



Lathom South Parish Council

serving our local community

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 10th April 2024

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

In attendance: One member of the public and Ward Cllr Linda Webster 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 13th March 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2024 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation

A member of Little Hoole Parish Council attended the meeting.

5. Tree warden reports

It was agreed to do some tree planting at the cricket club on Friday 12th April.

The Platinum Jubilee tree in Swells Wood continued to be in extremely poor condition. It was agreed to leave the tree until July to see if there was any improvement.

6. To receive income and expenditure figures for Financial Year 2023/24

The Clerk provided the income and expenditure figures for 2023/24 as below:

Balance as at 31st March 2024 comprised:

Current account	£ 35,673.96
Reserve account (CIL)	£ 44,063.30
CCLA	£140,000.01
TOTAL	£ 219,737.27
Total opening balance 31 st March 2023:	£ 98,086.11
Income	£ 143,390.67
Expenditure	£ 21,739.51
Resulting balance on 31st March 2024	£219,737.27

The Clerk had been advised by WLBC that an additional £7,295.09 of CIL funding was to be received. The amount that Parish Councils receive is set nationally at 15% but capped at £100 per council tax dwelling per year, index linked, (where no neighbourhood plan exists). The cap is initially calculated using the previous financial year number of taxed dwellings and using those figures the cap was set at £69,415.18, - this amount had already been received.

However, the WLBC Council Tax department had confirmed that as of April 2024, the number of taxed dwellings within Lathom South had increased to 451. Therefore, the annual cap for Oct 2023 – Sept 2024 had been recalculated giving a new figure of £76,710.27. The difference between these two caps is £7,295.09. The additional funding would be received shortly.

7. To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

Santander	160324	Bank charges	d.d	£0.20
A P Chanter	190324	Post & postcrete	b.t	£57.96
NEST	230224	Clerk's Pension Mar 24	d.d	129.57
J Smith	020424	Clerk's salary Mar 24	s.o	£601.00
Hugofox	080424	Web hosting	d.d	£23.99
Cricket Club	100424	Room hire	b.t	£50.00

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

8. To discuss any current planning issues:

Application No: 2024/0014/FUL

Proposal: Ground floor and first floor side extension and ground floor rear extension.

Site Location: 1 Council House, Whiteleys Lane, Lathom.

Following the initial application an amended plan had been submitted. On one of the new plans, a second roof line was shown which raised questions as to how this fitted in with the new plans. The amended plan, considerably reducing the proposed outbuildings, was accepted as reasonable and there were no objections regarding the overall size of the extended dwelling provided that the second roof line did not indicate a further development.

9. Update on community defibrillator

Skelmersdale Cricket Club had verbally confirmed agreement for the Parish Council to proceed with the purchase of a community defibrillator with the view to locating it near to the entrance to the club house. A formal agreement would be required prior to purchase, setting out full details.

10. To discuss proposals for the AGM and APA

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 15th May commencing at 6.30pm. Cllr Blackledge advised she would be standing down as Vice-Chair at that meeting. Cllr Steele registered his interest in standing as Vice-Chair.

The Annual Parish Assembly is scheduled to follow the AGM commencing at 8pm on 15th May. WLBC Green and Clean team had confirmed that a representative would be in attendance to give an overview on their services and answer any questions. Specific further points:

- Councillor Taylor agreed that he would give an update on the programme for the Local Plan.
- Cllr Steele requested that he be allowed to share information regarding 'Friends of Jacobs Wood'.
- as the Spring edition of the newsletter would be distributed before the meeting took place, it was agreed that the content should be the main subject of questions and answers

11. To approve Spring newsletter for printing

The draft newsletter was approved following a minor alteration to punctuation.

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

Correspondence with Wain Homes regarding mud on FP101 had resulted in Wain Homes advising they planned to scrape away the mud and lay stone on the footpath.

Gazeley Properties had confirmed the new line of the diverted footpath would be completed before May. There was still no update on the cycle path.

The water on Hollands Lane had been particularly bad in recent months. It was noted that a drainage company had been seen assessing the drain chamber.

13. Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)

Despite chasing up Fisher German there had been no communication from them regarding the progress of plans to remove the rubbish adjacent to Jacobs Wood. The Clerk would continue to pursue the issue and seek advise from the Environment Agency if necessary.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

**Cllr Roger Clayton
Chairman**

15th May 2024