



Up Holland Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of Up Holland Parish Council held on **Tuesday 10th October 2023 at 7.30pm** in the Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill, WN8 ONR.

Present: Cllr Christopher Mackrell (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Linda Jones, Cllr Andrew Grant, Cllr Gaynar Owen, Cllr Gill Sinnott, Cllr Richard Taylor.

7.15pm to 7.30pm set aside for public participation:

No members of the public present.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Jenny Whiting, Cllr Barry Hale, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Mike McGunigle and Cllr Alex Stoddart.

2. To receive declarations of interest

As stated on the filed Register of Interests, Cllr Sinnott declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 13. Cllr Owen reminded the meeting of her interest in any items coming under the scrutiny of WLBC Licencing Committee, in particular in applications for alcohol licenses from St Thomas' Church.

3. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 12th September 2023

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. To record any police issues

The local PCSO's attended the MacMillan Coffee Morning at the Community Hub. The Clerk reported attending the Lancashire Police Cyber Crime course on Monday 9th October 2023, introduced by Police & Crime Commissioner, Andrew Snowdon, and recommended that a policy to deal with business interruption be considered.

5. Ward Reports: Update the meeting on issues Councillors are attending to

Cllr Sinnott: Trustees of the Community Hub at the Parish Church are members of the Parochial Church Council, and there is an application for a premises licence to serve alcohol currently being considered by WLBC. Currently there is a limit on the number of events that a temporary event notice can cover. In order to service the Wednesday open-mike evenings, have mulled wine at the Christmas Market etc, a premises alcohol licence (with the committee rather than a designated license holder being responsible). There is planning consent to turn the rose garden (outside the gate) into a disabled carpark and drop off area for hearses. The work has an agreed tree removal and replanting scheme and will commence in November, taking around six weeks.

Recent Love, Clean Streets reports, reporting the A577 road surface are marked by LCC as 'closed'. The Clerk was asked to contact John Fillis to explain that the parish councillors are somewhat disgruntled that LCC Highways are still not fixing the problem of poor road surface along the length of the A577.

Cllr Jones: Complaints that tractors with big trailers are travelling over the speed limit along Tower Hill and the homes are shaking as a result. Also, when WLBC cut the grass at Garnet Lees, there is a wide section left next to the nearest house. Can this be cut right up to the border? Clerk was instructed to ask Stephen Bissett and Shane Malia if this is possible. The Clerk advised the meeting that WLBC have changed policy on contacting individual officers and that a generic online form is to be completed online as an alternative. The generic form struggles to cope with a committee decision and requires individual registration before submitting an issue. The meeting asked the clerk to raise this issue at the upcoming WLBC Liaison Clerk's meeting.

Cllr Owen: Grass verge cutting on Alma Court is being restricted because of parked cars. WLBC has agreed to notify residents as to when they will trim the grass so that residents do not obstruct the verges with parked vehicles.

£25 from the £300 LCC grant for conservation was spent on insect houses which were distributed at this meeting.

6. Financial Matters:

- **Accounts for ratification and payment**

Yates Playgrounds	200923	Repairs to equipment	0930	£348.00*
PKF Littlejohn	200923	External audit fee	0931	£504.00*
John Stewart	200923	Installation of kissing gate	0932	£600.00
Unity Trust Bank	300923	Banking fee – quarterly	b.t.	£18.00
0933 – spoiled cheque				
Methodist Church	101023	Room hire 10 and 17 Oct	0934	£32.00

Laurence Davis	101023	Grass cutting contract	0935	£1,600.00
E A Broad/B&M	101023	Insect house x 12	0936	£25.00
E A Broad	101023	Salary and expenses Oct	0937	£1,367.84 (Gross salary = £1,674.40 based on £18.40 per hour for 21 hour week)
Npower	101023	Electricity for clock	0938	£12.94*
SLCC	101023	Closed churchyard course	0939	£54.00*
J Whiting	101023	Chairman's allowance	0940	£200.00
SLCC	101023	Annual Membership (Dalton PC will reimburse £36 in contribution to this)	0941	£187.00
NEST	101023	Pension scheme (Employer pays 3% - £50.23; clerk pays £160.74 to pension scheme)	d.d.	£210.97
Handelsbanken	111023	bank charges	d.d.	£32.60
WLBC	151023	Play area inspections and cleaning over three sites 1/10/23 – 01/1/24	d.d.	£1,709.33*
NEST	151023	Pension payments	d.d.	£210.97
CPRE	211023	Annual Membership	d.d.	£36.00

*Contains VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

The meeting also noted a £30,000 deposit into the CCLA Investment Fund.

