

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON 14th MAY 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE,
MELLING**

**Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker,
Fuller, Harrison, Rogers and Todd.**

3220: Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ledgerton be elected as Chairman.

3221: Election of Deputy Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ashburner be elected as Deputy Chairman.

3222: Apologies for absence

None.

3223: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3224: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th March 2024

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th March 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3225: Public participation

A resident attended to discuss closure of the footpath on Chapel Lane. Cllr Harrison advised that this was understood to be temporary while electric cabling work was carried out. Missed bin collections were also raised and it was advised that this needed to be raised with Sefton. It was also noted that there may be an issue with unauthorised parking in the church car park, however, this is a matter for the occupants to raise themselves if they wish to do so.

A resident attended to discuss the cost of paint used by another resident to paint the bench at the end of Station Road and Parish Councillors offered to cover the cost of the paint personally.

A representative from Melling Nursery attended to discuss aspirations for extending the nursery provision in the parish.

3226: Childcare provision within the parish

It is resolved that:

- • The Parish Council supports in principle the need for the additional provision of high quality childcare within the parish boundary; and
- • Should any party wish to submit a planning application to Sefton for the provision of childcare on the site of the Wheeler Drive field the Parish Council will publish such draft application and consider the content of the same at its next meeting and will sign any such application as the leaseholder of the field should it be required to do so, subject to any comments received from Melling residents regarding

- the substance of that application; and
 - Notwithstanding any such application for planning permission being signed by the Parish Council it reserves the right to make any comments or objections to that application subject to any comments received from Melling residents; and
 - In the event that planning permission is granted and subject to the timely commencement of building works the Parish Council will make a further resolution as to the surrender or otherwise of its lease on the part of the field required for the provision of the childcare facility.

3227: Lease of playing field.

RESOLVED that the ongoing lease of the playing field on Wheeler Drive be approved at a cost of £5.00 per year.

3228: Annual Governance and Accountability Returns 2023/24

RESOLVED that:

- The Annual Internal Audit Report 2023/24 be received;
- Section 1 - The Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 be approved; and
- Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2023/24 be approved.

3229: Appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Batten Hughes be appointed as internal auditor to complete the Annual Internal Audit Report for the financial years 2024/25 and that their fee of £144 for the year be approved.

3230: Appointment of representatives

RESOLVED that:

1. A cancellation notice be submitted to LALC from the end of the current year and Cllrs Fuller and Rogers be appointed as representatives to LALC for the remainder of this year to make enquiries of the NALC/LALC executive to see whether the service can be improved to provide value for money in future years;
2. No representatives be appointed to MALC;
3. Cllr Fuller be appointed as representative to South Sefton Communities Alliance.

3231: Working groups

RESOLVED that this item be deferred until the next available meeting.

3232: Planning Applications

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3233: Reports of meetings

Cllr Todd reported on the Air Training Corps annual presentation which was well attended.

3234: Correspondence

Cllr Ashburner reported on information provided by residents involved in an accident on the HTL bus and having advised them to contact the company directly to report the problem.

The clerk reported on correspondence received that raised the same issues previously dealt with during public participation.

It was noted that there have been reports of deer being hit by cars on

Brewery Lane and a request was made for deer signs in that area to warn motorists.

3235: Storage and correspondence address at Maghull Town Hall.

RESOLVED that:

1. The storage cupboard currently located at Maghull Town Hall be moved to the Alt Centre in Hightown;
2. The annual cost of storage and provision of a correspondence address at either Maghull Town Hall or Hightown be approved pro rata in the sum of £519.98 (inc VAT);
3. The cost of moving the cupboard be approved up to £50.

3236: Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council