

## Farington Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at Bashall Grove Community Centre at 7.00 pm

**Present:** - Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman (Chair); Councillor Michael Green (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Shaun Bradbury; Councillor Tony Green; Councillor Mike Otter; Councillor Chris Wharton-Hardman; and Councillor Mrs. Karen Walton

**In attendance:** - Lisa Burton - Clerk to the Council  
Borough Councillor Mary Green  
Chair of LALC (Lancashire Association of Local Councils)  
Darren Cranshaw  
PCSO Georgina Anson & PCSO Mike Mitchinson  
Susie Marsden – Lancashire Positive Minds  
Edith Snape, Peter Suart, Margaret Worden – St Pauls Bowling Club  
1 Member of the public

#### **95. (21/22) Apologies for Absence & Chairman's Health and Safety Announcements**

Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman advised the Health & Safety announcements to the meeting.

Apologies received from Councillor Paul Buckley.

#### **96. (21/22) Declarations of Interests**

Members are requested to indicate at this stage in the proceedings any items on the agenda in which they intend to declare an interest. Members are reminded that if the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined in the Members' Code of Conduct) they must leave the room for the whole of that item. If the interest is not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, but is such that a member of the public could reasonably regard it as being so significant that it is likely that it would prejudice their judgment of the public interest (as explained in the Code of Conduct) then they may make representations, but then must leave the meeting for the remainder of the item.

#### **97. (21/22) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Resolved**

#### **98. (21/22) Adjournment for Public Participation**

Representatives from South Ribble Borough Council and other organisations may speak under this item as well as members of the public and local residents.

A member of the public reported that the grids on Stanly Road / Stanley Avenue have been flooding since the works to repair the water leak on Stanifield Lane have

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been completed.  
Clerk to report to Lancashire County Council.

**99. (21/22) Neighbourhood Policing Team Update**

The Neighbourhood Policing Team have been invited to attend the Parish Council meeting or to provide a report on issues in the local area.

PCSO Anson advised that their team patrol Leyland Town Centre and Farington Moss, with the cut off being School Lane. PC Chris Suffolk (4155) and team then cover the rest of the Farington area.

The top issues reported in the area are Children causing issues, the Convent of Moss Lane – where although there is CCTV installed it has not been connected via SRBC.

Cllr Michael Green advised that although Moss Lane is outside of the boundary for Farington Parish it is disappointing that the CCTV is not in use.

Clerk to follow up with SRBC.

Cllr Karen Walton asked about any issues reported on the carpark at Farington Lodges. PCSO Mitchinson advised that there have been no reports for some time. Cllr Karen Walton advised that the underpass on Fowler Lane is a hotspot for Children.

The crime statistics available from the Police mainly cover Leyland Town Centre and this is mainly anti-social behaviour. There has been one high value burglary in the area and 7 incidents reported in Farington Moss.

Cllr Shaun Bradbury raised the issue of problems with speeding HGVs on Croston Road in conjunction with the 2 development sites in the area. The Police team advised this would be raised with the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership. The partnership is always looking for volunteers to assist in road safety measures.

Cllr Karen Walton advised that the issue with HGV's is in contravention to planning restrictions and she will raise with planning enforcement. The sites both have 20mph speed limits in place.

Cllr Michael Green suggested the Police team could contact Lancashire County Councillor Jayne Rear.

PCSO Anson advised that the Police team will work with SRBC to target hotspots.

Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that a vehicle, possibly without number plates, has been noted travelling the wrong way down Mill Street (one-way street) between 6-7pm on most evenings. PCSO Mitchinson advised that he is aware of reports of this.

Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman also advised of incidents around the B&Q site at South Rings at the road from the A49 from early evening onwards. PSCO Mitchinson noted this and advised that the area will be patrolled.

Cllr Karen Walton advised that there are issues around the hope Terrace Carpark in Lostock Hall. PCSO Mitchinson advised that the Police team are aware of an identified group in the area and this is being covered by PC Suffolk.

Cllr Michael Green asked about volunteering for the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and was advised that this would be welcomed. There is a short training

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course to attend on the use of the equipment.

Darren Cranshaw advised that LALC has arranged a speed awareness training course on the 17/02/2022.

PCSO Mitchinson asked if any issues had been reported at the Bowling Green at the Conservative Club on Stanifield Lane. It would seem the same individual is causing issues there and wondered if the Parish Council are aware. No issues have been reported to the Parish Council.

PCSO Mitchinson advised the Parish Council of the 'In the Know' initiative and left leaflets and business cards to be distributed within the local community.

