

## **Minutes of the Little Hoole Parish Council Meeting**

**held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024, at Old Mill Court, Walmer Bridge**

**In attendance:** Cllrs L Dryden (Chair), T Wilcock (items 1 to 16), P Ashby, J Rainsbury, S Rainsbury, S Evald, D Owen, Mr P Cafferkey (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer); and 15 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None
2. **To agree the minutes of the last Parish Council mtg held on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024:**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024, were accepted as a true record and agreed unanimously.
3. **To receive declarations of interest:** None.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes of last meeting:** The three circular planters have now been repaired and stained. The lifebuoy at the pond at Old Mill Court has been installed. Cllr J. Rainsbury explained that unfortunately he is not able to attend Remembrance Sunday at Hoole Church this year to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council; Cllr Ashby kindly agreed to attend.
5. **Public Time - matters raised by members of the public:**  
Cllr Tracy Hewitt from Much Hoole Parish Council was in attendance to ask if the two Parish Councils (i.e. Little Hoole & Much Hoole) could work together to somehow finance a school crossing patrol officer for children crossing the A59 to attend Little Hoole Primary School (LHPS). It was indicated that LHPS would be willing to make a financial contribution. The Chair (Cllr Dryden) agreed to liaise with Much Hoole Parish Council on the matter and Cllr J Rainsbury agreed to speak to Lancashire County Councillor Mr Graham Gooch.

A number of residents were present to object to planning application 07/2024/00668/FUL, item 6c also refers.

6. **Planning Applications:**
  - a) 07/2024/00703/DIS. Springfield Farm Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB. Discharge of Condition No 7 (Method Statement) of planning permission 07/2024/00042/FUL
  - b) 07/2024/00704/DIS. Springfield Farm Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB. Discharge of Condition No 7 (Method Statement) of planning permission 07/2023/01063/FUL
  - c) 07/2024/00668/FUL. Land Adjacent 26 Hall Carr Lane Walmer Bridge. Erection of 2 detached self-build/custom build dwellings.
  - d) 07/2024/00616/FUL. Lesser Marsh House Farm Station Road Little Hoole PR4 5LH. Retrospective Change of Use of Existing Barn from Agricultural Use into stables and erection of manege.

**It was resolved** that no representation would be made regarding the planning applications a), b), and d) above.

With regard to item 6c above **it was resolved** that the Parish Council would write a letter of objection to the Planning Authority (South Ribble Borough Council) on the following grounds:

- a) the scale of the two properties is not in keeping with the surrounding properties;
- b) the design (e.g. zinc like cladding) is not in keeping with existing properties;
- c) the environmental impact e.g. loss of greenery;
- d) the proposal for two points of access in close proximity to what is already a busy junction;
- e) the possible lack of off-street parking provision;
- f) the possible impact of any pilling to the foundations of nearby properties, in particular number 26 Hall Carr Lane; and
- g) the fact that previously, planning permission in principle has been given for only one two-storey detached house on this plot of land.

**7. To approve payments transacted through the bank for Aug & Sep 2024:**

Current a/c Aug & Sep 2024			
£	Payee	£	Description
01-Aug-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	36.96	Monthly website fee
07-Aug-24	B/P to: Walmer Bridge VH	75.00	Room Hire Apr May Jun
15-Aug-24	B/P to: Waterleaf	2,875.00	Supply & Install fountain to pond at Old Mill Court
15-Aug-24	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	124.07	Clerk's Salary Tax Mth 5
15-Aug-24	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	2.60	Clerk's expenses Tax Mth 5
28-Aug-24	B/P to: Dean Readfern	1,580.00	Hire of Climbing wall re Summer activities
02-Sep-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	36.96	Monthly website fee
17-Sep-24	B/P to: Adam Watson	57.99	Paint wall behind Bus Stop
19-Sep-24	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	72.47	Clerk's Salary Tax Mth 6
19-Sep-24	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	1.50	Clerk's expenses Tax Mth 6
23-Sep-24	B/P to: LT Dryden	195.59	Refund to Clr Dryden re purchase of Lifebuoy for Old Mill Court pond
30-Sep-24	Service Charge	18.00	Bank Charges
Instant Access a/c Aug & Sep 2024			
30-Sep-24	Credit Interest	-134.74	Bank Interest

**It was resolved** that the above transactions be approved.

**8. Payments for approval:**

- a) **It was resolved** that the Clerk's claim for Sep 2024 of 14.17 hours and expenses of £3.20 be approved.
- b) **It was resolved** that the External Auditor's invoice for £252.00 (incl VAT) be approved.

