



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 19th December 2016

Methodist Church, School Room, Moss House Lane

PRESENT: Cllr E Houghton (Chairman), Cllr A Taylor, Cllr T Brown, Cllr J Cairns,
Cllr M Gelder, Cllr R Gelder, Cllr D Fenton.

IN ATTENDANCE: Angela Nicholls. Clerk to the Parish Council

| Ref | No. | Item |
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| 431/16 | 1. | Apologies for Absence Cllr C Cowburn |
| 432/16 | 2. | Declaration of Interests and Dispensations Cllr E Houghton declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda item 13, dispensations applied Cllr R Gelder declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda item 7, dispensations applied |
| 433/16 | 3. | Minutes of the Previous Meetings The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 9 th November 2016, amended: - Item 13 The Clerk updated the Parish Council on the position of the sale of the Pinfold Land, which was noted by the Parish Council. Item 15 to record Cllr Brown will circulate to the Parish Council the latest draft Newsletter for comments before publication in the new year. Following the amendments, the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 9 th November 2016 were ratified as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman. The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 21 st November 2016, were ratified as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman. |
| 434/16 | 4. | Public Time The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation. Five members of the public attended the meeting. Numerous comments were made in support of Much Hoole Parish Council applying for a loan from South Ribble Borough Council or other bodies. It was said that Village Hall functions had been well attended and there was local support for the project. The Chairman reconvened the meeting. |
| 435/16 | 5. | County & Borough Council The Parish Council considered the Lancashire County Council Trading Standards Consumer Alerts and it was agreed to put them on the public noticeboards. |
| 436/16 | 6. | Off Road Cycle Track Cllr Taylor updated the Parish Council on the ongoing maintenance of the cycle track, which was noted. There had been a minor incident of rubbish in the adjacent field. It was agreed to ask Redleg net Ltd to set up a new email address for the cycle track inspections to be |

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| | | recorded in which the Clerk would have access to. |
| 437/16 | 7. | <p>Finance</p> <p>The Parish Council had not received the cumulative budget report in sufficient time to read it before the meeting do it was deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>The retiring Clerk had amended the inaccuracies to the bank reconciliation for July/August 2016.</p> <p>The Council approved the following payments:</p> <p>Redleg.net Ltd - Website: £12.00</p> <p>RJ&LK Dalton - Planting at Roundabout: £75</p> <p>The payment of the retiring Clerks Salary, PAYE and expenses was deferred to the January 2017 meeting.</p> |
| 438/16 | 8. | <p>Budget 2017/18</p> <p>Discussion took place as to when the precept needed to be agreed by. The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow Councillor Suthers to speak who confirmed the precept has to be finalised by the 31st January 2017. The meeting was reconvened.</p> <p>It was agreed to defer discussion about the draft budget for 2017/18 until the January 2017 meeting</p> |
| 439/16 | 9. | <p>Parish Council Precept 2017/18</p> <p>Setting the precept for 2017/18 was deferred until the January meeting.</p> |
| 440/16 | 10. | <p>Insurance</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed the need to increase its Fidelity Insurance for the Council in the light of funds to be held by the Parish Council following the impending sale of the Pinfold Land. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Fidelity the question.</p> <p>It was agreed the Clerk would write to ask Fidelity if they had received the cheque which has not been cashed for at least three months.</p> |
| 441/16 | 11. | <p>Planning Applications</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the following planning applications:</p> <p>07/2016/1169/HOH</p> <p>Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing shed to rear – 27 Smithy Lane, Much Hoole.</p> <p>07/2016/1276/DIS</p> <p>Two storey side extension following demolition of attached garage to side – Florida, 16 Moss Lane, Much Hoole.</p> <p>07/2016/1276/DIS</p> <p>Application to discharge various conditions of planning approval 07/2016/0251/FUL – Lunds Lane Farm, Town Lane, Much Hoole.</p> |

