



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 14th June 2021 at 7.30pm. The meeting was held in the Venue, Liverpool Road,
Much Hoole.**

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr C Hewitt

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllrs, Taylor, Brown and Houghton – Item 6 regarding the Village Hall. This is an information only item with no pecuniary interests

3. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to sign the Minutes of the meeting of 17th May 2021 as an accurate record.

4. Adjournment for Public Participation

Two members of the public were present.

- A question was asked about progress towards repairing footpath FP30. Work has been scheduled to start on the day following this meeting on 15th June 2021
- A question was asked about the meeting of the Council in January. It was stated that during that meeting there had been mention of an underspend on the Village Hall project, in which case, the questioner asked what had happened to the money provided by the Council? In trying to answer this question it was noted there is no mention of any reported underspend in the January minutes, nor was there any reference to anything of that sort in the regular written update reports provided by the trustees. Councillors and Clerk who were present at the meeting were unable to recall any discussion of that sort and reported that there never has been any mention of an 'underspend' to their knowledge. In any event, the Council had pledged a fixed sum of money towards the overall cost for building the hall. Given that the eventual cost of the building would far exceed the Council's contribution, the relevance of the point was not clear. In the absence of any other clarification or documentation to assist the Council in identifying the issue the questioner was concerned about, the Council was unable to take it any further.

5. Cycle track update

There are no issues with the track. There is some minor preventative maintenance work planned for the coming months. It was good to see that a wide range of people are using it. It was disappointing that the wildflower area seeded earlier in the year has not flowered, in all probability due to the poor weather through April and May. **It was resolved** that the wildflower area should be re-seeded in an attempt to establish the wildflowers before the end of the summer.

6. Village Hall update

Cllr Taylor presented a written update on behalf of the Trustees. The Hall is now open subject to Covid restrictions. The main opening event scheduled for the end of June will now have to be postponed due to further delays in lifting restrictions. The final accounts for the building project are being prepared and will be available for publication in the next few weeks.

The item dealing with accuracy of the April minutes was deferred until later in the meeting

7. Finance

It was resolved to authorise the following payments;

- a. Clerk salary in sum of £240 (net for May 2021)
- b. Clerk expenses for March, April and May) in sum of £40.05

- c. HMRC(PAYE) in sum of £60 (For May 2021)
- d. Ian Edwards in sum of £150 for internal audit services

Audit issues

- e. **It was resolved** to approve the internal audit report
- f. **It was resolved** to accept and sign the statement of governance AGAR section 1
- g. **It was resolved** approve the statement of accounts, AGAR section 2
- h. **It was resolved** to set the period of public rights as 14th June – 23rd July

8. **Community Projects update**

The Village Welcome sign designs have been examined by LCC and there now appears to be some agreement over what LCC will allow. **It was resolved** that the Clerk will now liaise directly with LCC Highways to finalise the design and subject to there being no more than 20% difference in costs from those originally agreed, progress to production and placement of the signs can take place.

Cllr Taylor reported that he had been doing some work on the Trafalgar Gardens, but it is apparent that the shrubs which have been overgrown and recently cut back are beyond redemption. He **proposed** that the central area of the gardens be cleared out and replanted with new planting and low maintenance weed barrier surfacing at an estimated cost of £800. It was agreed that the selected shrubs should support bees and wildlife. The proposal was seconded and it was **resolved** that the work would be undertaken.

9. **Planning**

Two planning applications were noted

- 10. Typo error – there is no item 10 on the agenda

11. **Local Meetings**

The LALC executive meeting is scheduled for 19th June 2021 and the South Ribble Area meeting on 26th June 2021

12. **Items for next agenda**

Updates on current projects

6b **Accuracy of April minutes**

Following a complaint from a member of the public that misleading information had been presented at the April meeting, with the result that the minutes reflected inaccuracies, the Clerk had undertaken an investigation into the allegation. The Clerk had spoken to all parties concerned, which included Councillors and members of staff in external organisations. The investigation concluded that the information presented to the Council at the April meeting was completely accurate at the time and presented in good faith. Therefore, the minutes were correct and did not need amending.

It was resolved to accept the Clerk's investigation report and a copy of the report would be sent to the person making the allegation.

13. **Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12th July 2021 at 7.30pm. The meeting will be held at The Venue, Liverpool Road, Much Hoole