

Cloughton on Brock Parish Council

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 15th March, commencing at 7.30pm.

10/23 Those Present

Councillor F.J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes – Chairman
Councillor E. Leach
Councillor R. Clark
Councillor S.M. Dewhurst
Councillor J. Gornall
Councillor R T Eccles
Councillor S Turner – Wyre and LCC
Councillor E Webster – Wyre
J.E. Hallas – Clerk

12/23 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2023 were resolved by the Council to be a true record.

13/23 Declarations of personal or prejudicial interest - None.

14/23 Chairman's, Councillors', and other Reports.

The Chairman briefly reported on the very successful event held at St. Mary's School on the 14th of March as part of QE2's Green Canopy Tree planting project, the Platinum Jubilee and for King Charles 3 Coronation. Three trees were planted in the school grounds in the presence of the High Sheriff of the County and representatives of our neighbour Parish Councils. Mr. John Sandham and Mrs. Winifred Parker (the oldest male and female Parishioners) were assisted some of the youngest school pupils to plant the trees. Metal plaques sponsored by the Parish Council inscribed for each of the events celebrated were placed next to each of the trees.

15/23 Planning Applications

The Clerk reported that outstanding application, 22/00518/FUL, for the Braeden buildings etc. which was refused permission by Wyre Council is still awaiting an Appeal Hearing by the Planning Inspectorate. Since the last PC meeting there have been very few applications arising.

- a) Application 23/00062 for the Picket Post, Stubbins Lane to convert outbuildings to holiday accommodation is still pending a decision. The PC had offered no observations or objections.
- b) Application 23/00096/Ful for the Brockholes Auction Mart Garstang Road Cloughton-on-brock Preston Lancashire PR3 0PH, Part retrospective change of use of part of auction mart car park for driver training facility and siting of portacabin offices and storage building for part time use in

Claughton on Brock Parish Council

conjunction with car park during auctions was still pending a decision.
The PC had offered no observations or objections.

- c) Application 23/00105/ FUL at Hill View Lydiate Lane Claughton-on-brock
Preston Lancashire PR3 OQL, Proposed 4 bay agricultural building.

The Clerk reported that there is significant concern being expressed by the neighbouring property owners about road safety as the proposed building is shown as being positioned adjacent to the boundary fence with Matshead Farm's driveway and entrance from the main road. The owners' of Matshead Farm and several nearby residents have submitted objection letters to the Planning Department. The Clerk stated that he had written objectively about the position of the building's proximity to the main road and the distinct possibility that it could affect the line of sight for vehicles leaving or entering the farm's busy driveway. Councillors Webster and Turner informed that they too had raised concerns with the Planning Department at Wyre Council. The case is still pending a decision at the time of this meeting.

16/23 Finance

- (a) The Council discussed the receipts and payments since the last meeting for the year ending March 31st, 2023. Copies of the Current Account statement detailing all receipts and payments were presented for scrutiny. Payments were authorised, and the reconciliation of the Current Account and latest Bank Statement number 178, dated 27 February 2023, was approved, and signed.
- (b) The Clerk stated that he had revised his forecast for the year-end and expect the carry-forward amount will be approximately £4455.00 (note that this figure includes £1036 owed to the Lengthsman Scheme for the year ending 31/3/2023. This year's expenditure has reduced the Council's cash reserves but is a good outcome given the very worthwhile amount of expenditure by the Council on the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

17/23 Precept 2023/2024

The Clerk confirmed that he had submitted the Council's precept confirmation request for 2023/2024 for £21,000 (twenty-one thousand pounds).

18/23 Memorial Hall

The Council discussed the very sad and sudden recent death of Andrea Saville – the Hall treasurer and administrator. The Chairman and members of the Parish Council asked the Clerk to make a note in the minutes to record their grateful thanks for Andrea's considerable contribution to the Parish Community, also to add their sincere condolences to Mr. Saville and family.

Claughton on Brock Parish Council

Councillor J.M. Gornall (the Hall Committee Secretary) informed the meeting that she had taken on the interim management of the Hall booking and bank account and, with the voluntary assistance of Mrs.C.Campion is working through the Hall's accounts.

The Clerk informed that he together with Mrs. Christina Campion and members of the Hall committee had prepared and submitted a funding grant request to the Asda Foundation to seek to obtain a £25,000 grant towards the cost of replacing all of the Hall's windows and doors and the installation of a modern AV installation. The total cost of these two packages of work is estimated at £35,000 – leaving £10,000 to be funded from the Hall's reserves. The Clerk further informed that a second grant application is being prepared to be submitted to the Lancashire Environment Fund (LEF). This bid is for the funds to enable the complete refurbishment of the first floor meeting room and for equipping it. The work planned will also include reconfiguration of the bar facility and the area at the rear of the Hall and redecoration/flooring replacement etc. The estimated cost of this second major work package is approximately £55,000. The maximum grant of £40,000 will be requested on the application leaving £15,000 to fund from the Hall reserves.

The Clerk informed that the LEF did expect grant applicants to seek to obtain third party funding to the order of some 10% of the value of the grant amount being sought. This would amount to £4,000 if our bid is successful (note our understanding is that not meeting this target figure is not necessarily a 'deal-breaker'). The Clerk further informed that he would be preparing a 'begging letter' to distribute to local businesses and others seeking contributions to this 3rd party fund – target issue is the 2nd week of April. A contribution of say £1500 from the Parish Council as S137 allows and could also be afforded.

19/23 Other Items for Information and Discussion

- (a) The Wyre Area LALC meeting 25th April – the Clerk informed that the next meeting will be held on a Tuesday not the usual Wednesday. If one of the members is willing to attend this would be appreciated.
- (b) The Council discussed the forthcoming Coronation and determined not to organise any events to celebrate the occasion.

20/23 The next meeting of the Parish Council is the AGM on Tuesday 16th May at 7.30 and the Quarterly Meeting is booked for Wednesday 19th July 2023 at 7.30pm.

Minutes prepared by: J.E. Hallas (Clerk)

Approved by:F. J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes (Chairman)

Date.....