



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 8th February 2021 at 7.30pm. The meeting was held via Zoom video link under
emergency Corona virus legislation.**

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

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllrs, Brown, Taylor 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 11th January 2021 as an accurate record.

4. Adjournment for Public Participation

Three members of the public were present. One provided a summary of the bowling club activities in support of the grant application at item 8a). A question was raised as to why the Parish Council was supporting the Village Hall financially when no work, improvements or spending was being undertaken on other issues in the Village. It was pointed out that the Parish Council remains supportive of a thriving village hall facility, but not to the exclusion of other matters. A number of recent decisions to improve the village have already been taken, some of them completed, such as the redevelopment of the cycle track and some still in the process of being implemented. Furthermore, the current agenda has several items for discussion to allocate money for improvements not relating to the village hall. A further question was raised about speeding along Smithy Lane and the viability of using speed devices.

5. Cycle track update

It was noted that the track is regularly inspected. It was noted that tree planting has taken place around the site and further development and maintenance is planned, including the imminent delivery of topsoil to prepare for the wildflower areas.

6. Village Hall update

Cllr Taylor presented a report to the Council describing progress to date. It was noted that the hall is now installing internal fixtures and fittings. A proposed opening date is around May 2021, subject to ongoing restrictions. SRBC remains supportive of providing the funding required to complete the project as the earmarked funds from the Parish Council come to an end. These funds will be subject of a formal SRBC decision in the near future.

7. Finance

It was resolved to authorise the following payments;

- a. Clerk salary in sum of £226.00 (Net for January 2021)
- b. HMRC(PAYE) in sum of £56.50 (For January 2021)
- c. Pay Clerk's expenses in sum of £19.35
- d. Pay Sustainable Land Management in sum of £235 for removal of tree stumps in Trafalgar Gardens.

8. Grant Applications

- a) **It was resolved to award a grant of £500** to Much Hoole Village Hall Bowling Club to contribute towards improved and more energy efficient lighting.
- b) The case for Here for Humanity foodbank deferred from the last meeting was re-considered and it **was resolved** that an award of £200 would be made.

9. Community Infrastructure Levy

Work on the Trafalgar gardens, levelling the grassed areas and removing tree stumps up to a value of £2,000 has previously been agreed and minuted some time ago. This work will be completed once the weather is suitable and Covid restrictions allow.

It was noted that monies from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) received by the Council remain unallocated and the Council considered additional facilities that it might want invest in or upgrade.

There was agreement that some of the **local footpaths** were unusable as they are badly eroded and need repairs to the surfaces. Some of these have already been identified with quotes obtained to repair them. It was **resolved** that the Lengthsman would undertake a walking survey to identify further repair work needed and prioritised repair works to footpaths up to a sum of £3,500 would be commissioned.

It was also noted that the **notice boards** at Town Lane and the Village shop were in poor condition and in need of replacement. It was also felt that the development of the facilities at the new village hall would make it advantageous to have an additional board advertising community events in closer proximity to the hall itself.

It was therefore **resolved** that 3 notice boards would be purchased for these locations at a cost of £1,300

It was **resolved** that a concrete **picnic bench** costing approximately £500 would be purchased for the newly developed cycle track. Consideration for a second bench would be deferred to a future meeting.

10. Newsletter

A draft Newsletter was considered and agreed for publication on the Parish Council website

11. Planning

One planning application was noted

12. Local Meetings

The LALC executive meeting took place on 23rd January 2021 but there was no attendance from MHPC

13. Items for next agenda

To consider new gates on cycle track

13. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting (format will be in accordance with Government restrictions) will be held on Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.30pm