



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 8th November 2023

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

Apologies: Cllr Carol Blackledge, Cllr Andy Taylor

MINUTES

1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Carol Blackledge and Cllr Andy 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 11th October 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4 Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

5 Tree Warden Reports

The planting of five more fruit trees, supplied by WLBC, had been completed to extend the orchard at Westhead St James School. The area is now planted to capacity. Some trees require pruning under expert

supervision. The new trees would benefit from some wind protection. Some plastic netting and stakes were available and would be fixed as soon as practicable. A revised information board insert is required for the orchard and Cllr Steele offered to do the design work in the spring, once it could be established which new trees had survived the winter.

The Tree Warden offered some saplings for planting as part of National Tree Planting Week. It was agreed to seek approval from the cricket club to plant the saplings on the club grounds to replace and add to some trees which had died.

It was noted that part of the new path around Swells Wood had been churned up by motorcycles. Rubbish on the land adjoining Swells Wood still needs to be removed.

6 To consider further development of Swells Wood

Consideration was given to the further development of Swells Wood. Some suggestions made by Andrew Greenough had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Clerk is to obtain an itemised quote in order to fully consider development plans. A price for the inclusion of steps on the steep slope into the lower section of Swells Wood was also requested.

A resident who regularly walks in Jacobs and Swells Wood had reported that motorbikes were frequently entering the woods via the gap from the farmer's field on the north side of the woods. It was agreed that a field gate should be used to restrict access. Costs to be sought for installation.

7 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|---------------------------|------|----------|
| Hugofox | 131023 | Website hosting (Sept) | d.d | £23.99 |
| Hugofox | 131023 | Website hosting (Aug) | d.d. | £23.99 |
| Santander | 171023 | Bank charges | d.d | £0.15 |
| CPRE | 231023 | Membership | b.t | £36.00 |
| LALC | 241023 | Councillor training | b.t | £35.00 |
| NEST | 241023 | Clerk's Pension Oct 23 | d.d | 120.98 |
| Working Woodlands | 271023 | Swells Wood Footpath work | b.t | £3000.00 |
| J Smith | 301023 | Clerk's salary Oct 23 | s.o | £ 561.64 |
| Cricket Club | 081123 | Room hire | b.t | £45.00 |

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

It was noted that the following income had been received:-

Income 30 June – 8 Nov 2023

| | | |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|
| 150923 | Precept 2 nd payment | £3,454.00 |
| 201023 | Concurrent 2 nd payment | £323.50 |
| 271023 | CIL 2023/24 | £69,415.18 (total £122,966.94) |
| | Bank interest 30 th June – 2 nd Nov | £2,708.06 |

8 To discuss any current planning issues:

There were no planning applications for consideration.

9 To discuss Notice of Public Path Diversion Order for FP24

No objections were raised.

10 To agree relocation of Slow Down Save Lives banners

It was agreed to relocate the Slow Down Save Lives banners onto Blaguegate Lane in the general area where Ormskirk Road becomes Blaguegate Lane, heading towards Ormskirk and, in the opposite direction near to SWL Farmers, where the speed limit drops to 30mph. Cllr Chanter would suggest exact locations and take photos for the Clerk to send to LCC requesting authorisation to place the banners at those locations. In the meantime, Cllr Pallas would remove the banners from Dicks Lane.

11 To approve the winter newsletter

The meeting approved the draft winter newsletter.

12 Report from South Lathom Residents Association

SLRA had been in contact with WLBC regarding Wainhomes breaking certain conditions of its planning permission. These referred to safety improvements on Firwood Road, Old Engine Lane and Neverstitch Road. Early in October, WLBC Enforcement Officer had produced a report following occupation of the first houses on the estate and the report stated that other conditions had also not been met. WLBC had provisionally decided there would be no benefit in issuing a 'stop notice' to stop work on the site until the conditions were met, despite all of this non-compliance. SLRA had raised a complaint against this decision and was awaiting a response.

13 Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)

The Clerk advised she had attended the annual town and parish conference on Saturday 4th November. The following points were noted

- David Goode, PROW Manager had stressed the importance of Parish Councils checking the impact planning proposals had on public footpaths at the applications stage. PROW don't have the staff to ensure footpaths are protected and need Parish Councils to do this for them.
- Chief Insp Jill Halliwell from Anti-Social Behaviour, advised there is a national issue with off-road motorbikes and national guidance is awaited, following a number of controversial incidents around the country.

The presentation slides will be made available to Councillors and the main points from the conference would be shared via the weekly bulletin.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm

**Cllr Roger Clayton
Chairman**

13th December 2023