

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held on Monday 5th February 2024 In the Village Hall.

Present: Councillor T Fiddler, (Chair)

Councillors, K McKay, T Threlfall, Mrs. F Craig-Wilson Mrs. N Griffiths, Mrs. C Thomas, Mrs L Willis, Mrs. N Whalley, Mrs. J Atherton, Mrs. D Dickinson and A Smith.

1) To accept Apologies for Absence.

Councillor Mrs. P Mulholland – Other meeting.

It was resolved to accept the reasons for absence.

2) Open Forum

a) Police Update.

There was no Police present and no update has been received.

b) Public participation

A member of the public asked the council to explain how they came to the allotment rent increase. The clerk stated that all costs associated with the allotment overheads had increased considerably and there hadn't been a rent increase in a very long time.

A member of the public asked about the previously discussed blue plaque in the village. See item 9 below.

A member of the public reported that the central reservation had been cut to the traffic lights but not up to the round-a-bout at Warton end. C Cllr P Rigby said he would inform LCC. He also told the meeting that 3900 pot holes had been reported last month alone and LCC highways were struggling to keep up.

A member of the public reported that LCC highways were to put double yellow lines from the brook down to Warton on Lytham Rd. He asked if the Council would object on his behalf. The clerk said he would send an email to LCC highways.

3) To record Declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

All councilors as landlords declared an interest in item 10 – To review the recent rent increases on Bush Lane allotments. Councillors Mrs. L Willis, Mrs. N Whalley and Mrs. D Dickinson, as tenants, declared a pecuniary interest in this item

4) To read and approve the minutes of:-

a) The Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th January 2024

b) The Planning meeting held on Monday 8th January 2024

c) The Finance meeting held on 15th January 2024

It was resolved that the above-mentioned minutes, previously circulated, be approved.

5) To review the Clerk's report

The content was noted.

6) Finance

a) Ratification of accounts paid by Clerk

It was resolved to approve the accounts paid by the Clerk. See Appendix A

b) Monthly budget statements

The monthly budget statements were noted. See Appendix B.

7) To review the Risk Assessment procedures.

It was resolved that the Risk Assessment be approved

8) To receive an update on the Morgan & Morecambe windfarm project

It was reported that the project would only have a 20-year life span after completion.

The last scheduled meeting had been postponed at the last minute.

Land owners and tenant farmers had asked Fylde Planning for an update, they said they weren't expecting an update until May.

Clr Threlfall passed the petition to Mark Menzies.

9) To review the procedures for the 80th Anniversary of the Air Disaster including the wording for the proposed Blue Plaque

The Clerk reported that Pat Knight is organising a Service of Remembrance with the three churches starting outside at 10.30am on the 23rd August and laying of flower tributes followed by a service inside the Parish church to which the Bishop has been invited and she has been asked to contact the USAA for a colour party again There will be refreshments after in the Memorial Village Hall with an exhibition.

It was resolved that the existing bronze plaque should be cleaned and re-sited on the Church wall. Also, a blue plaque should be purchased and the Open Spaces, in conjunction with Pat Knight, should agree the wording.

10) To review the recent rent increases for the Bush Lane Allotments

The Clerk reported that he had received a request from the Smallholders Association for the rents to be reviewed as there was concern that the allotments were flooding and not being able to be used for part of the year.

The Clerk pointed out that the Standing Orders indicated that decisions made cannot be changed for 6 months. In addition, a Contractor will be quoting for drains to be installed when the weather improves and new drainage should be installed this year.

11) To consider entering the Lancashire best Kept Village Competition

The Clerk reported that in recent years the judging has been undertaken unannounced and despite good results in the Britain in Bloom competition the Village does not do well in this competition.

It was resolved that the Council will not enter the competition this year.

12) To agree the date of the next meeting

It was resolved that the date of the next meeting be held on Monday 11th March 2024

Signed.....Mrs. P Mulholland, Chairman.....

Date.....11/02/24.....

