

Minutes of the meeting of Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council 21st June 2021

Held in the Memorial Hall.

Present: Roger Wilkinson, Derek Harwood, Margaret Carrington, Simon Bailey, Peter Butterfield, Christopher Berry, David Bland.

Clerk: Nancy Bailey.

In attendance: Councillor Jan Alcock, P.C. John Feeney, PCSO Aimee Jarrett.

Apologies: Christine Holden

One member of the public present.

1. **Apologies-** Christine Holden
2. **Declaration of interest- Clerk to check whether an annual declaration has to be signed by the Parish Councillors.**
3. **Minutes of the last meeting-** The minutes were approved as a true record. Proposed by David Bland, seconded by Christopher Berry. All in favour.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes:** There were no matters arising which would not be discuss from the agenda.
5. **Correspondence:** No correspondence which will not be discussed during the meeting.
6. **Finance:** a. Margaret Carrington is now a signatory on the cheque book. b. A cheque has been issued to Prime Garden Services for £310.
7. **Audit:** the audit details were approved by the council. a. Certificate of Exemption. b. Annual Governance Statement. c. Annual Accounting Statement.
8. **Budget:** The clerk presented an updated budget statement. Margaret Carrington reiterated the council's request to the Memorial Hall Committee for a 50% contribution to the insurance premium. Niall Macfarlane, Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee confirmed that this will be an issue discussed at the next Memorial Hall Committee meeting.
9. **Parking:** a. Parking situation does seem to be improving, but this last weekend there were cars parked dangerously on Longridge Road opposite the Shireburn. PC Feeney noted this. b. Our public meeting is planned for September, **all councillors to think about how this meeting will work and who should be invited.** c. PC Feeney still awaiting funding for new parking restriction signs.
10. **Memorial Hall:** Des Harwood has refurbished the area around the new bar and kitchen – Many thanks to Des. The heating project is still on going with issues about returning the Bailey Field to its former state. A path and some concreting is needed. Also stones need removing from the field, Niall has contacted the Youth Offending Team to see if this could be a project undertaken by young offenders, otherwise volunteers will be needed. The field needs to be re-seeded by August. Grants are being sought for the changing rooms to be re-furbished.
11. **Planning:** a. There is a planning application from 8 Longridge Rd seeking to have the kerb dropped to allow access for United Utility vehicles which need to attend to the mains sewer. Councillor Margaret Carrington left the room due to her having an interest in this planning. The planning was debated by the councillors with the issue of the residents of 8 Longridge Rd and those using the

annexe also using the access created by dropping the kerb. It was proposed by Peter Butterfield and Seconded by Derek Harwood that the Parish Council object to this as it is not believed that United Utilities need this access as their vehicles have managed in the past to gain access without a dropped kerb. Further it was proposed by David Bland and seconded by Christopher Berry that the clerk write to Ribble Valley Planning to state that should approval be given then the access should be restricted to United Utilities and others who need to gain access to the mains sewer by the erection of a locked barrier. A majority of councillors agreed to these proposals. b. The Punch Bowl public house which was sited at Bailey Green was demolished on Tuesday 15th June. This was as far as the parish council know without permission. The Punch Bowl was a grade 2 listed building. David Bland has spoken to Nicola Hopkins from Ribble Valley planning department and there are two main issues, firstly the building was demolished without consent and secondly there was a disregard to health and safety particularly in highways management. Ribble Valley Councillor Jan Alcock reported that Ribble Valley Borough Council have instructed barristers to prepare a legal case. It was proposed by Margaret Carrington and seconded by Peter Butterfield that the clerk write to Ribble Valley Chief Executive Marshal Scott to enquire what legal action is going to be taken against the owner of the building with regard to the demolition of a grade two listed building and what if any legal actions were being taken against the contractor for a failure to consult Highways and have a traffic management plan and Health & Safety in place when doing the demolition, all councillors agreed to this. c. Councillors were asked to look at a validation checklist for information regarding planning applications. Simon Bailey drew attention to the problems caused by insufficient provision of power when the Warren estate was built and suggested that a point relating to this should be included in the checklist. **Clerk to send this as feedback to Rebecca Bowers.**

12. **Common Land:** Christine Holden has spent some time checking the Open Spaces document presented at the last meeting and she concluded that no action is required in line with the findings of David Bland.
13. **Code of Conduct:** Ribble Valley have produced an updated Code of Conduct for Councillors. Mair Hill from Ribble Valley legal department stated that if Parish Councils adopt this document, then they are more likely to have legal backing from Ribble Valley in the event of any complaints. It was therefore agreed that Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council adopt this document. Proposed by David Bland and Seconded by Simon Bailey, all councillors agreed.
14. **Playground:** Christopher Berry reported that we have been informed our annual inspection of the playground is due to take place in August.
15. **Grass Maintenance:** a. Simon Bailey serviced and old strimmer and lawn mower which are no longer used but belong to the council. The strimmer was sold for parts at £30 but so far he has been unable to sell the lawn mower which is working but quite old. b. There was discussion of the strimming of the bank outside the old police house. It was agreed that the timing of this be left to the discretion of the gardener.
16. **Bus Shelters:** The Stonyhurst bus shelter has been painted and there is still a minor repair to be done. The decorator has said he will complete the work on the Shireburn shelter within four weeks.
17. **Bee and Butterfly Garden:** Peter Winstanley has agreed to give bark chipping to help suppress the weeds. There have been many donations for herb plants and pupils from St. Joseph's are to make some labels for the plants. Many thanks to all the volunteers who have helped.
18. **Generator The Warren:** Happily the generator has now been cleared from the site.
19. **Commuted Sum:** David Bland and Peter Butterfield have been finding out information and costs of adult outdoor fitness equipment and also establishing with the Ribble Valley exactly how this money is to be accessed and used. This money is in the possession of Ribble Valley Borough Council and can not be accessed until the project is complete. 18 months of the five year period

have already passed so the council needs to make some decisions in the next 12 months. There will need to be 3 quotes for the work and the funds are released when the project is complete. Equipment for a trim trail costs on average £1000 per station and installation is on top of that. Unfortunately, we can not use any of the money for maintenance so this project will need to be carefully managed and costed with an estimated budget going forward. Discussion then followed on other uses of the money including to provide car parking or extend the play area to provide adult stations. **Peter Butterfield and David Bland to explore 3 options, Adult trail, extending the play area to include adult equipment, car parking. Clerk to seek experiences of other Parish Councils who have been awarded Commuted Sums.**

20. **Any Other Business:** a. The SPID (Speed awareness indicator) is no longer working and Christopher Berry will contact the recognised repair company, who are situated in the South of England to find out the cost and logistics of having it repaired. Christopher Berry did experience an accident when examining the SPID and an accident report has been written and filed by the clerk. **(Action Christopher Berry)** b. Residents who live at Hodder Court are experiencing some problems with their bin collection. Christopher Berry to gain more information about this. **(Action Christopher Berry)** c. Our audit was prepared without cost. Clerk asked whether a small token of appreciation be given to the auditor, this was agreed. **(Action Clerk)**
21. **Date of next meeting-** Monday 19th July at the Memorial Hall.