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*Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith*  
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**Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at the Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane, Lathom, WN8 8TY at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Councillors in attendance:** Cllr Carol Blackledge, Cllr Andrew Beeston, Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Roger Clayton (Chairman), Cllr Ernie Pallas, Cllr Darren Steele, Cllr Andy Taylor

**In attendance:** Borough Cllr Marsh-Pritchard and 1 member of the public were in attendance

**MINUTES**

**1 To record apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2 To receive declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4 Public Participation**

A resident reported that the landscaping around plot E off Spa Lane had not been done. The road repair on Spa Lane following trench work was pot holing. This had been reported via Love Clean Street but LCC had advised that it was the responsibility of the contractor to make good. The

enforcement officer had not reported back about the landscaping or the excessive lighting which should have been turned off by 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

## **5 Update on Local Plan**

A resident had sent an email to all the Borough Councillors raising concerns about the high level of residential housing outlined in the Local Plan. To date only one reply had been received to that email. It was noted that the OWL Councillors were already in contact with the resident.

The schedule for the Local Plan is well behind schedule causing concerns that the publication version might go forward without a public consultation.

It was resolved that the Parish Council form a Local Plan Sub-Committee. Cllr Andy Taylor, Cllr Andrew Chanter and Cllr Darren Steele volunteered to be sub-committee members. It was noted that members of the public are allowed to serve on sub committees by invitation.

## **6 Tree Wardens Report**

The Tree Warden had received permission to extent the community orchard in Westhead. A variety of free apple trees were to be made available from WLBC. Cllr Chanter, Cllr Pallas and Cllr Taylor offered to plant the new apple trees once they were available for collection. It was suggested that this could be linked in with National Tree Week which is taking place between 25th November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Cedar in Swells Wood is suffering but seemed to be still alive. It is hoped that it will recover in the spring.

A tree walk is to be considered for spring time.

After consideration it was agreed there would be no benefit from having any Tree Preservation Orders placed on any trees in Swells Wood.

## **7 Friends of Jacobs Wood update and planning for work party 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

The first Friends of Jacobs Wood work party was to meet on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Andrew Greenough had made a good start on clearing a circular path and putting in wood chip. Consideration was to be given to using some of the smaller logs from the felled trees for putting in steps on the steeper section of path.

The main focus for the work party on 14<sup>th</sup> October would be cutting back brambles, digging out bamboo, removing plastic tree sleeves, general tidying, dig up the ramp created by bikers and possibly opening up the stream. The actual work done would depend upon the number of volunteers attending, time spent working and working conditions.

A decision was to be made on the location for owl boxes and the site prepared ready for the installation of the boxes at a later date.

The Clerk was asked to enquire on the prices of aluminium signs to replace the plastic 'no cycling' sign which had been vandalised.

## **8 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented**

RSPB	150923	Owl nesting boxes	b.t	£300.00
Santander	160923	Bank charges	d.d	£0.15
J Smith	260912	GoDaddy Domain renewal	b.t	£28.78
NEST	270923	Clerk's Pension Sept 23	d.d	£120.98
J Smith	290923	Clerk's salary Sept 23	s.o	£ 561.64
HugoFox	200923	Website hosting	d.d	£23.99
Cricket Club	111023	Room hire	b.t	£45.00
Working Woodlands	111023	Weed spraying	b.t.	£572.00

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

## **9 To agree on signatories for a CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account.**

It had been resolved at the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September that a CCLA be opened. In order to progress the opening of the CCLA account, Councillors were asked to agree on signatories for the account. It was resolved that the signatories on the CCLA account should be the same as the Santander account, thus being Cllr Roger Clayton, Cllr Carol Blackledge and the Clerk, Mrs Jane Smith.

## **10 To discuss any current planning issues:**

Application Number: 2023/0839/FUL  
 Location: The Woodlands Scarth Hill Lane Ormskirk Lancashire L40 6HD  
 Proposal: Demolition of conservatory and replacement with single storey side/rear extension and internal alterations.

Application Number: 2023/0825/FUL  
 Location: 1 Hollin Hey Close Lathom Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 8DA  
 Proposal: Single storey rear extension with double storey side extension.

Application Number: 2023/0865/FUL  
Location: Woodlands, 30A Firswood Road, Lathom, Skelmersdale  
Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension and front porch.

Application Number: 2023/0868/FUL  
Location: 142 Blaguegate Lane, Lathom, Skelmersdale, WN8 8TY.  
Proposal: Proposed garage conversion to form new ground floor wet room for disabled occupant. Conversion to include the removal of existing garage door and the insertion of obscure glazed window.

It was resolved to raise no objections to all four applications.

**11 Update on proposal for traffic calming on Firswood Road**

Cllr Clayton, Cllr Blackledge and the Clerk had attended a meeting at County Hall with the Director of Highways and Transport and the Operations Manager Countywide Traffic Safety to discuss traffic calming measures for Firswood Road. LCC had agreed to provide some realistic costings and consider options.

**12 Update on the winter newsletter**

The Clerk advised that the draft newsletter would be available by the end of October with a view for it to go to print early November ready for delivery early December.

**13 Report from South Lathom Residents' Association (SLRA) for information only.**

SLRA had contacted WLBC enforcement regarding Wainhomes breaching conditions of planning. WLBC had investigated and confirmed a number of breaches had been made. WLBC still needed to decide if a stop notice should be presented.

**14 Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)**

Cllr Blackledge tendered apologies for the November meeting  
Cllr Taylor tendered apologies for the November and December meetings

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm

**Cllr Roger Clayton  
Chairman**

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2023**