**MINUTES OF THE 1180TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON 25th September 2023 AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH HALL**

**Present:** Councillor B Mattock (in the Chair), Y Hargreaves,

M Urry, A Martin, J Caton and M Graham (Clerk to the Council).

**Also in attendance:** No members of the public were present.

**Apologies for absence:** T Greenwood and Councillor A Cullens BEM

1206: DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICAL INTEREST

The Clerk reminded Members of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters on the agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council’s Constitution, and the Members Code of Conduct. No one made a declaration at this stage.

1207: MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of 7th August 2023 having previously been circulated were approved as a correct record and were then signed by the Chairman (Councillor B Mattock).

1208: ADJOURNMENT

There then followed an adjournment to allow members of the public to raise issues and ask questions raised by prior notification.

1209: POLICE REPORT

The Police were not present.

1210: LALC REPORT

The Parish Clerk advise the LALC Annual Conference and Meeting will take place at County Hall on 4th November. Three members ( J Caton, A Martin and Y Hargreaves expressed an interest).

1211: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

1. Concern was expressed at the overgrown nature of hedges from BT Openreach property on both Blackburn Old Road and Station Road. It was agreed to raise our concerns with BT with some urgency.

1212: HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

1. SPIDS on Hoghton Lane

A lengthy discussion took place on the idea of the Parish Council buying a speed indicator device for Hoghton Lane / Blackburn Old Road. It was agreed to purchase one Elan City solar powered device and additional brackets so it could be moved to different locations. It the device proved a success the Council could consider a purchasing a further device. The Clerk explained that he would contact LCC in advance of any purchase as they would need to approve the location and siting; this was agreed to be a sensible approach.

1. Covered Bus Stop – Hoghton Lane

It was agreed to defer this to a future meeting.

1. PROW (Public Right of Way) – Hey Barn

This had been followed up by LCC and it was hoped that a sensible compromise for both the property owner and walkers could be achieved by a small detour of the existing Right of Way.

1. TTRO’S

The work on Chapel Lane Rail Bridge was underway and the contractors had sensibly managed access. A further TTRO had been received for Quaker Brook Lane in late October and the Clerk explained he had posted this on our Facebook page to assist Hoghton residents.

1. Footpath by Deerbolt Cottage, Riley Green

It was reported the footpath was had been cleared by de Hoghton Estate contractors.

1213: CHORLEY DISTRICT & LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

1. There was no report.

1214: PLANNING REPORTS

 No applications had been received.

1215: ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Payee | Item Number | Description | Amount | Notes |
| Easy Web Sites | 30 | WB Hosting 1st Sep | £27.60 | Direct Debit |
| HMRC | 31 | Tax Sept 2023 | £83.40 |  |
| Mike Graham | 32 | Clerk Salary | £333.60 |  |
| Holy Trinity Church | 33 | Room Hire 25th Sept | £20.00 |  |
| JP Savage | 34 | Fitting x2 benches | £1,100.00 | CIL Funds |
| Mike Graham | 35 | Printer Toner Cartridges x2 | £15.20 |  |
| AJG Insurance | 36 | Public Liability Insurance | £1,070.30 |  |

The above were agreed. The Clerk reported the online banking system was working well.

1216: Parish Finances

1. CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)

The CIL finances for 2023/24 as at 1st August 2023 was presented to the meeting as follows:

 Balance carried forward as at 1st August 2023 = £23,719

Committed expenditure:

 • Fitting of two benches estimated at £1,100

 • 1 or 2 Christmas trees.  Transport, fitting and removal estimated at £750

 • Replacement scythe.  Approximately £30

 • Legal fees for land by Post Office.  c£1,200

Potential expenditure:

 • 3rd replacement bench £1,100 and fitting estimated £600

 • Hoghton Village Hall refurbishment fund £???

 • Match funding for bird / bug boxes etc £300

 • Solar speed camera £2,810

The expenditure is therefore between £3,080 and £7,890 + depending on any Hoghton Village Hall donation.

Please note earlier in the meeting the Council agreed to fund a speed indicator at £2,810 subject to LCC agreement on suitable locations.

Discussions also took place on investing CIL monies on Christmas tree(s). It was agreed to fund two Christmas trees: one for the Riley Green Pinfold and one for land on the Blackburn Old Road / Station Road junction where the landowner had kindly given permission. Further discussion and action are required outside of the meeting to confirm lighting and B Mattock kindly agreed to follow this up with Chorley Council. The meeting also agreed to invite Holy Trinity Church to provide carol singers for the Station Road tree.

1217: LAND ADJACENT TO HOGHTON POST OFFICE

Progress was continuing via our solicitors Forbes, and it is hoped to provide more detail at our October Parish Council meeting.

1218: COMMUNICATONS

 Our Facebook Group continues to grow and now has 102 followers.

1219: NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday 30th October 2023 at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 21:00