

Cloughton on Brock Parish Council

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that was held at Cloughton Memorial Village Hall on Wednesday 17th April 2024, commencing at 8.00pm.

- 11/24 Those Present
Councillor F.J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes – Chairman
Councillor E. Leach
Councillor R. Clark
Councillor R. T. Eccles
J.E. Hallas – Clerk
Councillor S. Turner – LCC
Councillor D. Swift – Wyre
Councillor D. Bolton – Wyre

Apologies for absence made by Councillors J. Gornall and S.Dewhurst

- 12/24 The minutes of the meeting held at Cloughton Hall on Wednesday 10th January 2024 were resolved by the Council to be a true record.
- 13/24 Declarations of personal or prejudicial interest - None.
- 14/24 Planning Applications
- a) The Clerk informed the Council that he had received a request from Wyre Council Planning for confirmation of the name of our nominated 'Planning Ambassador'. Following brief consultation, it was agreed that Councillor Eccles will retain this role.
- b) The Council discussed the recent dismissal of Braeden's Planning Appeal and the next steps that are needed to address issues being raised by residents about the activities taking place at the Braeden site. With questions being raised about the 'payment' of rates etc. by the 'businesses' operating on the site. It was resolved that a letter be prepared that will summarise the long history of this Braeden Saga that will be submitted to Wyre Council's Leader and Executives as soon as possible to seek from them the commitment to act on their own establishment's behalf and our Parish and neighbouring Parish Council's behalf to get this matter resolved.

Cloughton on Brock Parish Council

15/24 Finance

- (a) The Council discussed the receipts and payments made since the last meeting for the year ending March 31st, 2024. Copies of the Current Account statement detailing all receipts and payments were presented for scrutiny. All payments made since the last meeting were reviewed and approved. The Current Account was reconciled with the latest Bank Statement number 191, dated 27th March 2024, this was approved, and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

16/24 Annual Governance and Accounting Review 2023-2024

- (a) The Clerk informed the Council that based upon the final statement of the Accounts at the 31st of March 2024 the Council's receipts and payments were less than £25,000 and this exempted the Council from the requirement for Smaller Authority External Audit. However, internal audit will be carried out by Mrs. C Campion in the near future, and everything will then be prepared for the Parish Council to complete its obligations under AGAR regulations at its next scheduled meeting on the 17th of July, including the preparation and signing of the Exemption Certificate that must be submitted to the External Auditors PKF Littlejohn by the 31st of July 2024.
- (b) In addition, the notice to inform the Parish Council's residents of their rights to view the accounts and other documents will be published on the website and noticeboard from April 22nd, 2024, with the dates set for viewing (June 3 to July 12), details of how to access will also be provided in the notice.

17/25 Lancaster Canal Towpath

The Clerk informed that the sum of £8000.00 pounds had been raised via the precept for 2024/2025 and is available to contribute to the project to improve the Canal Towpath. Councillor Turner explained that together with colleagues from LCC a survey of the path had been made and it had become apparent that the path is in a very poor condition in several places. Councillor Turner further explained that efforts are being made to hold discussions to obtain support for the project from the Canals and River Trust (C&RT) organisation but this was proving to be very frustrating, and for unclear reasons feedback suggests there is a lack of enthusiasm from the C&RT organisation. The Council agreed that the funds will remain available until needed.

18/24 Parish Council – New Noticeboard

The Clerk advised the Council that the cost of procuring and installing the new board would be approximately £1500.00 pounds. He suggested that a board manufactured from aluminium would perhaps be more durable and more economic to maintain than a traditional wooden structure as it will be installed in a predominantly unsheltered location. The Council agreed with

Cloughton on Brock Parish Council

this proposal and asked the Clerk to arrange the purchase of a suitable board.

19/24 Memorial Hall

The Clerk provided a brief update on the Memorial Hall refurbishment project and explained that the contractor is on target to meet its completion date.

20/24 The Wyre Area LALC meeting is scheduled for the 24th of April 2024.

21/24 The next Quarterly Meeting is booked for Wednesday 17th July 2024 at 7.30pm.

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

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

Date.....