

Farington Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10 September 2018 at Bashall Grove Community Centre at 7.00pm

Present:- Councillor Graham Walton (Chairman); Councillor Mike Otter (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Paul Wharton and Councillor Mrs Karen Walton.

In attendance:- Sue Whittam - Clerk to the Council
Duncan Neilson – Leyland United Football Club
Danny Hindle – Leyland United Football Club

29. (18/19) Apologies for Absence/Chairman's Health and Safety Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Roy Clarke; Councillor Mike Langley; Councillor Dave Moore; Councillor Alan Pearmain; County Councillor Michael Green and Tony Stirland from South Ribble Borough Council. The Chairman, Councillor Graham Walton briefed the Parish Council on possible health and safety considerations for this evening's meeting.

30. (18/19) Declarations of interest

None.

31. (18/19) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved

That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 June 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32. (18/19) Adjournment for Public Participation and reports from the Community Beat Manager/South Ribble Borough Council

The Chairman, Councillor Graham Walton adjourned the meeting for public participation, and welcomed Duncan and Danny from Leyland United Football Club to the meeting. Duncan said they had come along to see when the lease on the field was up for renewal and also look at the possibility of extending it. The Clerk said she would check the date of the lease and then this could be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council. It was noted that the banner with the Parish Councils logo and support for the football team was missing and did need to be replaced. Duncan and Danny said they would find out who made the original banner and arrange for a replacement banner to be made. Duncan was also pleased to report that the team had been promoted and were top of the league.

There was a general discussion about the Play Scheme held over the Summer. The Clerk reported that there had been no complaints about the Play Scheme raised with her. Duncan said there had been a bit of rubbish left after the Play Scheme but the changing facilities had been left in a clean condition.

The Chairman thanked Duncan and Danny for attending the meeting. There was then a general discussion about the recent Farington Fun Day. It was felt that the day had gone alright but the event had been made up of mainly tombola stalls. It was agreed that there would not be a Fun Day next year especially as it would be the Parish Council elections. Further consideration would be given in due course to having a Fun Day in 2020.

The Clerk also informed the Parish Council that she had received some information from Tony Stirland who unfortunately could not be present at tonight's meeting. In particular Tony wanted the Parish Council to be aware that the presentation evening for the Farington & Lostock Hall in Bloom would take place at Lostock Hall Library on Watkin Lane on Thursday 27 September between 7pm and 8pm. Tony had also provided the Clerk with some flyers for the Bob-In Café which was being held for the first time on Friday 14 September from 12 noon until 4 pm at Lostock Hall Library. Councillor Mrs Karen Walton said that she was involved in this project and she was project sponsor for the event.

Councillor Paul Wharton commented that the police were not at our meeting and he understood that our Community Beat Manager may have left. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Police to find out the current policing situation for our area.

The Chairman, Councillor Graham Walton reconvened the meeting.

33. (18/19) LALC AGM – Saturday 17 November 2018

The Parish Council considered sending representatives to the LALC AGM to be held at County Hall on Saturday 17 November 2018. The Clerk said that although Councillor Roy Clarke could not attend tonight's meeting he had indicated that he was willing to attend the LALC AGM. The Chairman, Councillor Graham Walton and Councillor Mrs Karen Walton also confirmed that they wished to attend. It was unanimously agreed that Councillor Roy Clarke, the Chairman Councillor Graham Walton and Councillor Mrs Karen Walton are authorised to attend the LALC AGM on behalf of the Parish Council.

Resolved

That Councillor Roy Clarke, the Chairman Councillor Graham Walton and Councillor Mrs Karen Walton are authorised to attend the LALC AGM on 17 November 2018 on behalf of the Parish Council.

34. (18/19) Grant Application – St Paul's Church Farington Moss

The Parish Council considered a grant application from St Paul's Church Farington Moss towards the maintenance of the Church Hall flooring. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to award a grant of £750 towards the maintenance of the floor at the Church Hall. As this was the total cost of the project it was further agreed that the Clerk should advise the Church that no further grant applications would be considered for the Church until after May 2019 as the Parish Council had a limited budget for grant applications.

Resolved

That a grant of £750 is awarded to St Paul's Church for the maintenance of their Church Hall floor, and that the applicant is advised that due to the limited budget for grant applications that no further application from the Church will be considered until after May 2019.

35. (18/19) Projects for Expenditure 2018/2019

Welcome to Farington Signs – update. Councillor Mike Otter informed the Parish Council that he was looking at a further site for a boundary sign and this was on the Heatherleigh development. However, after discussions with the developers they had indicated that planning permission for the sign may be needed. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should contact Chris Sowerby at South Ribble Borough Council to find out if planning permission was needed for the boundary signs. Councillor Mike Otter said that if planning permission was not required then the sign would need to be placed behind a ranch style fence. It was agreed that all Councillors if possible should go and have a look at the suggested location to see if it was suitable for a boundary sign.

With regard to the boundary sign at Lydiate Lane it was agreed that the planter around the sign should be constructed from sleepers as per the Coote Lane one. The original intention had been to construct the planter from stone but due to tree roots at the location it was felt that the sleepers were a better option. Peter our Lengthsman would carry out this work.

Adult Outdoor Gym (mats) – The Chairman, Councillor Graham Walton said he had spoken to the Officer at South Ribble Borough Council regarding the gym mats and the estimated cost of £2,500 for replacing the mats. It was agreed that instead of going ahead and replacing the mats, Peter our Lengthsman would in conjunction with the Chairman look at a less costly solution such as lifting the mats and placing some suitable stones/drainage underneath.

Woodland Area – Farington Park. Councillor Mike Otter reported South Ribble Borough Council were looking at putting some bird boxes on the trees in the woodland. He also said that there may be some cost to the Parish Council for the bird boxes and bulbs. With regard to the fishing club on the park, it was noted that New Farington Anglers had now pulled out of looking after the water and South Ribble Borough Council who owned the park were now looking at what could be done.

St Paul's Park – update. The Clerk reported that Tony Stirland had confirmed that the refurbishment of the park would be included on South Ribble Borough Council's plan once the heritage trail project was complete. This would enable some Officer time to be given to support the Parish Council and would also mean that the Parish Council could use the procurement facilities at South Ribble Borough Council.

Bashall Grove/Mill Street entrance feature – update. The Clerk had circulated the results of the questionnaire on the Bashall Grove/Mill Street entrance which had

been produced by Tony Stirland. It was disappointing that there had not been a great deal of response to the questionnaire. The Parish Council agreed that this project could be progressed in a simple and cost-effective way. Therefore, they asked the Clerk to inform South Ribble Borough Council that the Parish Council were suggesting that two benches should be purchased made from recycled plastic and to be placed one on each side of the entrance. There should also be two planters made from sleepers which would have herbs/small bay tree in each one. On one side there should also be a heritage noticeboard. It was noted that the Parish Council had allocated a budget of £1,500 to this project and this was being match funded by South Ribble Borough Council. It was hoped that this would be within budget and it was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting of the Parish Council. It was also noted that the Parish Council would be responsible for the maintenance of the planters.

Bashall Grove Garden – plant replacement. The Clerk reported that due to the weather this year a number of plants had died. However, each Parish Councillor was allowed to spend up to £20 on items for the Parish Council and could claim these back with the relevant receipts. Councillor Mike Otter had purchased some plants costing £11.94 and it was agreed that this should be reimbursed to Councillor Mike Otter. The Clerk also reminded the Parish Council that the Lengthsman also had authority to spend up to £100 on Parish Council expenditure and this included plants if required.

Bus Shelter – Centurion Way. Councillor Mike Otter had asked for this item to be included on the Agenda. He explained to the Parish Council that the new bus shelter on Centurion Way did not have any sides to the shelter and therefore did not offer any protection from the wind and rain. He had therefore asked the Clerk to obtain prices for putting sides onto the shelter. The Clerk reported that for two sides made from toughened glass upper and lower panels would cost £450 and for two sides made from toughened upper glass with solid lower panels would cost £478. In addition to this cost would be the cost for installation which was £500 to be fitted when the installer was next in the area or £1,000 to arrange an individual visit. Councillor Paul Wharton said that the bus shelter opposite our new one was in a poor state and although he recognised that this bus shelter was owned by South Ribble Borough Council they had no intention of replacing it due to lack of funding. It was therefore suggested that the Clerk contact South Ribble Borough Council regarding their bus shelter and suggest possible match funding to replace it. This would be discussed further at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Mill Street garden – replacement of seating. Councillor Mike Otter advised that Dig In had indicated that they may be able to produce the replacement bobbin seating for the Mill Street garden and the Clerk agreed to follow this up with Dig In and obtain a quote for this.

36. (18/19) Review of Local Plan – Call for Sites

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Local Plan was currently being reviewed and that South Ribble Borough Council in conjunction with Chorley Borough Council and Preston City Council had issued a Call for Sites Consultation. It was noted that the closing date for comments was 9 November 2018.

37. (18/19) Purchase of replacement shredder for use by the Clerk

The Clerk reported that her old shredder had broken and she had replaced it at a cost of £39.95. A shredder was needed as confidential Parish Council information needed to be shredded and to ensure compliance with data protection regulations. Her previous shredder had been purchased by Grimsargh Parish Council. The Parish Council therefore agreed to reimburse the Clerk £39.95 for the cost of a shredder.

Resolved

That approval is given for the shredder costing £39.95 is reimbursed to the Clerk.

38. (18/19) Financial Matters

Resolved

1) It was noted that we had approximately around £81,354.94 (bank statement up to 9 August 2018) in the bank. This included a refund from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for our data protection fee £35.00 as they took the amount out twice by mistake, and the Public Rights of Way payment of £250.

It was noted that since the last meeting we had paid: -

21/06/18 – Peter Heise Lengthsman wages £810 + £63.07 plants = total £873.07 (cheque no 100740).

29/06/18 – Peter Heise for plants (£51.29); soil (£45.00) and £30 owed to him from cheque 703 as picked up by the internal auditor = total £126.29 (cheque no 100741).

02/07/18 – S Whittam Clerk salary £819.68 (cheque no 100742).

02/07/18 – Donna Kidd internal audit fee £60.00 as previously agreed. (cheque no 100743).

14/07/18 – Billy's Partytime for play equipment for fun day £150 (cheque no 100744).

14/07/18 – Lostock Hall Memorial Brass Band for fun day £275 (cheque no 100745).

15/07/18 – HMRC Q1 tax and NI £575.39 (cheque no 100746).

19/07/18 – C & W Berry Ltd – 6 invoices Lengthsman's materials £482.47 (cheque no 100747).

19/07/18 – website admin fee SRS Gorton £135 (cheque no 100748).

19/07/18 – South Ribble Borough Council 2 invoices – bins May £314.32 and bins June £251.86 = total £566.88 (cheque no 100749).

20/07/18 – Peter Heise Lengthsman wages £810 (cheque no 100750).

01/08/18 – S Whittam Clerk's Salary - £970.08 (cheque no 100751).

03/08/18 – S Whittam Clerk reimbursement for ink, stationery and postage £138.36 (cheque no 100752).

15/08/18 – C & W Berry Lengthsman's materials £97.04 (cheque no 100753).

15/08/18 – Peter Heise Lengthsman's wages £810. (cheque no 100754).

15/08/18 – South Ribble Borough Council for grounds maintenance £567.76 (cheque 100755).

24/08/18 – South Ribble Borough Council 3 invoices – Licence fee/service charge for outdoor gym on Farington Park £59.25 (it was noted this was a part payment for the first instalment on the park as the total per quarter is £118.21 – this invoice covered the period 20 December 2017 – 31 March 2018 and the gym was only installed in February hence the part payment), purchase and installation of swing parts for St Paul's Park £432.78 (it was further noted these were needed urgently for health and safety reasons and therefore agreed by the Clerk), emptying of bins for July £251.86 = total £743.89 (cheque no 100756).

04/09/18 – S Whittam Clerk's salary £970.08 (cheque no 100757).

It was further noted that we had paid for May for electric on BTR £111.72 and water 175.95; for June £104.61 for electric on BTR; we have also paid pension contribution to Nest 7 June £32.78 and 4 July £32.78 (All direct debits).

2) The following invoices were agreed for payment at the meeting: -

CPRE Annual Subscription - £36

Rospa for annual inspection of St Paul's Playground - £79.80

Councillor Mike Otter for reimbursement of plants £11.94

39. (18/19) Borough Council reports – for information only

The Chairman, Councillor Graham Walton reported there was a report on the Cabinet Agenda at South Ribble Borough Council regarding homes that are below standard and giving local authorities the power to issue civil penalties.

Councillor Paul Wharton referred to an ongoing planning enforcement issue at Grasmere Avenue that he was currently dealing with.

Councillor Mrs Karen Walton referred to the South Ribble Borough Council Community Strategy Questionnaire which would be used to help focus on the needs of the community. She also referred to an agenda item on Longton Parish Council about the SPiDs being discontinued. The Clerk confirmed that she had heard nothing from the police about this and she would try and find out what was happening.

40. (18/19) Clerk's Report – For information only

The Clerk reported that she had received a thank you letter from the Brownies for the recent grant.

41. (18/19) Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held Monday 8 October 2018 at St Paul's CE Primary School, Croston Road, Farington Moss.