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**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30pm at the  
Methodist Church, School Room, Moss House Lane**

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

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr T Brown

**2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Cllrs, Taylor and Houghton – Item 6 regarding the Village Hall and Cllrs Taylor and Woodcock item 11 regarding planning.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

**It was resolved** to sign the Minutes of the meetings of 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and the extraordinary meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020 as accurate records.

**4. Adjournment for Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present

**5. Cycle track update**

It was noted that the track is regularly inspected and before too much longer, if the track is not redeveloped as below, it will benefit from some new topping material.

Plans to develop the track into something more attractive to users are still being developed, but these plans have now advanced to a point where a site plan has been drawn up and costs have been obtained. The final cost of a redeveloped track will be within the community fund balances still available. It is expected that the new design track can be started within the next month but to do so will incur some costs before the next meeting. **It was resolved** to approve a sum of £1,000 to meet any invoices for plant hire and aggregate. Invoices up to a total of £1,000 should be directed to the Clerk who can present them for authorisation under the authority of this resolution. This will allow work to commence.

It was also noted that SRBC are encouraging the planting of trees which they will provide and these should be incorporated into the design of the site. The site will be bordered by wild planting areas.

The proposed track will have a dual level route for both younger and older riders. Before it is opened for use it will need to have a risk assessment conducted and this may include some external assessment if that is felt to be helpful.

It was also noted that the gate has once again been damaged and requires either repair or replacement.

**6. Village Hall update**

Cllr Taylor presented an update paper for the Council which outlined progress to date. A start date of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 has been established on an 8-month contract. The sod cutting ceremony will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 2.30pm. All Parish Councillors have been invited to attend. The money available will cover the building of the hall as per the contract, but further work will be required outside and this will require extra funding. The trustees are continuing their fundraising efforts to raise this money and are in contact with SRBC to see if support might be available from them. Enabling works have already started with car parking space being temporarily created on the tennis courts.

**7. Finance**

**It was resolved** to authorise the following payments;

- a) Clerk salary in sum of £220.00 (Net for January)
- b) HMRC(PAYE) in sum of £55.00 (For December)
- c) Clerk expenses in sum of £9.90

**8. Review of Risk Register**

Councillors reviewed the register of risks and **resolved to approve the register**

**9. Community led project update**

Village welcome signs are still ongoing. They have been scoped and a design agreed. They will be synthetic material and placed at the northern and southern boundaries of the village. The approximate cost will be in the region of £1,400. The design will be sent to LCC Highways to secure permission to site them and to approve the design/size of lettering etc to conform with regulations before any instructions are given to manufacture them.

New planters have been placed in the village

Re-instatement of the bin by SRBC has taken place at Moss House Lane/Smithy Lane. Further bins will be placed in the recreation ground and at the school entrance.

The improvement to the cycle track has been dealt with at item 5

**10. Community engagement**

It was agreed that the recent use of Facebook during the planning consultation had been problematic and it was decided that the Council would no longer engage with the Much Hoole FB site that had been used. Instead, news would be included on the Parish Council's website [www.muchhoolepc.org.uk](http://www.muchhoolepc.org.uk). At each meeting items that the Council wants to publicise can be identified and the website updated. If a Facebook page is used by the Council it will be its own and it will contain a link to the Council website to avoid the difficulties of managing responses expressed on FB sites.

**11. Planning**

It was agreed that the Council would submit a response to the local plan consultation in line with views expressed at this meeting.

The applications relevant to Much Hoole were noted.

The benefits of having a local village plan were again discussed and will feature on a future agenda

**12. Meeting dates**

Due to commitments of new Councillors elected at the last election, the suitability of Wednesdays for meetings was discussed. It was **resolved** that the second Monday of each month would be the day on which future meetings would be held. It was **further resolved** that as the Village Hall is available on those days, the meetings would be held there rather than the Methodist Church.

**13. Reports from local meetings**

Cllr Houghton reported back that she had attended a community hub meeting which was very useful. It was agreed that she would continue to represent the MHPC on this group.

**14. Items for next agenda**

Newsletter  
Village Plan  
LALC conference delegate

**15. Date of next meeting.** 7.30pm Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at the Much Hoole Village Hall.