



Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd^h April 2024 at 7.00pm at St Paul's Parish Hall, Scotforth

Present: Councillor Nick Webster (Chairman)
Councillors Tim Dant and Denise Parrett
Derek Whiteway, Parish Clerk

24/001 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Heather Ward and Kevan Walton, City Councillors Abi Mills and Tim Hamilton-Cox and County Councillor Gina Dowding.

24/002 Minutes of the previous meeting

- 1) The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th March 2024 were approved without further amendment.

Matters arising:

2) 23/098(2) Review of Non-Designated Heritage Assets.

Letters are to be sent to residents in 6 properties shown on the City Council's online NDHA map but not identified in the Parish NDP. A letter is also to be sent to Lancaster City Council questioning the approach to identifying and listing further NDHAs.

Action: The Clerk and Councillor Parrett will liaise in sending the relevant letters.

3) 23/098(3) Oaklands and Craiglunds Court Pedestrian Gates and Cattle Grid.

The Clerk is to write to Lancashire County Council thanking them for the new cattle grid at Craiglunds Court and asking for the damaged pedestrian gate to be repaired. The Chairman is to provide photos of the damaged gate,

Action: The Chairman and Clerk will liaise to report the damaged pedestrian gate.

4) 23/098(4) United Utilities Sewage Discharge Statistics.

Councillor Ward had advised that she was planning to contact United Utilities management about arranging a site visit and an opportunity to discuss various matters, including discharge statistics.

Action: The Clerk will liaise with Councillor Ward in seeking a meeting and site visit with United Utilities management.

5) 23/098(5) Stodday Lane and Lunecliffe Road hedgerows.

No further progress to report.

6) 23/098(6) Fallen Road Sign on Aldcliffe Lane.

The fallen road sign had been reported to County Highways and an inspection and response was awaited.

7) 23/098(7) Parish Council Website and Email Addresses

The Clerk reported on changes made in the most recent Practitioners Guide (for the 2024/25 Accounts). This included an increase in further 'encouragement' to Parish Councils to adopt *.gov domains. Some limited funding was potentially available. Need to express an interest to obtain details.

Action: The Clerk will investigate further and report to the next meeting of the Council.

8) 23/105(2) Request sent to LCC re Street Cleaning schedules in the Parish

The Chairman reported that Street Cleaners had visited Aldcliffe earlier that day.

9) 23/105(3) 80th Anniversary of D-Day – Lighting of the Beacons.

Councillors decided that, given the lack of a suitable location and limited funds, no further action would be taken.

10) 23/0105(4) GIS for Digital Mapping

Nothing further to report.

24/003 Declarations of Interest

No further declarations or changes to existing declarations were made.

24/004 Public discussion.

No members of the public attended the meeting.

24/005 Planning Applications

1) Planning Consultations

Application No	Description
24/00325/FUL	<p>Demolition of existing porch, erection of rear and side extension, construction of raised decking at rear, installation of steps to new entrance to replace existing and replace existing front door with window. Arna Wood Farm West, Arna Wood Lane, Aldcliffe.</p> <p>Resolved: That a response be submitted, expressing no objection in principle, but asking that the Parish's Design Codes be applied.</p>

2) Update on Previous Planning Applications

The Clerk's report on recent planning decisions made by Lancaster City Council was accepted.

3) Public Hearing – Application 23/00049/REF (Appeal)

An appeal hearing against refusal of application 22/00885/OUT (for up to 70 dwellings, Land North of Ashford House, Ashton Rd, Lancaster) is being held on 16-17 April 2024. Councillor Dant has registered to speak at the hearing.

24/006 Long Mile Lane and Lune Estuary.

Councillor Dant reported on recent discussions with farmers and the Morecambe Bay Wildfowlers Association (MBWA) regarding Long Mile Lane flooding. Recent work had resulted in the culvert being functional and the lane clear and draining of flood water. It was agreed that the Council should not take any further action at this stage.

24/007 Lengthsman Services 2024/25

The Clerk provided an update on information provided by Morecambe Town Council and Lancashire Highways regarding their weed spraying contract and work schedules. The Chairman reported that weed spraying commissioned separately by the Parish Council in Aldcliffe in 2023 had worked well.

Following discussion, Councillors resolved that the Parish Council should commission weed spraying work to the same schedule as in 2023, with the addition of: a) roads in Stodday where there is a 'hard edge; and b) pavements on Ashton Road between Deep Cutting Bridge to the bus stop opposite the entrance to Pinewood Close.

Resolved: That the Parish Council should commission weed spraying work in the parish from the contractor used in 2023.

24/008 Clerk and Councillor Updates

City and County Councillors' Reports:

None submitted.

Clerk's Report:

1) Civility and Respect Project and the Civility and Respect Pledge.

Councillors decided not to take any action regarding the project and pledge.

2) Draft Closure of Accounts

The Clerk provided Councillors with some headline messages from the draft closure of the 2023/24 accounts. These included:

- Net receipts in 2023/24 of £2,700
- A closing General Account balance of £9,000.

The draft final accounts will be reported in full to the May meeting of the Council alongside the 2023/24 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).

Members' Updates

3) Highways (Chairman)

Councillors discussed the ongoing and unresolved road surface and flooding issues on Lunecliffe Road and blocked canal side gulleys on Aldcliffe Road.

Councillors agreed that:

- a) ongoing safety concerns and the lack of action should be reported to the County Councillor;
- b) residents should be encouraged to report highways issues using the County Council's 'Love Clean Streets' app; and
- c) the County Council's promise to reinstate white lining at the junction of Lunecliffe Road and Aldcliffe Lane should be followed up.

Action: The Clerk will report the Council's ongoing concerns to County Councillor Dowding and seek further action.

Action: The Council will encourage residents to make use of the County Council's 'Love Clean Streets' app to report highways issues.

Action: The Clerk will check up on the Council's request for white lining to be reinstated at the Lunecliffe Road / Aldcliffe Lane junction.

4) Amenity, including the Lengthsman (Chairman)

Nothing to report.

5) Stakeholder Liaison.

Nothing further to report.

6) Broadband.

The Chairman advised that the phone mast at Watery Lane had now been fixed but that signal strength did not appear to be improved.

7) Other Matters

None

24/009 Payments

Payee & Detail	£
Scotforth Parish Hall. Hire of Meeting Room for Parish Council meeting, 3 rd April 2024 (see note 1)	25.20
Derek Whiteway – Parish Clerk salary and expenses, March 2024	215.85
HMRC – PAYE deductions, March 2024	54.00

Note 1. Invoices from St Paul's Parish Hall are now received at the end of each calendar month and payments are processed separately.

Resolved: That the above accounts be approved for payment.

24/010 Date and venue for next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 1st May 2024 at St Paul's Parish Hall, Scotforth, commencing at 7.00pm. Councillor Parrett gave her advance apologies.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm

Clerk of the Council

Chair

Date: