

Parish of Farington

Annual Parish Meeting

Meeting held at Bashall Grove Community Centre on Monday 10 April 2017 at 7.00pm.

Present:- Councillor Mrs Karen Walton (Chairman); Councillor Roy Clarke (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Dave Moore; Councillor Mike Otter; Councillor Alan Pearmain and Councillor Graham Walton.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam - Clerk to the Council
Tony Stirland – South Ribble Borough Council

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mike Langley and Councillor Paul Wharton.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11 April 2016

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11 April, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairman's Report 2016/2017

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Karen Walton gave her report for the last 12 months. She said it had been a great privilege and honour to have been given the opportunity to represent the community of Farington as Chairperson again during the past year. The Chairman said she had enjoyed representing the Parish at events during the year at the Battle of the Somme Memorial in July, Remembrance Day Services at Leyland and Lostock Hall, the Candlemas Service at Blackburn Cathedral, the Mayor's Christmas Charity Banquet and a number of LALC meetings.

On behalf of the Parish, the Chairman took the opportunity to welcome the newest member of the Parish Council, Dave Moore and to thank all members for their hard work and support during the year to try and provide a better place for the people of Farington to live in. She said that without all the Councillors' hard work and enthusiasm, the list of improvements and achievements would not have been so long and rewarding and she hoped that the good work would continue over the coming year.

The Chairman said that as a Parish Council we had a number of good reasons to celebrate our achievements over the past year, we continued to support the Leyland

United Football Team in developing the BTR field and the annual Playscheme held in August. The negotiations to secure a new lease for St Paul's Park were in the final stages and so we would soon be able to invest in creating a brand new play area for the children of the Parish. The Chairman also said that the welcome to Farington signs were also in the final stages of development and would hopefully be in place in the next few months. The plans for the Outdoor Gym on Farington Park were being developed, after the resident's consultation, to help to improve the health and well-being of the residents in the Parish. The Chairman reported that the Parish Councillors took part in some defibrillator and First Aid training in February, organised by Cllr Moore at the Preston Sea Cadets, as the three Defibrillators purchased by the Parish were now situated and fully available for use across the Parish. The Parish Council had also arranged defibrillator training for members of the community within the Parish.

The Chairman also referred to the two new bus shelters purchased by the Parish Council to replace damaged and old shelters which had the Parish Council logo inscribed on the perspex and we had also replaced two old notice boards in the Parish. The monitoring of the contaminated water continued to take place at Farington Lodges and the Borough Council continued to work closely with the Environment Agency and Withnell Anglers in bringing this project forward as soon as possible.

The Chairman said that the Parish Council was unable to hold the Annual Farington Fun day in July because of the terrible weather but arrangements for this year's fun day on Saturday 8th July 2017 were being put in place so we were hoping for some fine weather on the day. With the help of the Officers of My Neighbourhood Services at South Ribble Borough Council, the first year of Lostock Hall in Bloom was supported by the Parish and some of the residents of Bashall Grove won in one of the categories. This year Farington and Lostock Hall in Bloom was being supported again by the Parish Council and was officially launched at the My Neighbourhood Central Meeting in February. This year a number of events such as hanging basket workshops, making bug houses children's workshops and a Spring market on Hope Terrace on the 17th May 2017, had been planned to encourage more residents, schools, churches and organizations to enter and make it an even more successful event.

The Chairman referred to the Parish Council grants scheme which provided small grants of money to some local organizations and she hoped that these small contributions would help them to continue the good work in the Parish. The Chairman said that we continued to work closely with South Ribble Borough Council and attended the My Neighbourhood Central meetings regularly to promote the work of the Parish Council with members of the public.

The Chairman thanked Peter, the Lengthsman, who kept the Parish neat and tidy for all of us and also Sgt. Mark Douglas and the Police who provided us with support and useful information about the Parish. She also thanked Tony Stirland for all his advice and support and liaising with South Ribble Borough Council and Sue, the

Clerk for all her invaluable advice and hard work over the past 12 months.

The Chairman said we were also pleased to announce that, once again, that the Parish Precept would not be increased for the 10th year running.

Finally the Chairman thanked the regular members of the public who attend each meeting for listening and supporting the work of the Parish Council and also the committee of the Community Centre at Bashall Grove and St Paul's School for the use of their premises.

4. Matters raised by the Electors, report from Community Beat Manager/South Ribble Borough Council

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Karen Walton welcomed Tony Stirland to the meeting from South Ribble Borough Council. Tony informed the meeting that the Bug Hotel event was taking place tomorrow and also the Lostock Hall Market booked for 17 May would have at least 10 stalls. He also confirmed that Lostock Hall Carnival would take place on 1st July 2017.

Tony informed the Parish Council that the funding for the Outdoor Gym on Farington Park was progressing and a bid to Awards for All would be submitted shortly. With regard to future My Neighbourhood Projects, Tony informed the Parish Council that they were looking to develop a nature trail at St Catherine's and Councillor Mrs Karen Walton would be the lead on this project.

There was then a brief discussion about Farington Fun Day. It was noted that as a number of Parish Councillors and the Clerk had completed a First Aid Course then they would be able to cover any First Aid issues at the event. Councillor David Moore agreed to obtain first aid kits for use on the day. With regard to food it was agreed that the Clerk should approach the Sea Cadets to see if they could help out with food on the day. Councillor David Moore also said he had a small marquee that could be made available for use at the Fun Day.

Tony Stirland also confirmed that he was happy to sort out the posters and flyers etc for the Fun Day and he would ensure that bins would be provided from South Ribble Borough Council and also the bollards would be unlocked in order for vehicles to obtain access. Signage would also be needed to show where the fishing was located.

There being no further business the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Karen Walton closed the meeting at 7.25pm.

Councillor Mrs Karen Walton
Chairman, Farington Parish Council