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| 442/16 | 12. | <p>Pinfold Land</p> <p>The Clerk updated the Parish Council on the position of the sale of the Pinfold Land, which was noted by the Parish Council. A question had been raised to ask if the Parish Council has a Common Seal which it doesn't.</p> |
| 443/16 | 13. | <p>Much Hoole Village Hall</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed the report from the Village Hall Committee re funding proposals for the redevelopment of the Village Hall.</p> <p>The need for Parish Councilor's on the Working Group to be independent of the Village Hall was discussed. Clear aims and objectives for the Working Party had not been formally agreed.</p> <p>The Cllr Auditors had advised the need for a Business Plan to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project and the need for due diligence. This required a formal policy for the Parish Council to release the money in stages to the Village Hall Trustees to pay the Architect. The Parish Council discussed the Auditors advice and resolved to agree a formal policy at a future meeting to clarify the role of the Parish Council protecting public money and the role of the Village Hall Trustees.</p> <p>A Proposal was tabled to agree the Village Hall could enter in discussions with South Ribble Borough Council re a loan of £320,000 over ten years to cover the short fall in funding for the Village Hall project. It was proposed the precept was raised to cover the repayments which it was stated will cost each household a maximum of 85 pence per week.</p> <p>An Amendment to the proposal was proposed and seconded that the discussion was deferred until the Parish Council have further information about what will be involved. A recorded vote was taken with 3 Councillor's for the amendment and 2 against.</p> <p>Cllr E Houghton (Chairman) abstained, Cllr A Taylor against, Cllr T Brown against, Cllr J Cairns abstained, Cllr M Gelder for, Cllr R Gelder for, Cllr D Fenton for.</p> <p>Discussions took place about borrowing the money to fund the Village Hall project and alternative match funding options.</p> <p>It was noted the law that allows a parish council to borrow money this is contained in paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government Act 2003 ("the 2003 Act"). However, before such a council can borrow a sum of money, it must first receive an approval to borrow from the "appropriate person": in England, the Secretary of State by way of the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), and in Wales, the National Assembly for Wales. Evidence of the borrowing approval may be required at audit.</p> |
| 444/16 | 14. | <p>New Much Hoole Parish Notice Board</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed and agreed the Clerk should respond to the questions raised letter from the Preston Ribble Methodist Circuit regarding the erection of the new Parish Council Notice Board in the grounds of the Methodist Graveyard on Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole.</p> |
| 445/16 | 15. | <p>Community Engagement Strategy</p> <p>The Community Engagement Strategy was discussed and it was agreed to bring a version amended for the need of Much Hoole to the next meeting.</p> |
| 446/16 | 16. | <p>Lancashire County Council Parish and Town Councils Conference</p> <p>It was discussed and agreed that Cllr R Gelder and Cllr E Houghton would attend Parish Conference on Saturday 25th February, to be held at County Hall, Preston. It was agreed the Clerk should book the places.</p> |

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| 447/16 | 17. | Meeting of Western Villages Parish Council Chairman The Parish Council noted a report from the Chairman on a meeting held between the Western Villages Parish Council Chairmen; Louise Davies of South Ribble Borough Council; and Councillor Colin Coulton. |
| 448/16 | 18. | Penwortham Town Neighbourhood Development Plan The Parish Council noted the announcement by South Ribble Borough Council on the Penwortham Town Neighbourhood Development Plan. |
| 449/16 | 19. | Local Meetings (for information only) At the LLAC exec meeting concerns had been raised about Clerks working for several Parishes and only one Parish paying the membership but all Parishes under the Clerks remit receiving the information. Twenty people attended the Transport Workshop organised by the Parish Champion, Feedback and ideas were sought from Parishes with a view to clustering Bus Services. |
| 450/16 | 20. | Items for the Next Agenda (for information only) Budget for 2016/17 and Precept. Parish Council Precept 2017/18. Much Hoole Village Hall Community Engagement. |
| 451/16 | 21. | Date of Next Meeting Thursday 12 th January 2017. |