**9. Payments approved by email or pre-approved and retrospectively noted: It was resolved** that the invoice (£244.76) for the repair and staining of the planters be approved.

10. **Financial statement as at 30 Sep 2024.** The Clerk presented the financial statement as at 30th Sep 2024. There are no actual or anticipated abnormal items of expenditure. Little Hoole Parish Council is, therefore, expected to end the financial year under budget by approximately £6,000; this will result in an estimated bank balance of circa £33,000 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. **It was resolved** that the financial statement be approved.
11. **External Auditor's Report re 2023-24 AGAR.** The Clerk reported that the External Auditor's certificate had been received with regard to the Parish Council's 2023-24 AGAR (Annual Governance & Accountability Return). The report concluded that in the External Auditor's opinion "*the information in sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices.*" **It was resolved** that the External Auditor's report be approved.
12. **Notice of conclusion of audit:** The Clerk reported that in accordance with legislation the "Notice of Conclusion of audit" with regard to the Parish Council's 2023-24 AGAR (Annual Governance & Accountability Return) had been displayed in the noticeboards and on the Parish Council's website. **It was resolved** that the "Notice of Conclusion of Audit" be approved.
13. **Internal Audit quote for 2024-25 Accounts:** **It was resolved** that the quote of £270.00 (excl VAT) from Account-ant (Yorkshire Ltd) for the internal audit of the Parish Council's accounts for 2024-25 be accepted.
14. **Donation Request from Walmer Bridge Village Hall (WBVH):** A donation request had been received from WBVH towards their annual Halloween event. **It was resolved** that further information was required from WBVH with regard to this request and following the receipt of further information a decision would be made by Parish Councillors via email.
15. **Clarification of responsibility for the administrative process for Councillor led projects:** **It was resolved** that Parish Councillors would be responsible for the administrative process for Councillor led projects including (e.g. obtaining of quotes, placing of orders etc), up to the point of invoicing, the invoice being processed by the Clerk.
16. **Proposed Zip Wire for Dob Lane Recreation Park:** Cllr Evald presented a proposal for the purchase and installation of a 25m Zip Wire for Dob Lane Recreation Park. Liaison has taken place with South Ribble Borough Council (SRBC) who have agreed to maintain, insure and cordon off the Zip Wire, if the Zip Wire is purchased by the Parish Council. In agreeing to insure etc the Zip Wire, SRBC has stipulated that they have a say in the specification for the Zip Wire. Depending on the type materials used for the Zip Wire (e.g. SRBC have stipulated that an all-wood structure cannot be used due to the potential for the wood to rot) the cost to the Parish Council will be in the region of £16,000 to £22,000 (excl VAT). There was unanimous approval in principle for this project to be pursued. Cllr Evald was thanked for her hard work in bringing this proposal to the Parish Council.
17. **Discussion regarding the Parish Council purchasing rock salt for the winter period:** It was agreed that this matter be given further consideration, and if necessary, be placed on a future agenda.

18. **To approve purchase of replacement Christmas Lights. It was resolved** that replacement Christmas Lights be purchased. Cllr Ashby kindly agreed to place the order.
19. **Remembrance Sunday Wreaths – Update:** Cllr J Rainsbury confirmed that the wreaths and lamp post poppies have been ordered. See also item 4.
20. **Winter Planting: It was resolved** that two new replacement trees be purchased for the Community Garden and approximately £90 was approved for the purchase of bulbs and heathers for the brick planters.
21. **Correspondence:** It was confirmed that no Councillors are attending the Parish & Town Council Conference 2nd Nov 2024.
22. **Information and Updates:** This item is purposefully not recorded; it is to allow Councillors a short time to discuss any matters that might result in a future agenda item. No financial or legal decisions are made.
23. **Date & Time of Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting is to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2024, 7.00pm, The Lounge, Old Mill Court. Cllrs Wilcock, J Rainsbury & S Rainsbury offered their apologies in advance.

***Agreed as a true record – Laurence Dryden – Chair***  
11th Nov 2024