### **100. (21/22) Grants**

The Parish Council is asked to consider the requests for grants put forward by Lancashire Positive Minds and St Pauls Bowling Club. Both have been invited to attend the meeting.

Susie Marsden of Lancashire Positive Minds made a short presentation to the Parish Council explaining the main aim of the support group in assisting Parents & Carers of Children and Young People who are experiencing emotional and mental health issues. 250 families are currently being supported across the region, many local to the Parish of Farington.

The group offers virtual support groups for the families of those experiencing self-harm; psychosis; suicide and eating disorders. The organisation would be keen to join the Farington Fun Day. The application for funding is mainly to enable the provision of specialist books to support parents & carers. To provide an idea of the enormity of the problems faced by young people there have been 26 suicide attempts in February 21.

Susie is approaching the Parish Council for a grant towards Funday resources and promoting Lancashire Positive Minds as well as the provision of specialist books for parents & carers.

Cllr Tony Green asked if the group had sought other funding such as the National Lottery. Susie advised that there is a constitution in place of £5k due to the size of the group. SRBC are funding accommodation at Leyland Baptist Church and other organisations such as Progress Housing have also been approached.

Cllr Shaun Bradbury advised that the group will be kept informed of any other funding opportunities that the Parish Council are made aware of.

Cllr Michael Green extended his thanks to Lancashire Positive Minds and all the work and support provided and to Susie for sharing her personal story. Cllr Michael Green will facilitate a meeting with Stuart Morris Lancashire County Council Champion for Mental Health and Young People. Cllr Mike Otter suggested that the Boost Fund may be able to assist. Cllr Karen Walton advised that this is for the different Community Hubs and must be voted upon by all members, but would be willing to take forward along with Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman.

Cllr Michael Green requested permission to share the contact details for Lancashire Positive Minds.

Susie Marsden advised that the situation had been impacted by the pandemic and the isolation which some Children & Young People have found themselves in. Cllr Michael Green ask if the organisation works directly with the Children or their parents. Susie advised that there are strategies in place for both and are working with schools to promote the service.

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Susie advised that funding may be in the pipeline through Asda Superstores and this may assist in funding for guest speaker costs.

Edith Snape (Treasurer), Peter Suart (Vice-chair), Margaret Worden (Chair) attended the meeting from St Pauls Bowling Club.

The club has been in existence for over 70 years and provides exercise and social activities for the local Community.

The club is not eligible for lottery funding due to issues with the ownership of the land and the lease with the Diocese.

The club wish to purchase an aerator machine, to remove moss and assist in the drainage of the green, at a cost of approx. £1600. The bowling green needs to be aerated several times throughout the year and the cost of having the work carried out by a contractor is in the region of £1200. A decision has therefore been made to purchase the equipment and Peter Suart who carries out the majority of the green maintenance would carry out the work.

The pandemic and subsequent lock downs have had an impact upon the finances of the Bowling Club. At the close of 2020 there was £600 in the Club account.

As life returns to normal and the club is opening up finances are improving, but assistance is required to purchase the machinery.

Although the club is open to anyone in the Community around two thirds of the members are from the local area of Farington Moss.

Peter Suart advised that the machinery required has been thoroughly researched and the details of the machine can be provided.

Cllr Shaun Bradbury asked about maintenance and storage of the equipment and Peter reassured that both have been considered and there are sufficient facilities.

Cllr Michael Green thanked the representatives for attending the meeting and asked when the equipment was needed, and if it is possible to share this type of equipment with another club. He also asked about the demographics of the membership and if younger community members are involved in the club.

Margaret Worden advised that there are 2 junior teams and quite a strong growing membership, although members do tend to be in the 50+ age range.

Other funding sources are being investigated but having spent a great deal of time improving the quality of the green it is hoped that work can be continued to stop any deterioration.

Cllr Tony Green ask if other fundraising is carried out such as fun days and competitions.

Cllr Karen Walton advised that the Leyland & Farington Hub could add the Club to the wish list and can assist in championing the funding.

Peter Suart advised that although it would be ideal to share the machinery with another local club, unfortunately due to the size and weight it is incredibly difficult to transport without a specialist vehicle. It certainly isn't possible to transport in a car or to lift into a van.

Cllr Mike Otter suggested funding from Lancashire County Council Champion for Older People. Edith Snape advised that a small grant has been received from the Champions fund.

Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman asked to clarify that the amount of the grant sought from the Parish Council is £1500.

Cllr Mike Otter suggested the Boost fund may be able to assist and that perhaps Cllr Karen Walton could take this forward.

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The Parish Council agreed to defer decisions on funding to later in the meeting once the delegates had left. The Clerk will advise all parties of the outcome of the decision.

The Parish Council agreed to delay the approval of the Grants policy & Form to the March meeting.

**101. (21/22) LALC Chair presentation**

Darren Cranshaw – Chair of Lancashire Association of Local Councils will be attending the meeting to explain the benefits of LALC membership and to answer any questions from the Parish Council

Darren Cranshaw expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for the invitation to attend the meeting and for the kind welcome extended to him.

Darren Cranshaw advised that his term of office as Chair of LALC came to an end on 05/02/2022. The new Chair of the organisation is Phil Horne (Wyre). Darren continues in his role as Parish Councillor at Brindle, where he has been involved for 22 years.

LALC’s main aim is to champion local Town & Parish Councils and has recently undergone some major changes with the introduction of a virtual office and the recruitment of a new officer team, Debra Platt & Val Watson.

LALC will assist and support local Councils where relationships have broken down; provide detailed information on Legal Practise Notes and also provide access to NALC.

NALC in turn lobby MP’s on behalf of Parish & Town Councils and also support Parish & Town Councils.

As mentioned earlier in the meeting LALC are hosting a Community Speed Awareness Event on the 17/02/2022. The event is supported by the Police Commissioner and the Lancashire County Council Parish Champion. The Highways Charter is also being redrafted.

The issue of Hanging Baskets was raised. Lancashire County Councillor Peter Buckley has been liaising with the Parish Champion Paul Rigby, there has been no consultation regarding regulations being imposed by Lancashire County Council. Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that Cllr Paul Buckley has requested that the issue of the lack of public participation throughout the Council meetings be raised. He would like to understand the NALC/LALC stance upon why there cannot be public participation throughout the meeting.

Darren Cranshaw responded that although he cannot speak on the legality of public participation, it is best practise to have a designated time within the meeting for Public Participation.

Darren Cranshaw advised that he would provide information regarding Public Participation at Parish Council meetings.

Cllr Michael Green suggested that the Parish Council Standing Orders should be reviewed as soon as possible and asked at what point the Parish Council could become a Town Council.

Darren Cranshaw advised that the size of the Council was not a determination of what name should be given to a Local Council.

Cllr Karen Walton suggested that it would be better to consider changing to a Community Council. It was noted that there is a lack of communication between

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SRBC and Parish Councillors and that Parish Councils should be invited to research communications. SRBC are creating a charter for Parish Councils.

Darren Cranshaw was asked if LALC would support Farington Parish Council in creating a Neighbourhood Plan. Darren Cranshaw suggested contacting Steve Haswell at Penwortham Town Council for advice on a Neighbourhood Plan.

South Ribble Borough Councillor Mary Green thanked Darren Cranshaw for attending and stated that as an Officer at SRBC he is one of the best and shows the commitment SRBC have in supporting Parish Councils.

Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman stated that Darren Cranshaw's attendance has provided a better understanding of the services provided by LALC and what the cost of membership provides.

The Parish Council thanked Daren for attending the meeting.

### **102. (21/22) Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Email & Grant form enquiry received for possible funding for a street party Celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee were discussed at length. SRBC are already planning to hold the Leyland Festival over this weekend, and also have a budget to provide celebrations over the weekend.

Cllr Mike Otter asked if funding is available from SRBC

Cllr Michael Green suggested that as this would be a special commemorative year a pot of money should be set aside to fund celebrations such as street parties.

It was agreed to defer any decisions until next month

### **103. (21/22) Planning**

The Clerk advised that no new information available from planning.

Cllr Karen Walton advised that there are ongoing concerns with the Caddick development on Centurion Way (Land West of the Business Park on Centurion Way). Residents on Bispham Avenue are concerned that a 22meter high structure will be constructed.

Cllr Shaun Bradbury advised that any pollution should be reported to the Environment Agency but residents are deeply concerned over the development.

Cllr Karen Walton advised that the ongoing works do not meet the outline planning permission granted.

Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that the change of use for the Rose of Farington Public House has been approved.

Cllr Michael Green stated that the Parish Council should write to Jonathan Noad with a strongly worded objection.

At this point in the meeting Cllr Mike Otter advised that the standing orders should be suspended. Chairman Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that due to the time constraints of the Standing Orders, these should be suspended for the remainder of the meeting.

