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*Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith*  
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**Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at the Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane, Lathom, WN8 8TY at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Councillors in attendance:** Cllr Andrew Beeston, Cllr Roger Clayton (Chairman), Cllr Ernie Pallas, Cllr Darren Steele

**Apologies:** Cllr Carol Blackledge, Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Andy Taylor

**In attendance:** One member of the public was in attendance

## **MINUTES**

**1 To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Blackledge, Cllr Chanter and Cllr Taylor.

**2 To receive declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

The minutes of the AGM meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4 To hear acceptance of office for Cllr Andrew Beeston and confirm Registration of Interest Form**

Declaration of acceptance of office was read out by Cllr Andrew Beeston, witnessed and signed. The registration of interest form would be completed later.

**5 Public Participation**

**The meeting will consider any matters raised by members of the public by email to the Clerk**

**a. Request for deer crossing warning signs for Spa Lane**

The meeting concluded that more information would be required in order to substantiate a request to LCC for deer crossing warning signs on Spa Lane. Residents are to be asked to log any sightings of deer on Spa Lane, including which section of road the deer are using as a crossing point.

**6 Tree Wardens Report**

There was nothing for the tree warden to report.

**7 To discuss future plans for Jacobs Wood and Swells Wood**

The meeting discussed how to move forward with the idea of making a circular path around Swells Wood. It was agreed to enquire with Andrew Greenough if he would carry out a survey of Swells Wood with regard to making a basic circular pathway for walkers.

The meeting discussed making access into Swells Wood, from Plough Lane, suitable for a maintenance vehicle via a gated entry with a separate pedestrian gate. The options of fencing and/or hedging were considered for securing the boundary on either side of any gates. It was agreed to first consult with Andrew Greenough to establish how much vehicle access is needed for future maintenance and how best to make an access route without causing potential traffic problems on Plough Lane through undesirable parking by towing and other vehicles.

**8 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented**

Santander	160523	Bank charges	d.d.	£0.10
Geoxpere Ltd	180523	Parish Online	b.t	£84.00
Zurich Municipal	190523	Insurance Premium	b.t	£328.16
NEST	250523	Clerk's Pension May 23	d.d	£120.98
J Smith	300523	Clerk's salary May 23	s.o	£ 561.64
R Clayton	310523	Noticeboard repair (oak)	b.t	£69.68

Hugo Fox	080623	Website hosting	d.d	£23.99
Cricket Club	120623	Room hire	b.t.	£45.00

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

In addition, the following payment was authorised for hardware purchases required for the recent repair of the main noticeboard

R Clayton		Noticeboard repair		£49.81
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The top of the main noticeboard on Blaguegate Lane had rotted causing water ingress. The rotted oak had been replaced and the noticeboard made watertight again. The noticeboards on Vale Lane and Whiteleys Lane also need to be checked for possible rot, need of repair and oiling.

### **Income 1<sup>st</sup> Apr – 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun 2023**

It was noted the following income had been received

190423	Precept 1 <sup>st</sup> payment	£ 7,914.00
030523	CIL	£53,551.76
020623	Concurrent 1 <sup>st</sup> payment	£ 323.50
Bank interest 1 <sup>st</sup> Apr – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun		£ 964.87

#### **9 To receive internal audit, complete Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2022/23**

The Clerk presented the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2022/23 as it had been presented to the internal auditor. The accounting statements were signed off as correct and will be submitted to the external auditor in due course.

#### **10 To consider membership to NALC (National Association of Local Councils)**

Currently a full year membership to NALC for Lathom South Parish Council would be £182.06 which includes LALC (Lancashire Association of Local Councils) membership. Membership fees to NALC are based on the number of electors in the Parish. The LALC element of the fee is equally divided amongst the number of Parishes taking membership.

As the membership year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April there would be a discount for the first year. The Clerk advised that the membership cancellation

policy states notice of cancellation is required by 30<sup>th</sup> September for cancellation from 1<sup>st</sup> April the following year.

It was noted that NALC/LALC membership had not been included in the 2023/24 budget. However, budget savings had been made in other areas which would offset the cost.

It was resolved to join NALC/LALC with immediate effect.

**11 To discuss any current planning issues:**

There were no current planning issues for discussion

**12 To discuss and agree relocation of ‘Slow Down, Save Lives’ banners (SDSL)**

The SDSL banners on Vale Lane had been in place for the limited 12 weeks and therefore removed. The condition of one banner had deteriorated beyond repair. It was agreed to request a replacement banner from the LCC Speed Management Team and then relocate both banners back on Dicks Lane for 12 weeks.

**13 Update on traffic calming proposal for Firwood Road**

A drafted proposal for traffic calming for Firwood Road, as previously discussed, was approved by Councillors. It was resolved to forward a copy of the proposal to Dave Allen at LCC Highways with a covering letter. Copies are to be sent to Cllr Rob Bailey and the new Borough Councillors following the local election on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

**14 Report from South Lathom Residents’ Association (SLRA) for information only**

Continuing issues relating to Firwood Road were still being addressed.

**15 Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)**

The Clerk had been advised that an application for funding for a community defibrillator to the England Cricket Board is underway.

There being no further matters the meeting was brought to a close at 9.20pm.

**Cllr Roger Clayton  
Chairman**

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2023**