

Forton Parish Council

Minutes of the Forton Parish Council Meeting held

at Methodist Church Hall, Hollins Lane on

Monday 3rd October 2022 at 7pm

Present: - Cllrs J Huddart, P Young, L Dodgson, Tresilian, Mcloughlin, Farebrother, Wigglesworth, Whittingham, Borough Cllr Leech.

In attendance: Mrs H Alcock - Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
(2 members of the public).

1572. Apologies for Absence: County Cllr Salter

1573. Notification of Interests

No disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting were received.

1574. Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th September 2022 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

1575. Public Participation

Two members of the public present.

A resident raised concerns over who would be taking the new village hall forward and advised that as the Village Hall is a charity trust they are not in a position to lead on this, and it should be led by Parish Council. Suggestions were raised including had contact been made with Great Eccleston Parish Council who are in a similar position and had any appointment been made for a Project Manager to assist. It was agreed that the Parish Council nominated Cllr Tresilian, Cllr Wigglesworth and Cllr Young to go onto the community hall project group to liaise with the Village Hall Committee and a meeting was arranged for 24.10.22 at 7pm in the Pavilion. The Clerk was asked to research spending with Architects, etc.

Wyre Councillor

Cllr Leech reported works were ongoing with Hollins Lane residents regarding flooding. United Utilities are considering adopting the ditches. An update has been requested from Regenda on window and doors on mews properties.

1576. Planning

No planning applications this month.

1577. Additional Noticeboard Costs and Planning

Costs for an additional freestanding A1 noticeboard would be circa £920 + vat. The Clerk to make contact with Cllr Salter regarding planning consent for an additional noticeboard at the junction of Cleveley Bank Lane and Hollins Lane.

1578. Banking Mandate

The Parish Council agreed to remove the previous clerk Angela Nicholls from the bank mandate and add the new Clerk Hilary Alcock.

1579. LANPAC

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not become an Associate Member of LANPAC (Lancashire Partnership Against Crime).

1580. Footpaths

Reports made of animals getting out onto highway due to people leaving gate open on footpath number 5, leading onto Hollins Lane, Police have suggested fixing a padlock onto gate.

1581. To add new photocopier onto assets list and remove old copier.

It was agreed that Cllr Dodgson could now dispose of the old copier located in the Methodist Chapel.

1582. Contract of Employment for new Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Contract of employment dated 1.9.22 was signed by the Chair, Clerk to scan to Cllr Huddart and Cllr Young and retain original for filing.

1583. Contract for hire of Methodist Hall for future meetings.

Standard form of licence dated 21.9.22 was signed by the chair and a copy retained along with the Church's safeguarding policy for filing by the Clerk.

1584. Letters of thanks from school children re Jubilee Coins

Letters of thanks from the school children were circulated to members for the jubilee coins the children had received.

1585. Invoice from Mrs Hamid (Channing's) - safety of footpath

It was agreed a contribution of £172.92 would be paid to Mrs Hamid towards signage where footpath meets A6.

1586. Local Fracking / Government Changes

A letter dated 22.9.22 was circulated from Cat Smith MP who opposes the recent Government intentions to lift the ban on fracking and was looking forward to campaigning this issue in the weeks and months ahead. CPRE (Council for the Protection of Rural England) have launched an online petition should members wish to sign.

1587. Hollins Lane Christmas Tree

A business on Park Lane has offered to donate a Christmas Tree, and it was agreed this could be sited on the square outside the Methodist Church. Cllr Huddart to talk to David Battarbee about the possibility of the tree lights being plugged in at the Church.

1588. Finance

The Clerk confirmed the remaining balance of £5,359.27 in respect of the play area had been paid to the Village Hall.

The Clerk confirmed an email had been sent to Frances Forestry and Landscaping requesting a schedule / breakdown of the area's grass cutting and strimming works are being completed to accompany all future invoices and is awaiting a response.

1589. Parish Reports / Issues from Councillors

Village Hall & Recreation Committee

No information had been received by the Clerk or Councillors before the meeting.

Cllr Farebrother asked if the Clerk could arrange for the recent 'We are Wyre' promotional video to be added to the web page.

Cllr Tresilian provided an update on the Laurus Homes Estate visits as follows; -

I have visited the Laurus homes estate 4 times in the last few weeks and have seen improvements since my first visit. 2 weeks ago, when I visited, I was appalled by the state of the pavements and roads. This has not changed.

My second visit was to look at the playground which is installed but is at the top of quite a steep hill. When I enquired it seems there is to be an entrance from Hollins Lane. This doesn't make sense as the playground is for the estate. Access from the estate would seem very difficult for disabled or for pushchairs.

On 1.10.22, I drove along Hollins Lane after heavy rain. Work has begun on pavements, but it seems that the high kerb now prevents the water from draining away. Residents in the estate do not have complaints about the houses themselves. Cllr Tresilian confirmed she was happy to keep reviewing the situation.

It was agreed that winter plants would be purchased through Laburnum Nurseries with one delivery at a charge of £6.

Next LALC (Lancashire Association of Local Councils) meeting due to take place 20.11.22

Hollins Lane Update

Cllr Mcloughlin confirmed he had taken photos of Hollins Lane when it was badly flooded, Highways have confirmed these works are on the agenda to be completed. A machine has been out to jet the drains out on Hollins Lane were gully flooding.

It was agreed that Cllr Mcloughlin would arrange for the soldier figures to be put up by the War Memorial this month and removed before end of November.

1590. Clerks Update

The Clerk confirmed the road sign at junction of School Lane and A6 was reported missing and is due to be replaced in 6 – 8 weeks.

The Clerk was asked to check if the footpath sign on Whinney Brow had been reported as missing to Wyre Council.

The Clerk to check if the large litter bin by railway bridge (Stony Lane / Hollins Lane junction) has been reported to Wyre Council.

Two incidents of fly tipping have been reported at Ratcliffe Wharf Lane and White Carr Lane.

1591. Agenda for Next Meeting

Next Meeting will be on Monday 7th November 2022, at 7pm, at Methodist Church, Hollins Lane.

Agenda items to include: -

- Pond & Footpath / hedge cutting – Cllr Whittingham to update

The meeting closed at 9.27pm