Appendix A

		Cheque No.	£	VAT	Net of VAT
Precept Account					
02/01/2024	Salary & Expenses January 2024	BACS	£2,404.03		£2,404.03
15/01/2024	BT Internet	D/D	£54.18	£9.03	£45.15
04/01/2024	Staples - Cartridges	BACS	£139.96	£23.33	£116.63
Open Spaces					
02/01/2024	J Rhodes - Grass cutting	BACS	£1,974.98		£1,974.98
02/01/2024	D Wilson - Beds & watering	BACS	£1,392.50		£1,392.50
02/01/2024	D Wilson - Borders	BACS	£405.00		£405.00
02/01/2024	A Hasleden - litter picking	BACS	£425.00		£425.00
15/01/2024	Br Gas - electricity - Storeroom	D/D	£31.77	£1.51	£30.26
15/01/2024	Br Gas - electricity - Security Light	D/D	£13.72	£0.65	£13.07
18/01/2024	Br Gas - electricity - Cenotaph	D/D	£116.79	£5.56	£111.23
16/01/2024	Bank of america - Interest	Cheque	-£346.70		-£346.70
02/01/2024	J Noblett - Xmas tree	BACS	£360.00	£60.00	£300.00
11/01/2024	Gillett - Skip hire for RC	BACS	£192.00	£32.00	£160.00
04/01/2024	Direct365 - Pads for Bowling club defib	BACS	£380.78	£63.46	£317.32
11/01/2024	The Print Warehouse - Noticeboard for Bowling club	BACS	£1,166.40	£194.40	£972.00
11/01/2024	Bowling Club - Donation towards Honours board	D/P	-972		-£972.00
Allotments					
25/01/2024	Waterplus - water charges	D/D	£21.47		£21.47
25/01/2024	Waterplus - water charges	D/D	£47.38		£47.38
Community Development Account					
31/12/2023	Natwest - Interest	D/P	-£97.64		-£97.64
02/01/2024	SP Hobin - rent on Open Spaces Area	D/P	-£5.00		-£5.00
VAT					
08/01/2024	HM Customs - VAT Refund	d/p	-£2,314.73		-£2,314.73
Total			£5,389.89	£389.95	£4,999.94

APPENDIX B

Budget		Expenditure		Balance	Percentage
Headings	Allocation	Dec'23	To date	Outstanding	used
Wages & Expenses	£29,164	£2,404	£24,270	£4,894	83%
Insurance	£5,500		£5,751	£-251	105%
Stationery & web-site rental	£950	£162	£1,549	£-599	163%
Audit fee	£550		£545	£5	99%
Chair Allow	£100		£100		100%
Training					#DIV/0!
Civic functions - Remembrance, carol services,	£750		£800	£-50	107%
Election	£300		£100	£200	
Reserve					
equipment	£200			£200	
Grants	£500			£500	
Section137	£750		£480	£270	64%
Open Spaces Account					
Grass cutting	£21,250	£1,975	£20,157	£1,093	95%
Bedding out & Watering	£18,850	£1,393	£19,055	£-205	101%
Litter	£5,100	£425	£3,970	£1,130	78%
Hedge cutting	£800		£700	£100	88%
Borders	£6,468	£405	£8,292	£-1,824	128%
Maintaining Buildings	£5,500	£160	£6,368	£-868	116%
Organisations	£8,200	£271	£10,042	£-1,842	122%
Electric & rates	£3,000	£155	£2,975	£25	99%
Total	£107,932	£7,348	£105,156	£2,776	97%
Other Accounts Jan '24					
Account	Opening Bal	Income	Expenditure	Balance	
Croft Butts lane Allotments		£695	£703	£-8	
Bush lane Allotments		£520	£2,242	£-1,722	
Allotment - refurbishment	£34,160		£840	£33,320	
Community Development	£7,507	£3,082	£11,976	£-1,387	
Memorial park					
Depreciation fund (car park, etc.)	£18,133		£1,800	£16,333	
Open Spaces	£16,876	£3,951	£5,075	£15,752	
VAT		£10,844	£9,649	£1,195	
Total	£76,676	£19,093	£32,286	£63,483	