

Farington Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7pm at Bashall Grove Community Centre, PR25 4JU.

Present: - Councillor Michael Green (Chairman); Councillor Shaun Bradbury; Councillor Tony Green; Councillor Phil Lawson; Councillor Mike Otter; Councillor Karen Walton (Vice-chairman), Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman, Councillor Chris Wharton-Hardman.

In attendance: - Lisa Burton - Clerk to the Parish Council
35 Members of the Public

The meeting opened at 7.03pm

1. (23/24)

Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health and Safety Announcements

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

None

Resolved

2. (23/24)

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.

None

Resolved

3. (23/24)

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.

Chairman Michael Green asked if any members of the public wish to raise any issues.

A member of the public raised the issue of the Caddick Building and Landscaping. Councillor Karen Walton advised that she is not aware of any concerns with the Landscaping in this particular area, and will look into the issue.

The member of public advised that he has raised concerns regarding planting.

A member of the public advised that they would be able to see the building for 6 months of the year.

Chair.....

Date.....

Councillor Karen Walton requested that the members of public email her with the concerns.

Chairman Michael Green read out an email received from SRBC.

A member of the public stated that the marketing pictures do not reflect the reality.

A member of the public stated that the retention pond would not be good enough

A member of the public asked about tree planting. Will the developers have a contingency to make up the short fall of trees, and will consideration be given to the type of trees?

Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman suggested that a request should be made to check the original ground level height.

A member of the public asked that if there is a ground level report will this be shared with the public?

A member of the public stated that the existing ground level is now higher.

A member of the public stated that at some point the building was to be 34 metres high.

A member of the public advised that Caddick have stated that SRBC do not want evergreen trees to be planted.

Councillor Karen Walton advised that evergreen trees will be discussed with Caddick.

A member of the public asked if there will be a compensation scheme?

A member of the public asked who should be approached about structural surveys?

Also is there a Government Inspector for the development.

A member of the public stated that trees are required to soak up water otherwise flooding will become an issue.

Borough Councillor James Flannery advised that not one Borough Councillor wishes to inflict issues upon any residents, however the developer and the planners have to meet Government Regulations. There are conditions applied to the planning approval, and there will be contingency. Compensation will be a legal issue.

The developers will not compromise other buildings so this may need to be addressed. An Independent Government Inspector also needs to be addressed. Residents need to band together and work towards a resolution.

The planning officers are guided by planning policy and will be supported by SRBC. There is no corruption with regard to planning and developments.

A member of the public stated that there is now less security to the properties as people are walking along the river Lostock behind the houses.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury suggested that an independent report should be commissioned.

A member of the public stated that Bispham Avenue now has a monstrosity in the back garden and peoples mental health is being affected. They were advised by Caddick that the building would not be visible to residents.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury repeated his statement that a full independent report should be requested.

A member of the public stated that the building had been raised by 5 metres, and there is no bunding.

A member of the public advised that the culvert has been dugout and asked where the waste went – was it used to higher the ground level of the building?

A member of the public advised that he has a video of surface water going into the river Lostock which could cause an issue with flooding. This has been reported to

the Environment Agency.

A member of the public advised that 2 trees have been taken down.

A member of the public advised that they have been let down by the process, there have been 15 years of planning applications.

A member of the public Borough Councillor James Flannery advised that the decision had been deferred to February 2022.

Chairman Michael Green stated that you (members of the public) feel let down, we all feel let down. The details of the processes need to be published and scrutinised.

A member of the public advised that there are 3 floors of the building clearly visible with all the lights on and planning at SRBC are not helping.

Borough Councillor James Flannery advised that he would send emails to the officers at SRBC planning and arrange a meeting.

A member of the public advised that a structural survey of their houses is required.

Chairman Michael Green advised that this item on the agenda has over run, but will continue as it needs to be addressed.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury asked if Section 106 monies could be used

Councillor Karen Walton advised that this is all covered in the planning conditions.

Chairman Michael Green advised all members of the public to send their comments to the Clerk. There needs to be a meeting between SRBC, the local MP and the public to address the issues. Complaints could also be raised with SRBC and the Local Government Ombudsman. A judicial review could also be requested. This is expensive, but is an option. The Parish Council will stay involved and will discuss the issue again at the next Parish Council meeting. Planning Officers should be invited to the next meeting.

A member of the public asked what would happen if the building was found to be unlawful?

Borough Councillor James Flannery advised that if illegal then the building would be taken down.

At 7.57pm some members of the public left the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 8.05pm

A member of the public asked about the money to be spent on the bypass, stating that the road should be repaired first.

Chairman Michael Green advised that the money has not been received by LCC as it is a part of the City Deal. There is an idea to dual the bypass through to Leyland.

A member of the public stated that the support from the Parish Council has been great, but would it be possible to have a public meeting outside of the Parish Council Meeting.

Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that Borough Councillor James Flannery will arrange a public meeting in the next couple of weeks.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury stated that it is recognized that the public must be represented.

