

Cloughton on Brock Parish Council

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18 January 2022 commencing at 7.30pm.

1/22 Those Present

Councillor F.J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes – Chairman
Councillor S.M. Dewhurst
Councillor E. Leach
Councillor R. T. Eccles
Councillor J. M. Gornall
J.E. Hallas – Clerk

2/22 Apologies

Councillor R. Clark
Wyre Councillor E. Webster
LCC and Wyre Councillor S. Turner

3/22 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5 October 2021, were resolved by the Council to be a true record.

4/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any of the agenda items

5/22 Chairman's, Councillors', and other Reports.

The Council discussed progress, or the lack of, on several issues raised at previous Council meetings. The Clerk reported that there had been some activity by the Planning Enforcement officers at the Braeden and Faiths Farm sites, and reports received that some buildings have been cleared out with evidence that residential occupancy had been removed. There remain several issues outstanding and these locations and the activities there will need continued surveillance. There had been a large amount of fly tipping during the last quarter of 2021 and a further incident in recent weeks, but these had been promptly dealt with. Work at Ducketts Cottage is now proceeding after a Planning decision to permit the revised application.

6/22 Planning Applications

a)The Clerk gave an update on the Planning Applications received from Wyre Planning and circulated to members for their comments during the period

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since the last meeting. Each of the applications received since the last meeting had been processed using email and circulated to members for comments, observations or objections and responses provided to Wyre Planning for each one. There were no contentious issues outstanding.

b) The Clerk confirmed that following the publication of the draft of the Wyre Planning Policy review, which had been distributed for comments, he had sent in a response. The proposal submitted was predicated on a suggestion from Councillor Fitzherbert-Brockholes that the policy should include a requirement for developers to install, say where more than three properties are being built, a green energy source, such as 'ground source' energy generation during construction, with metering installed into each property to capture usage data and costs for the individual properties. This submission has been acknowledged by the Planning Policy team.

7/22 Memorial Hall

The Clerk explained that this item had been added to the agenda as he had been reviewing with the Chairman's support the trust deeds and conveyance of the hall to the Parish Council which had taken place back in 1983. He had also been revisiting the make up of the Hall management committee. This had raised concerns about the future as the Covid 19 Pandemic had caused dysfunction of the workings of the committee and this had resulted in no committee meetings been held for approximately 2 years.

It was acknowledged by all present that the Parish is very fortunate to have Andrea Saville as the Treasurer and she must be thanked for 'holding the fort' during this difficult period.

However, there were concerns that the committee meetings needed to be properly resurrected and meetings held to plan and address issues such as the maintenance of the roof, which one surveyor has stated is in serious need of attention. Councillor J. Gornall, who is the Committee secretary, informed that she had been attempting to arrange a meeting, but it had proved difficult to book the main hall at a time that worked for everyone, and the upstairs room was not suitable to use as an option. However, she confirmed that an agenda will be prepared, and a meeting convened soon. The roof survey was discussed, and it was suggested that at least two additional contractors be asked to submit reports and recommendations prior to a decision being made on requests to tender for remedial work. Some possible sources were discussed, and a rough plan suggested to facilitate mobilizing.

The Chairman explained the arrangements that now exist for the composition of the Hall Committee were drawn up in 1983 and over the time that has elapsed community culture has changed somewhat, and that it may be the time to amend them. Change will however require application to be made to the Charity Commission together with the case for changing them and appropriate evidence to support this.

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8/22 Finance Receipts and Payments

The Council discussed Current Account receipts and payments statements for the year 2021/22 ending on the 31st of March 2022. The Council resolved to approve the payments made from the account since the last meeting of the Council.

9/22 Finance - Current Account Reconciliation

The Clerk also presented the Current Account statement for the year 2021/2022 ending 31st of March 2022. A reconciliation statement dated 18 January 2022 using the bank statement dated 27th December 2021 was presented and approved.

10/22 Precept Budget 2022/2023

The Clerk gave a brief resume of the Council's financial position against its budget and indicated that estimated year end out-turn should result in approximately £7500 - £8000 being carried forward into the next financial year.

The Clerk presented a detailed budget breakdown for the year 2022/2023 which builds in provision for staff salary increases and contingency for the next Lengthsman contract, and the anticipated cost increases for insurance and other services. 2022 is also the year of Queen's Platinum Anniversary and there will be celebrations for this in June which will require the Council to provide funding for events. The Council unanimously resolved to precept £20,000.00 (twenty thousand pounds) for 2022/23.

11/22 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The Clerk informed that it was being proposed by the government minister for Levelling Up and with inputs from the Queen's Pageant Master that public events should be arranged to engage the community in celebrating this major historic milestone. Suggested events for Claughton included having a bonfire beacon on Peacock Hill and a firework display on the 2nd of June in the nearby quarry, and a community bring your own picnic garden party on the afternoon of Sunday 5th June. The lighting of the beacon will be part of a nationally coordinated event with a specific time being set for lighting. The Chairman explained that he had registered our Parish for the beacon, and this had been acknowledged, and as the site is within and accessed via Cobble Hey, he had spoken with Edwina Miller, and she is happy to host the event and open Cobble Hey. Further details will emerge following a meeting to be held at Cobble Hey on 8th of February as issues such as the capacity, marshalling traffic, beacon building and clear-up gang following, litter management etc. etc. needs consideration. The Chairman added that in addition to the Clerk he had invited Christina and Guy Champion to help out with the early planning, but more volunteer help will be required as things

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progress. The Council Members present declared their full support for the events proposed and approval of the financial support that the Council will need to provide for these events.

12/22 Other Items

The Clerk informed that he had distributed by email a document from the Garstang Partnership Board that collates the Garstang public responses and suggestions about what the Town and the area need for the future.

Councillor Eccles reminded the Council about the problem of vehicles parking badly and serious obstruction in the vicinity of the east side of the New Lane Canal bridge. The Clerk confirmed that this had been reported to the Highways Department but was repeatedly treated as a low-risk low priority problem. But a further attempt will be made to try and get some action taken.

A discussion on climate change will be carried over to the next meeting.

The next meeting – will be held on Tuesday 12th April 2022

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

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

Date: