

Farington Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 25th April 2022 at 7pm at St Paul's CE Primary, Croston Road, Farington Moss.

Present: - Councillor Michael Green (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Shaun Bradbury; Councillor Tony Green; Councillor Mike Otter; and Councillor Mrs. Karen Walton

In attendance: - Lisa Burton - Clerk to the Council
2 members of the public

The meeting opened at 7.26pm

16. (22/23)

Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health and Safety Announcements

Councillor Michael Green advised the Health & Safety announcements to the meeting.

Apologies received from Councillor Paul Buckley, Councillor Chris Wharton-Hardman and Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman

17. (22/23)

Appointment of Chairman for 2022/2023

Councillor Michael Green requested nominations for the Chairman of the Parish Council. Councillor Karen Walton nominated Councillor Michael Green. Councillor Shaun Bradbury seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Councillor Michael Green was duly elected as Chairman to the Parish Council.

Resolved

18. (22/23)

Appointment of Vice-Chairman for 2022/2023

Councillor Michael Green requested nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Councillor Michael Green nominated Councillor Karen Walton. Councillor Tony Green seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Councillor Karen Walton was duly elected as Vice-Chairman to the Parish Council.

Resolved

19. (22/23)

Declarations of Interest

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.

Resolved

Chair.....

Date.....

20. (22/23) Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on 4th April 2022 attached to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

There was a query on item 6. (22/23), that there was only a vote on the proposed grant amount of £500. There was no vote on any other matter. The minutes were discussed and amended to reflect a true record of the previous meeting.

The Clerk will reissue the amended minutes.

Resolved

Councillor Otter clarified Item 4. (22/23). He wished to make the Parish Council aware that he normally presents any cheques to the groups at Bashall Grove. The member of public who advised at the previous meeting that she wasn't allowed to attend the Christmas Party was incorrect in that this particular party is for Senior Citizens only, and is a completely separate entity to the Bashall Grove Community Group. The member of public was not eligible based on age only.

Resolved

Councillor Karen Walton and Councillor Shaun Bradbury both advised that they had become aware of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Grants available from SRBC and have passed this information onto the Clerk. The Clerk has published the information on the Parish Council Website and on social media.

Resolved

Councillor Karen Walton requested clarification on item 9. (22/23) as to which authority is funding the proposed crossing on Stanified Lane. Is it to be funded by SRBC or is the Parish Council expected to fund the crossing?

Councillor Shaun Bradbury raised ongoing issues with travellers. He has raised the issues with Catherine Fletcher MP and the Police and Crime Commissioner. In response the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed to attend the next Parish Council meeting on the 6th June 2022, to advise on policing in Farington and South Ribble. Councillor Bradbury received a response from the MP's office requesting photos of the issues caused by the travellers, which is a very dangerous practice to undertake given the type of individuals involved.

Clerk will confirm the attendance of Andy Pratt, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, at the next Parish Council meeting. Councillor Shaun Bradbury will forward the email correspondence to the Clerk.

Councillor Michael Green thanked Councillor Shaun Bradbury for his efforts.

Resolved

21. (22/23)

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.

There were no discussions under this item

Chair.....

Date.....

22. (22/23)

Grant application

Councillor Michael Green welcomed Ian Burt to the meeting to discuss a grant application received from Halls for All – form attached

Mr Burt explained the Halls for All is a separate entity to St Ambrose Church. Some personnel do have connections to the Church but the two are run separately.

Hall for All is reliant upon income from rentals of the Halls. Any profit is ploughed back in to the maintenance of the buildings. The project for which the grant is required is to install CCTV over the front door. The caretaker cannot be available at all times and more control and better security is required.

The monitor for the CCTV camera will be in the Church office and the camera will cover the main door to the Hall and one door which accesses the Church. There is no real crime to date but the camera will pick up speeding drivers and youth's smoking substances on the Church steps. They are looking at providing CCTV footage to the police.

The main Hall floor and the boilers will also require replacement in the near future

Councillor Michael Green advised Mr Burt of the process of gathering information at this point in the meeting, with a decision to be made later on in the meeting.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury suggested approaching Progress Housing as Halls for All is a well utilised Community Asset.

Councillor Karen Walton asked if an application has been made to the Community Hub. Mr Burt advised that an application has been made to the Boost Fund towards the boilers.

Councillor Michael Green asked what percentage of users travel from outside of the Parish Area. Mr Burt responded that this information is not recorded as it has not been required previously.

Mr Burt left the meeting at 7.46pm

Councillor Mike Otter advised that when St Ambrose Church opened one half of the Parishioners from St Paul's Church moved to form a congregation for Farington Central.

Councillor Karen Walton raised the issue of grant funding, as budgeted could run out before Christmas. There followed a discussion on capping grants available. Councillor Michael Green suggested that there should be a clear policy that is enforced.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that the policy needs to ensure that the budget is spent fairly.

It was agreed to use the following criteria that all grants would be based upon the following:

- A. Based in the Farington parish
- B. Utilised by the Community
- C. Availability of fund for grants.