A member of the public said that the building being described as a monstrosity by Chairman Michael Green made the public feel supported.

Chairman Michael Green advised that he would request public attendance at the meeting with SRBC. It could be that an extra ordinary meeting could be called.

Councillor Karen Walton advised that there needs to be an outcome from the

Chair.....

Date.....

meeting with SRBC.

Resolved

At 8.20 pm some members of the public left the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 8.24pm

4. (23/24)

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes from the meetings held on 6th March 2023 to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Item 129 It was noted that TPO's may be involved

Item 131 the Clerk advised that a 1 year fixed deal has been agreed with British Gas for electricity for the BTR Playing Fields.

The approval of the minutes was proposed by Councillor Phil Lawson and seconded by Councillor Shaun Bradbury

Resolved

5. (23/24)

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.

The police did not attend the meeting

Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that there have been issues at McDonalds in Leyland

Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that the issue has been raised with the licensing committee

A member of the public said that the employees feel vulnerable, and an email should be sent to the police.

A member of the public said that neighbourhood meetings used to be held but aren't any longer.

Resolved

6. (23/24)

Grants

No applications received

Lowerfield Assisted Living Grant has been altered from £280 to £250. The recipient payment details have also changed.

Resolved

7. (23/24)

Planning

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

Councillor Karen Walton discussed the Miller Estate

Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman advised of planning issues on Fowler Lane

Resolved

Chair.....

Date.....

8. (23/24)

Clerk's Report (Including Lengthmans Update)

Lengthmans update available at meeting.

St Paul's Playground

No real communication with Play and Leisure regarding the snagging issues re back
A formal letter requesting a meeting or arbitration has been sent to Play and Leisure,
copy attached

Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that the paint was coming off the fencing in
some areas. There are deficiencies in the Play Area carpet with it sinking in some
areas. LCC have suggested a referral to an independent inspector to assess
liability.

Councillor Phil Lawson advised the edge of the park to the Old School House has
had work carried out on it.

A member of the public advised that a pole and sign are in the bushes on the park
and need to be removed.

Phase 2

A separate detailed costing document is in progress

A consultation regarding the phase 2 works will be completed.

Quotes are being sought for the works to the footpaths

Quotes are being sought for a tree report for the site

The cairn and plaque are to be agreed and ordered; this will be followed by an
Official opening of the area.

Quote received for a stone Cairn of £600-£700, plus delivery and VAT. A plaque
would be required plus installation.

Notice board to be added

BTR Field

Rowland Homes have been approached regarding the dugouts for the second pitch
– awaiting a response from Rowland Homes.

Completed projects

Parking at St Paul's Play Area

New Batteries and Pads have been installed at all 3 defibs

The heritage sign replacement has been delivered (The Lengthsman will install)

A hedge planting event held on Saturday 18/02/2023 at St Paul's Park

Repair to bus shelter at Stanifield Lane / Centurion Way (£601.92)

Repair to outdoor gym equipment completed (£1064.39)

The Chairmans Chain of Office has been updated and cleaned

A 1 year fixed term contract has been taken out with British Gas for electricity at the
BTR Field

Farington Park Outdoor Gym resurfacing is now completed

Other

The upgrade to the Bus Shelter has been ordered (£3,372.00) – works are planned
for week com. 10/04/2023

Chair.....

Date.....

9. (23/24)

Financial Matters

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 the error in the precept request for 23/24

The Clerk has recognised and apologises for this error. The precept requested is £2930.00 greater than a zero percent increase would have been.

Therefore, although the councillors present at the Council Meeting held on 6th February 2023 had unanimously agreed that there should be no increase in Farington's Council Tax precept for each Council Tax payer in 2023/24, the administrative error has resulted in a 3.1% increase, which amounts to a £1.03 increase per band D property.

A member of public stated that the additional monies can be utilised in the next financial year.

Bank Account Balance

The account balance is currently £190,842.81 (online balance available 02/04/2023).

ii) Invoices paid:

Date	Net	Vat	Total	Cashed Date	Description	Supplier	Minute Ref
28.02.2023	£5.00	£0.00	£5.00		Bank Charges	HSBC	22-23 - 147
22.02.2023	£11.27	£2.26	£13.53		Maintenance Supplies	C & W Berry	22-23 - 152
23.02.2023	£15.90	£3.18	£19.08		Plants	Newgate Nurseries Ltd	22-23 - 153
24.03.2023	£936.00	£0.00	£936.00		Lengthsman	Pete Heise (Peter Heise)	22-23 - 155
15.03.2023	£1,260.49	£0.00	£1,260.49		Salary	Lisa Burton (Employee 1)	22-23 - 154
01.03.2023	£409.49	£0.00	£409.49		Pension	Lancashire County Pension Fund	22-23 - 157
31.03.2023	£5.00	£0.00	£5.00		Bank Charges	HSBC	22-23 - 156
06.03.2023	£501.60	£100.32	£601.92		Bus Shelter Repair	Phil Smith (Autocross Euroshel)	22-23 - 161
17.03.2023	£97.29	£4.86	£102.15		Electricity	British Gas	22-23 - 162
14.03.2023	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00		Chain of Office update and cleaning	Paul (Atkinsons Jewellers)	
31.03.2023	£53.45	£0.00	£53.45		Water	Water Plus	22-23 - 170
31.03.2023	£1,800.00	£0.00	£1,800.00		CIL Grant for Forest school	St Paul's School Fund	22-23 - 171
31.03.2023	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00		Lowerfield Coronation event	Lowerfield Assisted Living	22-23 - 172

Chair.....

