 and onwards

Speed Devices

Cycle routes

Tree and Wild flower planting

Support for coastal footpath

Community project updates

11. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 10th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting will be held at The Venue, Liverpool Road, Much Hoole