The Clerk suggested that CIL monies could be utilised for Halls for All as this fits the criteria of infrastructure.

There was a unanimous decision to provide the full amount of the lowest quote through CIL or provide a grant of £400 if CIL is not suitable for the project.

Proposed by Councillor Mike Otter, seconded by Councillor Shaun Bradbury. Agreed unanimously.

Resolved

Chair.....

Date.....

The second grant to be discussed has been received from Leyland Playscheme – form attached. The request is to fund 20 places on the playscheme. The grant requestor did not attend the meeting.

It was discussed that the Play Scheme is a worthy cause and has links to Clare House, which would therefore target Children in need. Given the amount of the grant request, it was agreed that further information is required before discussing the grant further.

It was agreed to postpone the grant discussion to the next meeting.

The Clerk to request the attendance of the grant requestor at the next Parish Council meeting on 6th June 2022.

Resolved

The grant request from Bashall Grove for £200 for the bingo club was discussed. It was agreed that confirmation of who runs the group, and if there is a constitution and committee in place needs to be checked before a discussion on funding can be reached.

Clerk to request the required information.

Resolved

With regard to a policy on grant funding it was agreed that a maximum of £400 should be provided. Proposed by Councillor Michael Green, seconded by Councillor Tony Green.

Resolved

Grant for St Catherine's Hospice

A grant of £500 was agreed for St Catherine's Hospice at the meeting on 4th April 2022. Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that he does not use Facebook. However he has been made aware of a post on social media regarding the grant to St Catherine's Hospice from the Parish Council which he found to be disgusting and appalling. Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that he is very disappointed. He joined the Parish Council as an independent (not affiliated with any political party) and does not want to see politics brought into the Council and causing disrepute. The comments on social media and the way this has been done is not acceptable. Councillor Shaun Bradbury pointed out that he does not wish to be ostracised by anyone on the Parish Council. Councillor Shaun Bradbury went on to say that there had been a negative effect of people requesting a reduction in Council Tax due to the post.

Councillor Karen Walton advised that she has been shocked by the post and the comments. The Parish Council is not party political and Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman has made this political. Councillor Tony Green agreed.

Councillor Karen Walton stated that the social media post was in breach of the Code of Conduct and the Social Media policy.

Councillor Michael Green advised that the Parish Council should not be used to make cheap political points, this can result in poor decision making based on concerns over the consequences of a decision.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury asserted that the Parish Council is fully budgeted and allocated and it is therefore not true that there is £200k in funds. People see this negatively and it leaves a bitter taste and reduces the support of the Community for the Parish Council.

Councillor Mike Otter raised the point that there will be Parish Council elections in 2023. There was discussion regarding the next steps that the Parish Council can take regarding the issue. Councillor Shaun Bradbury will provide an email to the Clerk which will be forwarded on to Councillor Mike Otter at his request. An apology will be requested from Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman and the Clerk will forward copies of the social media

Chair.....

Date.....

Policy and Code of Conduct.

Resolved

23. (22/23)

Membership of Outside Bodies – LALC South Ribble

The Parish Council is asked to appoint representatives to LALC South Ribble – currently Councillor Michael Green; Councillor Elaine Robb and Councillor Mrs Karen Walton. Councillor Karen Walton, Councillor Michael Green and Councillor Shaun Bradbury confirmed as representative to LALC South Ribble.

Resolved

24. (22/23)

Planning issues

The Clerk will give an update on current planning issues, and any current planning applications may be discussed under this item.

Consultation on upgrade of Base Station at CS 131598 / VF 64459 – Land adjacent Leyland Storage, off Carr Lane, Farington, PR25 3UQ

No Comment from the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that planning application are noted for possible CIL income

Councillor Karen Walton advised that a meeting has been held with the Caddick Developers, the Planning Committee and residents. The application will be going to the planning committee on the 28th April 2022. The developer has worked hard to resolve issues raised by residents, including lowering the roof and additional sound proofing.

Councillor Michael Green advised that the roof height has been reduced from 22 metres to 16 metres.

Councillor Karen Walton advised that there will be additional planting and landscaping also there will be a Single Point of Contact for any issues or complaints. The developers are also providing an additional bund to alleviate light and noised pollution. Additional works ongoing to reinforce the banks River Lostock.

Councillor Karen Walton advised that she has received communication from a member of the public regarding a fence on the boundary of their property which has now collapsed. The fence was installed by Homes England. The issue is ongoing.

Resolved

25. (22/23)

Projects for expenditure 2022/2023

The Parish Council is asked to consider any further projects for expenditure over the next 18 months. Any updates on current projects will be given under this heading. Projects to be discussed: -

- i) Shop local business scheme
- ii) Newsletter
- iii) Councillor ID badges
- iv) St Paul's Park – update
- v) Bus Shelter replacement
- vi) Notice Board Replacement

Chair.....

Date.....