- **Notice of Finance Meeting on Tuesday 17th October 2023**

Papers for this meeting have been circulated.

- **Conclusion of audit papers**

The External Audit was returned with no areas of concern raised. The conclusion of audit papers displayed on the website and noticeboard at Hall Green as required by legislation.

7. Confirm details of Remembrance Day and arrangements for Christmas Lights

Remembrance Day will be Sunday 12th November 2023, at Up Holland cenotaph war memorial on Vicarage Corner, at approximately 10.45am. The service is run by Up

Holland combined churches. Cllr Jenny Whiting as Chairman will present the poppy wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

The quotation for Christmas lighting from P & R Electricals was agreed.

There will be a switch on of Christmas Lights on Saturday 2nd December 2023 at 4.45pm at St Thomas' Church.

8. Update from LALC (Lancashire Association of Local Councils)

The next meeting of the West Lancashire Area Committee will be on Thursday 12th October 2023 at Ormskirk Council Offices.

The LALC AGM will follow the LCC Parish & Town Councils Conference on Saturday 4th November 2023.

9. Any Update from Borough or County Councillors

- **Include reports to LCC Highways about A577 poor maintenance of road surface and roadside safety barriers**

The Clerk reported this issue on Love Clean Streets app and encouraged residents to do this themselves.

CIL Consultation – response required 27th October 2023

In brief, West Lancashire Borough Council's allocation of Community Infrastructure, it is proposed, will be spent as follows:-

Rufford & Holmeswood Parish Council Projects - £30,400.00
Fairy Glen £55,000.00
Kiln Lane/Tongbarn playing fields £62,700.00
Halsall – Scarisbrick Canal Towpath £175,095.14
UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Community Grant Scheme - £355,000.00
Beacon Country Park Play Area - £346,500.00
Ormskirk – Burscough Linear Park - £200,000.00

This consultation requests comment on the proposals, but there is no mechanism to see how these comments are actually taken on board.

Proposals suggested by Up Holland Parish Council included a PROW footpath across the Ibstock land from the new housing to Tower Hill, and a carpark at Chequer Lane do not appear on the list of chosen projects, possibly because there were no costings for these. The Clerk was asked to request why they do not fit the criteria for CIL funding.

10. To consider any planning issues or applications

Application Number: 2023/0859/FUL
Location: 11 Abbey Close, WN8 0HE

Proposal: Dormer Loft Conversion

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

11. Update on Capital Projects: 2022 – Bleed Control Cabinets, 2023 – Bowling Green equipment

The meeting noted that the projects were moving forward.

12. Resolution for the Exclusion of Press and Public

It is recommended that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and as, in all circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption under Section 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Resolved.

13. Provision of Goods and Services

- (a) Update on Play Areas development

Projects ongoing.

- (b) Consideration of Miyawaki Forest*: Possible locations Mill Lane Play Area, Janet Lally Memorial Field, Tontine; Crawford Village Hut & Playing Fields

It was resolved to pursue this project with LCC Treescapes Team. An explanatory leaflet will be produced for local residents.

- (c) Consideration of a non-denominational scatter-field for ashes

This proposal was opened for discussion but requires further investigation and serious consideration before any decisions are taken. To move forward the value of the land in question needs to be explored as well as the land owners asking price. There is certainly a demand for more burial space, but whether this is an issue that parish council funds ought to be spent on needs answering. Future management also needs agreement before committing to purchase.

The meeting heard that it Up Holland Methodist Church does allow members of the Methodist Church to scatter ashes in the Geoffrey Bennett Peace Garden at the rear of the church.

- (d) Approve spending on autumn tidy up of trees on council owned land

The following work was agreed:-

Chairman:.....

Tree work on edge of allotments - £600: Walled garden outside the Good Catch - £220: Overhanging from woodland near motorway and removal of large (but dying) ash tree - £600. Total: £1,420.00 – Andrew Greenhough, Working Woodlands.

Hedge cutting at the bowling green £390 – Laurence Davis.

Quotations to deal with the overgrown trees at Farley Lane Play Area, particularly the one obstructing the entrance, will be sought and distributed so that a decision can be taken administratively.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

***Cllr Jenny Whiting
Chairman***

14th November 2023