Cllr Michael Green proposed the suspension of Standing Orders, seconded by Cllr Chris Wharton-Hardman.

**Unanimously Agreed**

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**104. (21/22) Budget Proposal for 2022/23 including Projects for Expenditure**

The Clerk presented the budget spreadsheet containing all of the collated information on previous years expenditure, the current financial position of the Parish Council and the potential budgeted expenditure for the year 22/23.

Cllr Michael Green advised that the precept should not be increased just to ensure prudent reserves are increased.

It was agreed to increase the budget for St Paul's recreation area to £100,000 to encompass the extension of the play area and also take account of the work required to reduce flooding on the footpath.

It was agreed that due to the exponential increases in utility costs for the BTR playing fields that the Football Club will be requested to contribute £50 per month towards the cost of utilities.

The following budget items were agreed: Noticeboards £5k; Queen's Platinum Jubilee £3k; Hanging Baskets £3k; BTR Playing field facilities for Lengthsman £3k; Refurbishment of the Bobbing Seats at Mil Street £1.5k; Refurbishment of the outdoor gym equipment on Farington Park £2.5k.

With reference to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee a deadline for applications for street parties will be set and the grant provided will be based upon the size of the street and the number of residents participating.

The precept was agreed as £88,870.00 this is a decrease of 3.01% on last year.

Proposed by Cllr Michael Green, seconded by Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman.

The proposal was put to the vote with 1 against and 6 for the proposal

**Resolved**

**105. (21/22) Borough Council and County Council reports – for information only**

The Borough and County Council members will give an update on Borough and County Council matters affecting the Parish Council area.

It was advised that trees are being made available for residents to plant – the trees are free of charge.

Cllr Michael Green advised that a new annual health report will be shortly issued to Parish Councils. This should be studied at a local level.

Cllr Michael Green advised that he was in receipt of a letter that has been circulated by the Clerk to the Parish Council which contains inappropriate allegations against him. Wheelton Lane – statements were not misleading; work has been completed but more does need to be done. The works on Bristol Avenue have been completed. The crossing on Stanifield Lane, the allegations that the tweet made in Feb 2018 was wrong is not true. Funding was secured for 2 crossings based upon the development at Cuerden going ahead. The development has not gone ahead, and therefore, it did not form a part of the campaign for Lancashire County Council election.

The budget consultation for SRBC will take place between 01/02/22 and 10/02/22.

Dog fouling as reported within the Parish should be reported to SRBC – there is a new initiative to tackle the problem in Farington East.

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The Farington Fun Day event will take place on 19/08/2022  
The crossing on Stanifield Lane is being taken forward between SRBC and Lancashire County Council and will most probably go ahead

The friends of Lever House Park have advised that there is potentially capital funding available for the project

**106. (21/22) Clerk's Report (Including Legthsmans Update)**

Circulated at the meeting.  
The grant requests presented earlier in the meeting were now considered by the Parish Council

Cllr Michael Green suggested that the awards should be within the amounts requested by the representatives  
Cllr Mike Otter reiterated that the representative should exhaust all other avenues for funding

Lancashire Positive Minds  
Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman proposed £1000.00  
Cllr Chris Wharton-Hardman seconded the proposal  
Unanimously agreed to provide a grant of £1000.00

**Resolved**

St Paul's Bowling Club.  
Cllr Karen Walton suggested the maximum offered should be £1000.00  
Cllr Paul Wharton-Hardman proposed £750.00  
Cllr Mike Otter proposed £500.00  
Cllr Karen Walton proposed £750.00. Cllr Michael Green seconded the proposal.  
Cllr Mike Otter withdrew his proposal.  
Unanimously agreed to provide a grant of £750.00

**Resolved**

**107. (21/22) Financial Matters**

**The Parish Council is asked to:-**

- a) Note the current bank balance in the HSBC Account.
- ii) Note the invoices paid since the last meeting.
- iii) Approve outstanding invoices for payment.

**108. (21/22) Projects for expenditure 2021/2022**

Expenditure on projects for 2022/2023 is to be considered under Item 8.

- i) Shop Local Business Scheme
- ii) St Pauls Park
- iii) Parish Council Newsletter
- iv) Workshop for Lengthsman

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**109. (21/22) Next Meeting**

**The next meeting will be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at St Paul's CE Primary, Croston Road, Farington Moss.**

The meeting closed at 10.22pm

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**Local Government Act 1972**

That the public be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that there is likely to be disclosure of exempt information which is described in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 which is specified against the heading to each item, and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

NA

Chair.....

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