- vii) Queens Platinum Jubilee
- viii) Christmas lights and displays
- ix) Summer planting 2023 – roundabouts and junctions

Councillor Shaun Bradbury provided an update on the tenders for St Paul's play area. The tenders have been received and will be reviewed by the working group and the contract will be awarded.

The Clerk provided information on the possible replacement noticeboards based on the information provided by Councillor Mike Otter. The notice boards proposed will be double door (4 x A4 sheets per window) lockable cabinets. The noticeboards are low maintenance aluminium complete with posts, and available in RAL505 with a header and crest above. The cost for each notice board is £839.00 + vat.

The Clerk has added summer planting and Christmas lights to the list of projects for the Parish Council to consider in good time for any agreed planned events.

26. (22/23)

Financial Matters and Banking

The Parish Council is asked to:-

- i) Note the current bank balance in the HSBC Account.
- ii) Note the invoices paid since the last meeting.
- iii) Approve outstanding invoices for payment.
- iv) Note that the online and telephone banking mandate has been completed and taken to the Preston branch of HSBC for processing.

i) Bank Account Balance

The account balance is currently £206,679.68 (bank statement up to 9th April 2022).

ii) Invoices paid:

| Date | Ref. | Invoice Ref | Payee | Details of Payment | Gross Payment Amount |
|------------|--------|---------------|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| 30/03/2022 | DD | | HSBC | Bank Charges 08/03/22 | £8.20 |
| 15/04/2021 | 101057 | NA | Clerk | Salary April 22 | £1,162.92 |
| 31/03/2022 | 101058 | 475PR00229714 | HMRC | Quarter 4 | £978.04 |
| 07/04/2022 | 101059 | A38/30 | Newgate Nurseries | Top soil | £50.40 |
| 07/04/2022 | 101060 | A973 | Leyland Lane Wrought Iron Gates & Railings Ltd | St Pauls Park Railings | £144.00 |
| 08/04/2022 | 101061 | NA | St Catherines Hospice | Grant for training | £500.00 |

Chair.....

Date.....

iii) Invoices due:

| Date | Ref. | Invoice Ref | Payee | Details of Payment | Gross Payment Amount |
|------------|------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 08/04/2022 | | 2458 | Netwise | Annual support charge - website | £420.00 |
| 14/04/2022 | | SI00153434 | Berry's | Maintenance Supplies | £24.37 |
| 22/04/2022 | | | Peter Heise | Peter Heise - Payment to 22/4/22 | £931.50 |
| 25/04/2022 | | SI00161850 | Berry's | Maintenance Supplies | £38.49 |
| 15/05/2022 | | NA | Clerk | Salary May 22 | £1,162.92 |
| 25/04/2022 | | GB21W4JSTAEU | Clerk | Expenses Mar - May | £220.05 |
| 20/05/2022 | | | Peter Heise | Peter Heise - Payment to 20/05/22 | £931.50 |
| 20/05/2022 | DD | uu-INV07419273 | Water Plus | BTR Field - Water | £55.97 |

iv) CIL

CIL payment received from SRBC of £75,274.98. Payment received on 11/03/2022

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council Insurance is due for renewal on 01/06/2022 at a renewal figure of £1506.57, based on a five-year long-term agreement with Zurich Insurance. The Clerk requested authorisation for this payment. Unanimously agreed.

27. (22/23)

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.

Councillor Karen Walton advised that SRBC have ratified a decision to take waste services back in house. The Borough Councils Biodiversity Strategy is now available on the website and the Boost fund is available for applicants.

Councillor Michael Green advised that the Lancashire Central development (Cuerden Strategic Employment Site) is now out for consultation. Discussions are ongoing with local residents, regarding the Cricket Development, especially those on Fowler Lane. The proposal has been welcomed by the local community.

The question was raised as to what access from the site will be onto Stanfield Lane, and the impact to Bamber Bridge and Lostock Hall.

28. (22/23)

Clerk's Report – For Information Only

Online internet / telephone banking mandate – completed again and returned to the Preston Branch of HSBC – 08/04/22

Internal Auditor appointed – Sue Edwards (Clerk for Coppull Parish Council)

Pictures of Councillors for the website – completed

MofU for BTR fields – draft in progress

Name badges/lanyards – to be ordered

Chair.....

Date.....

St Pauls Playground project tender now with SRBC
Perimeter path – health & safety issues – flooding issues – project phase 2 to be planned once dates are known for the play area refurbishment.
Unanimously agreed

Quote for power connection to the cabin at BTR fields – works requested

Lengthsmans update available at meeting.

Bus Shelters Ordered – awaiting advice of delivery/installation timescales

Farington Parish Council – SpID Questionnaire / Community Road Safety Resource Pack
To be ordered by the Clerk

Introduction of the Scribes accounts package – set up costs £197. Annual cost of £288
Unanimously agreed

29. (22/23)

Next Meeting

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 6th June at 7.00 pm, at Bashall Grove Community Centre, PR25 4JU.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm

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.

No items to discuss

Chair.....

Date.....