



Hapton Parish Council Meeting

Monday, 14th October 2024

Present: Councillor Birbeck (in the Chair) and Councillors Differ, Fowke Lakeland, Owen and Young.

Others: Steve Watson (Clerk), Borough Councillor Jamie McGowan, Elliott Atkinson (Lengthsman) and 2 residents.

Parish Council Agenda

Councillor Birbeck opened the meeting and welcomed Councillors.

24/25/074	Apology for absence and reasons given.		
	Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Carol Downham who was recovering from surgery. County Councillor Alan Hosker also sent his apologies.		
24/25/075	Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Code of Conduct.		
	Councillor Shirley Young declared an interest in her individual allotment.		
24/25/076	The meeting would be adjourned for Public Participation.		
	RESOLVED: That the meeting would be adjourned to welcome comments from members of the public.		
	The shrubs on the roundabout are overgrown and making it difficult to see. A gully at the end of Lydgate is sinking.		
	There was no Police report. PCSO Cole Whitehead has joined Hapton and had been invited to the meeting.		

Councillor McGowan had an update from County Councillor Alan Hosker that the blocked drain has been reported, it has been agreed for double yellow lines at the end of Ruskin Grove, the over grown hedges on the top road are to be cut and the faded paint lines around Network 65 will be done after the roadworks are completed. There was no update on the previous no. 9 bus reinstatement. The wall has been damaged further on the former Blythe's site.		
Councillor McGowan then provided a Borough Report. The £7,500 Borough contribution to the Pump Track has been paid. The ball court refurbishment has been brought forward. The flooding onto the allotments from the football pitch is to have a ditch dug to redirect it to the woods and a proper drainage system is to be investigated. The car park extension has been well received. The concrete block at the end of Carter Avenue has been raised by the County Councillor. A lockable, removable hoop was suggested but this would leave a hazard when the hoop is removed. It was generally agreed that a lockable gate was accepted so long as only the Council had the key.		
There was no equipment available for the sandpit and the Council does not have funds to provide new. A path and fence can be put across the top field so long as the pathway is not blocked. There are currently 2 planning applications received, the Bridge Inn application is causing a divide with some people preferring something is done rather than a derelict building and other concerned about the large rear extension proposed. Councillor McGowan has put out a consultation and will report back to the Council. There have been 2 Borough Council meetings where it was agreed to spend £23,000 on a consultation for Towneley Park and £300,000 to develop a plan.		
The bin collections are out to tender and Government Guidance has changed to providing a weekly collection for food waste. Whinney Hill tip is to be closed within the next 3 years and a waste transfer station is to be provided in Pendle. Chris Green is the new under 6 coach for Hapton Football Club.		
Councillor McGowan was thanked for his report.		
There were no further reports.		
24/25/077 The meeting was formally re-convened for business.		
RESOLVED: That the meeting would be reconvened.		
24/25/078 Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th September 2024.		
The minutes of the last meeting were submitted for approval as a correct record.		
RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 9th September 2024 are approved as a correct record.		
24/25/079 Matters Outstanding as listed.		
The cenotaph grant application has been submitted. The Padiham Incredible Edible scheme was outlined with a link into the grant application for further fruit trees in Hapton.		
24/25/080 Updates.		
There were no further updates.		

24/25/081 Councillor Reports including reports from representatives of outside bodies.		
There were no reports.		
24/25/082 Lengthsman.		
The new Lengthsman was welcomed, he has had a walk around with Carol. The hanging baskets are to be taken down and stored, there is some tree work needed on the allotments, to be funded from the allotment budget, the Cenotaph needs clearing and in between the allotments needs to be strimmed. Th Lydgate path also needs a clearing.		
24/25/083 Allotments.		
Carol had emailed an update.		
24/25/084 Planning Applications.		
Applications were discussed earlier.		
24/25/085 Events		
The Bonfire will be at 6:30pm on Saturday 2 nd November 6:30pm with fireworks at 7:00pm. Remembrance Sunday is 10 th November, DJ Michael has been booked and the wreaths have been ordered, it is at St. Margaret's and Annemarie volunteered to do the Reading. The Christmas Light Switch On will be Monday 2 nd December 6:30pm in line with the Brownies. Posters for all 3 events will be provided.		
24/25/086 Finances.		
The following invoices were tabled.		
Expenditure Clerk's Salary – (Standing Order) Paid £255.92 S/O Paid Bank Charges £13.18 Direct Debit HMRC £79.56 100875 Lengthsman £135.00 100876 Keys – Carol £58.16 100877 Lengthsman £168.00 100878 Pump Track opening ribbon £11.79 100879 Income LEF Grant £4,000.00 Allotment rents and deposits £235.00 Bank Balances – Fundraising Account £12,369.65 Expenses Account £5,914.65 Environmental Account £4,311.00 TOTAL £22,595.30		
RESOLVED: That the above bills are paid, the Budget Monitoring Report, Bank Reconciliation, payments and receipts lists are approved.		

RESOLVED: That the External Audit exemption certificate is noted and the proposed 2025 Budget is approved as attached.		
An application is to be made to the Windfarm for equipment for the sandpit.		
24/25/087 Clerk's Report including Correspondence.		
The report was noted.		
24/25/088 Visual Audits.		
The bottom of the A56 slip road is overgrown. Moor road and the Lydgate gully as listed earlier and the Network 65 road markings.		
Date of the next meeting Monday 11 th November 2024 at 7:00pm, in the Community Centre, Ruskin Grove.		

Budget 2025-26

Income

	Budget	Actual 2024	Proposed 25
Precept	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£21,000.00
Maintenance Grant	£201.00	£201.00	£201.00
Allotment rents	£2,200.00	£624.00	£2,200.00
Allotment Bonds	£ -		
Electricity NW	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00
Total Income	£22,425.00	£20,849.00	£23,425.00

Expenditure

		Budget	Actual	Proposed 25
Professional Fees	Insurance	£270.00	£252.00	£270
	Audit	£225.00	£200.00	£225
Subscriptions	Subscriptions	£500.00	£423.00	£465
	Bank Charges	£175.00	£161.00	£175
Administration	Clerk Salary	£4,773.00	£5,801.00	£6,000
	Stationery	£250.00	£ -	£0.00
	Web Site	£ -	£ -	£0.00
	Allowance	£200.00	£200.00	£200
	Clerk Cover	£240.00	£70.00	£240
Allotment Maintenance	Maintenance	£500.00	£ -	£500
Projects	Summer Event	£2,000.00	£2,903.00	£3,000
	Bonfire Event	£1,500.00	£1,275.00	£1,750
	Christmas Event	£400.00	£ -	£1,000
	Misc Projects	£500.00	£114.00	£500
	Remembrance Day	£60.00	£80.00	£100

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	Pump Track	£35,000.00	£4,400.00	£0
Lengthsman Scheme	Labour	£5,760.00	£6,900.00	£7,000
	Materials	£2,000.00	£ -	£2,000
	Administration	£-	£ -	£0
	Additional Hours	£ -		
Reserves		-£31,928.00		£ -
Total Expenditure		£22,425.00	£22,779.00	£23,425.00