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*Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith, 3 Old School, School Lane, Melling, L31 1FE  
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**Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at Skelmersdale Cricket Club at 6:30 pm on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

**Present: Cllr Andrew Beeston, Cllr Carol Blackledge, Cllr Roger Clayton (Chairman), Cllr Ernie Pallas, Cllr Andy Taylor.**

**Apologies received from: Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Darren Steele.**

**In attendance:** Two members of the public were in attendance

## **MINUTES**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**1 To elect Chairman and hear acceptance of office**

Cllr Roger Clayton was elected Chairman. Declaration of acceptance of office was read out, witnessed and signed.

**2 To elect Vice Chairman and hear acceptance of office**

Cllr Darren Steele was elected as Vice Chairman. As Cllr Steele was not in attendance, his declaration of acceptance of office was deferred until the June meeting.

**3 To hear acceptance of office for all councillors and confirm Registration of Interest Forms**

As there were no new Councillors this item was removed from the agenda.

**4 To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Andrew Chanter and Cllr Darren Steele.

**5 To receive declarations of interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

**6 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**7 Public Participation**

**The meeting will be adjourned for an appropriate time (four minutes maximum per speech) for members of the public to raise matters of concern or interest as notified to the Chairman.**

There was an enquiry regarding the expected time scale for potholes to be repaired by LCC after being reported on Love Clean Streets. Three potholes on Plough Lane had been reported at the same time but only one had been repaired.

**8 To confirm Registration of Financial Interests forms**

Councillors in attendance confirmed their Registration of Interest Forms were up to date.

**9 To confirm representation on outside bodies**

There is no representation on any outside bodies.

**10 To confirm structure and membership of committees and subcommittees**

The following committee structure was agreed:

Human Resources Committee: Cllr Roger Clayton, Cllr Carol Blackledge

**11 To consider payment of annual subscriptions**

The following memberships were approved

CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) - £36  
SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) – £144  
Open Spaces Society £45  
OPSTA (Ormskirk, Preston Southport Travellers Association) - £10  
Parish Online £84  
LALC / NALC £199.77

**12 To consider insurance cover renewal quotation**

The Clerk advised a renewal quote had been received from Zurich for £340.67 which was an increase of £12.51 from the previous premium. Zurich had recently introduced a new on-line package for Parish Councils with a precept of less than £30,000 based on 'one glove fits most' covering Parish Councils with assets of up to £34,000. The quote for the on-line package was £300.

It was agreed that the on-line package was too restrictive. It was resolved to accept the Zurich quotation of £340.67.

**13 To confirm dates of future meetings**

It was agreed to continue holding meetings on the second Wednesday of the month including throughout the summer months. Due to the Christmas and New Year bank holiday dates, it was agreed to hold the January 2025 meeting on the third Wednesday i.e. 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Subject to availability of a meeting room at Skelmersdale Cricket Club the dates for meetings were agreed as:-

12<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
 14<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024  
 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024  
 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024  
 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024  
 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024  
 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025  
 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025  
 12<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025  
 9<sup>th</sup> Apr 2025  
 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 AGM/APA

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

Santander	160424	Bank charges	d.d.	£0.10
Working Woodlands	220424	Swells Wood	b.t	£1,224.06
NEST	250424	Clerk's Pension Apr 24	d.d	£129.57
J Smith	290424	Clerk's salary Apr 24	s.o	£ 601.00
Hugofox Ltd	290424	Web hosting (April & catch up)	d.d	£47.98

J Smith	290424	Postage costs (newsletter)	b.t	£35.98
Design 4 Print	300424	Newsletters	b.t	£220.00
Cricket Club	150524	Room hire	b.t.	£50.00
Working Woodlands	070524	Swells Wood	b.t	£1200.00
Hugofox Ltd	080524	Web hosting May	b.t	£23.99
Earth Anchors	1605.24	Bench fixing kits	b.t	£127.80

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

It was noted that the payment to Working Woodlands was an interim payment. Invoices for an additional two days work and installation of a gate had not yet been received.

#### **15 To agree transfer of funds from Santander to CCLA**

The Clerk requested authorisation to transfer more funds to CCLA. It was noted that the FSCS protection limit is £85k. The current balance held with Santander was £92,386.

It was resolved to transfer £20,000 from Santander to CCLA.

#### **16 To discuss any current planning issues**

Application No: 2024/0372/FUL

Proposal: Single storey infill extension to the rear elevation.

Site Location: 156 Blaguegate Lane Lathom Skelmersdale WN8 8TY

No objections

Application No: 2024/0303/FUL

Proposal: Erection of equine building in existing yard area, following removal of existing stables.

Site Location: Garth House Vale Lane Lathom Ormskirk L40 6JH

No objections

Application No: 2024/0317/CON

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by condition no's 6, 22, 25, 26 & 30 of planning permission 2020/1267/FUL relating to the Footpath Link Design, Landscape & Management Habitat Plan, Gas design & Remediation Strategy's, Gas validation reports, S104 Agreement Plans & SUDs Maintenance Plan.

Site Location: Land To The West Of Neverstitch Road Skelmersdale

This application was noted for information purposes only.  
Application No: 2024/0316/NMA  
Proposal: Non material amendment to planning permission  
2020/1267/FUL - relating to the wording of condition 17.  
Site Location: Land To The West Of Neverstitch Road Skelmersdale

This application for the additional removal of trees was noted for information purposes only.

**17 Report from South Lathom Residents' Association (SLRA) for information only**

At the recent WLBC Planning Committee, the applications by Wain Homes to construct nine houses and have an access road through a designated area of public open space had been deferred.

The Parish Council had received a breakdown of the three areas of public open space on the site. The total size of the three combined areas did not equate to the total amount stated in the report to the Planning Committee. The report had stated there was a 25% over allocation of public open space but the breakdown showed a 19% shortfall. An explanation of the calculations had been requested. WLBC remained in negotiations with Wain Homes.

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

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 7.35pm.

**Cllr Roger Clayton  
Chairman**

**12<sup>th</sup> June 2024**