Date.....

iii) Invoices due:

Date	Net	Vat	Total	Cashed Date	Description	Supplier	Minute Ref
01.11.2022	£8,732.49	£1,746.50	£10,478.99		Play Area Refurbishment	Vicki Buckley (Play and Leisure)	22-23 - 112
17.02.2023	£4,800.00	£960.00	£5,760.00		Outdoor Gym Equipment bases	Andrew Aird (Groundwork and leisure services ltd)	22-23 - 151
17.03.2023	£423.00	£0.00	£423.00		Farington Park Gym Equipment Licence	SRBC	22-23 - 164
17.03.2023	£15.10	£3.02	£18.12		Maintenance Supplies	C & W Berry	22-23 - 165
29.03.2023	£1,149.02	£229.80	£1,378.82		SRBC General Maintenance	Streetscene Services (South Ribble Borough Council)	22-23 - 167
29.03.2023	£1,045.00	£0.00	£1,045.00		Waste container and collection	SRBC	22-23 - 166
31.03.2023	£19.65	£3.94	£23.59		Maintenance Supplies	C & W Berry	22-23 - 167
31.03.2023	£28.61	£5.73	£34.34		Maintenance Supplies	C & W Berry	22-23 - 168
31.03.2023	£288.00	£57.60	£345.60		Accounts package	Starboard Systems Limited t/a Scribe Accounts	22-23 - 169
31.03.2023	£983.00	£0.00	£983.00		Lengthsman	Pete Heise (Peter Heise)	23-24 - 001
31.03.2023	£1,260.49	£0.00	£1,260.49		Salary	Lisa Burton (Employee 1)	23-24 - 002
31.03.2023	£384.65	£0.00	£384.65		Pension	Lancashire County Pension Fund	
31.03.2023	£5.00	£0.00	£5.00		Bank Charges	HSBC	

iv) Other payments/Receipts

Leyland Albion Football Club £50 received 01/04/23

Payment to Play and Leisure – 10% of the invoice withheld until all issues are resolved (£8,732.49).

Councillor Karen Walton & Councillor Shaun Bradbury

10. (23/24)

Projects for 2023/2024

- I. Parish Council Newsletter – quotes received for Newsletter (provided)
There was discussion regarding the delivery costs which are considered to be too high. Chairman Michael Green asked to move the discussion to the next meeting.
Councillor Shaun Bradbury suggested that additional quotes should sought. Councillors Karen Walton and Paul Wharton-Hardman agreed.
- II. St Paul's Park play area refurbishment – works completed and play area open to the public. Snagging issues to be addressed.
- III. St Paul's Park (Phase 2) – quotes for tree survey and pathways requested. Consultation required.
- IV. Refurb of the Bobbin Seats at Mill Street.
Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman advised that he has concerns regarding the bobbins as there are shards of wood coming loose and the safety of children needs to be considered.
The Clerk is to ask the Lengthsman to have a look at the Bobbins.
Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that there may be a duty of care to

Chair.....

Date.....

remove the bobbins if they are dangerous.

Councillor Chris Wharton-Hardman suggested that the bobbins need to be removed and replaced.

V. Additions to Chairs Chain of Office - completed

VI. Repairs to outdoor gym equipment at Farington Park – completed

Resolved

11. (23/24)

Item removed for Aprils meeting (Borough Council and County Council reports)

This item was not discussed due to the potential for prejudice during the period prior to the elections

Councillor Phil Lawson - Farington Mews, accident hotspot. (Draft letter provided)

There are issues with the roundabout. The traffic signals are not clear and the speed limits are high.

A letter has been sent to LCC

A member of the public advised that he agreed with Councillor Phil Lawson. Better signage is definitely required.

Councillor Shaun Bradbury advised that cars often jump the lights due to being confused and not seeing the right lights.

Councillor Chris Wharton-Hardman advised that there have been accidents from Willow Bank Close and agrees with all that has been said.

Chairman Michael Green advised that the lack of response from LCC is disappointing. A request for the checking of sequency, signage, and speed etc. needs to be made.

Councillor Phil Lawson suggested that the Parish Council needs to its weight behind the issue.

Resolved

Chairman Michael Green stated that this is the last meeting of the year and thanked all Councillors for their support.

12. (23/24)

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 15th May 2023 at St Paul's CE Primary, Croston Road, Farington Moss.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Chair.....

Date.....

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.

REMOVED

Chair.....

Date.....