



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 9 November 2016

Methodist Church, School Room, Moss House Lane

PRESENT: Cllr E Houghton (Chairman), Cllr T Brown, Cllr J Cairns, Cllr C Cowburn, Cllr D Fenton, Cllr M Gelder, Cllr R Gelder

IN ATTENDANCE: Roy Jones. Clerk to the Parish Council

Ref	No.	Item
404/16	1.	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllr A Taylor.
405/16	2.	Declaration of Interests and Dispensations Cllrs Houghton and Brown declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda item 14.
406/16	3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 12 th October 2016, were ratified as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
407/16	4.	Public Time The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation. No members of the public attended. The Chairman reconvened the meeting.
408/16	5.	Parish Council Attendance This item was withdrawn from the Agenda.
409/16	6.	County & Borough Council The Parish Council considered and noted : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LCC - Trading Standards Consumer Alert November 2016• SRBC – Helping Hand to stay warm this winter campaign The Council resolved that the Trading Standards Alert for November be posted on the Parish Council Notice Boards.
410/16	7.	Off Road Cycle Track The Clerk updated the Parish Council on assurances received from the Insurers that the improvements made to the cycle track did not require any amendments to the current insurance policy. It was noted that the cycle track was in need of cutting and it was resolved that John Bannister be approached to cut the grass at the cycle track.
411/16	8.	Finance The Parish Council noted : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the bank reconciliation for October 2016• the cumulative budget report for October 2016 The Council approved the following payment: Redleg.net Ltd – Website: £12.00

412/16	9.	Budget 2017/18 Cllr R Gelder presented a draft budget and initial precept for 2016/17. A number of matters were discussed on the current and future expenditure of the Parish Council and it was resolved that Parish Councillors feedback views on the draft budget to Cllr Gelder and a revised draft be presented to the next meeting.
413/16	10.	Council Tax Referendums The Parish Council consider the opposition expressed by the NALC AGM on the Government's proposals to extend Council Tax Referendum principles to local Parish and Town Councils, and a request to sign a letter of opposition to the local MP. The Parish Council resolved that the Clerk write to the local MP expressing its opposition to the Government's proposals to extend Council Tax Referendum principles to local Parish and Town Councils.
414/16	11.	External Audit The Clerk updated the Council on the detail of the External Audit findings in relation to an answer made by the Internal Auditor in Section 4 of the Parish Council's Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2016. The Parish Council resolved that the Clerk write to the Internal Auditor notifying her of the specific findings of the External Auditor and the recommendations made by the External Auditor in relation to the tests to be carried out in future years by the Internal Auditor.
415/16	12.	Insurance The Parish Council considered increasing Fidelity Insurance for the Council in the light of funds to be held by the Parish Council following the impending sale of the Pinfold Land. It was resolved to establish the size of any increase required in fidelity insurance and report back to the next meeting.
416/16	13.	Pinfold Land The Clerk updated the Parish Council on the position of the sale of the Pinfold Land, which was noted by the Parish Council.
417/16	14.	Much Hoole Village Hall The Parish Council further discussed the funding proposals for the redevelopment of the Village Hall and considered a proposed remit for the Working Group established to monitor the progress of the Village Hall project. The Parish Council also discussed the merits of a due diligence policy. It was resolved to defer consideration of the remit of the Working Group until the next meeting.
418/16	15.	Newsletter The Parish Council considered an update on the Parish Christmas Newsletter and agreed that Cllr Brown circulate to the Parish Council the latest draft for comments before publication in the New Year.
419/16	16.	Parish Council Clerk The Parish Council considered feedback from Cllr M Gelder on the appointment of a new Parish Clerk and the suitability of a candidate following advertisement of the vacancy. It was resolved that Cllr Gelder continue to seek an appropriate candidate and an Extraordinary Meeting be called if necessary to consider the appointment of a Parish Clerk.
420/16	17.	Community Engagement Strategy It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.
421/16	18.	Meeting of Western Villages Parish Council Chairmen It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting
422/16	19.	Local Meetings (for information only) No reports were received.

423/16	20.	Items for the Next Agenda (for information only) Budget for 2016/17 and Precept. Community Engagement.
424/16	21.	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 14 th December 2016.