



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
13th November 2019 at 7.30pm at the
Methodist Church, School Room, Moss House Lane**

Present; N Woodcock (Chairman), E. Houghton, C.Hewitt, R. Lea, K. Hayes, T. Brown

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr T Hewitt. Cllr A Taylor (abroad)

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllrs, Brown and Houghton - Item 9 regarding the Village Hall.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to sign the Minutes of the meeting of 11 October 2019 as an accurate record.

4. Adjournment for Public Participation

There were no members of the public present but Cllr Hayes had been asked to raise two matters on behalf of local residents who were unable to be present at the meeting. It was reported that the closure of the A59 for 3 weeks at Hutton is imminent and residents of Much Hoole may find difficulties in getting to Preston. The closure is to complete the new road link at Howick which would normally be done at night to avoid traffic disruption. However as the roadworks are in the middle of a residential area this is not possible and it is a matter for LCC to manage the diversions.

The seconds issue was the ongoing road safety concerns outside the school where this week there was a near miss involving a child and cars travelling at speed. Vehicles are using the road as a rat run to avoid congestion which is getting increasingly worse on the A59 towards Tarleton. The road is poorly lit and traffic is passing at speed as parents are collecting children from the after school club. It was agreed that this issue and the need for traffic calming measures would be raised as a matter of urgency with LCC due to the regularity with which this issue is raised and the near accident in recent days.

5. Cycle track update

It was agreed that the condition of the gates on the cycle track would be looked at again to determine whether the previous decision to replace a gate should be progressed.

Cllr C Hewitt raised the possibility of developing and enhancing the track and raising some of the bumps to make it into more of a 'pump track' The proposal received general support but further information will be required to examine similar schemes elsewhere and to learn lessons from them in terms of safety, design expertise, insurance and liability issues. More information will be brought to future meetings with the intention of providing a more exciting ride suitable for both younger and older children.

6. Finance

It was resolved to authorise the following payments;

- a. Clerk salary in sum of £220 (Net for October) plus £27.57 for the same period (Total £247.57)
- b. HMRC(PAYE) in sum of £55.00 (For October)
- c. The issue of HSBC cheque 000336 outside of the meeting was noted.
- d. The balances transferred from HSBC to the Unity Trust Accounts were noted.
- e. An additional invoice from Royal British Legion for £28 for the poppy wreath laid at last Sunday's Church Service was tabled at the meeting. This invoice was not included on the agenda. However, the decision to purchase a wreath was considered and agreed during the budget setting meeting in December 2018 and for that reason, it was moved that the invoice be paid at this meeting rather than placing it on the agenda next month. It was **resolved** that £28 be paid to the Royal British Legion poppy appeal (classed as section 137 expenditure)

7. Community led project update

a) Additional bins

The three additional bins have now been delivered and one has been installed at the junction of Smithy Lane and Moss House Lane. The other two are with the Lengthsman for installation. The payment to Broxap (previously agreed by resolution) will now be released..

b) Three new planters have been ordered and delivery is still awaited. The existing planters have now been planted with spring bulbs by the WI Knit and natter group and the Lengthsman will complete the winter planting. The additional planters will be placed at the boundary marker, the northern gateway roundabout and a new barrier basket at the recreation ground.

c) *Village welcome signs*

This is still work in progress

8. CIL spending

It was noted that the groundwork on the recreation ground is still scheduled for completion subject to weather. There is still some CIL money available for allocation and a number of ideas for how this could be best used were discussed

9. Village Hall update

Councillor Brown provided an update to the meeting after meeting with the architect and quantity surveyor. Drawings, plans and planning permissions have now gone out to contractors. Tenders will be returned by 2nd December. Tenders will be available for evaluation by 12th December and the Parish Clerk will be present to observe to ensure that the Parish Council as a major financial supporter of the project is properly represented. In the event that tenders can deliver the project within budget, a contractor will be selected for a 6-month contract period commencing on 3rd February 2020.

10. Planning

No planning notices relevant to Much Hoole have been issued since the last meeting.

11. Lengthsman update

The activities of the Lengthsman were noted and the expenditure was noted as being within Budget limits agreed earlier in the year.

12. Local Meetings

A report from the LALC executive meeting on 7th November 2019 was noted

13. Items for next agenda

Report back on signage proposals
Budget and precept

14. Date of next meeting. 7.30pm Wednesday 11th Dec 2019 at the Methodist Church Hall.