

LATHOM PARISH COUNCIL
 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 26TH JUNE 2023 AT THE SCOUT HQ, HALL LANE, LATHOM AT
 7.30PM

PRESENT: PARISHCOUNCILLORS;MRS H SHAW (IN THE CHAIR)
 I FAIRCLOUGH
 MRS M GORST
 M MCDONNELL
 MRS E MCDONNELL
 E POPE
 MRS A SHERMAN

Mrs I M O'Donnell (clerk)

Before the start of the meeting Councillor Mrs H Shaw – signed the Declaration of Office as Vice Chairman.

23.33 APOLOGIES – Councillor Beckett

23.34 The minutes of the meeting held on the 24th April 23 were taken as read and signed as a correct record. The minutes of the 22nd May 23 needed amending so would be signed at the July 23 meeting. IMOD

At this point in the meeting the parish Clerk/RFO submitted her intention to resign as of 24th September 2023

23.35 ADJOURNMENT. No members of the public were present

23.36 PLANNING

The clerk reported there were still some issues regarding the two planning applications for Ring O' Bells Public House to the proposed amendments to 2023/0361/FUL and the Premises Licence New Application on which the parish had commented. The Borough wanted clarification on whether the parish were objecting or commenting in general. After discussion Councillor Pope said he would go into the WLBC to speak with the licencing officer.
 EP

23.37 FINANCE The following accounts were passed for payment;

1. Mrs I M O'Donnell (clerk June salary& expenses)	£390.10
2. Ormskirk District Scouts (hall hire)	£24.00
3.KC Computers (printer (lap top adjust & ink cartridges)	£34.00
4. HMRC (Clerk PAYE)	£266.06
5.F I Waite (maintenance PC Welcome signs)	£1306.00

Councillor Pope declined to sign this cheque until the invoice is itemised in full.

6. A B Gardening (footpath PROW Strimming)	£295.00
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The clerk had already advised against paying this invoice as neither this work or the contractor's insurance had not been agreed at any parish meeting so it had not been authorised. It was also incorrectly addressed to the parish council.

The cheque was signed by councillors E Pope and Mrs H Shaw. The clerk will hold the cheque until the invoice is represented with the correct address.
 IMOD

23.38 Parish "YOU ARE HERE" MAP

The clerk reported that I Waite has been working on the map frame at his home after moving it from site and it had been completely stripped down, cleaned, painted and is almost ready to go back up when we finally obtain a map. The clerk has obtained a map from Tim Hodge at WLBC, however the first one received showed parts of Burscough. Tim has reduced it to just Lathom and all councillors have received this copy. The clerk has also received an old parish map from Mike Dawson along with some photographs of Lathom which could possibly be used to form a collage in the frame if we can't find a more suitable map and these photos and map have also been sent to all councillors for comments. The clerk is also waiting for other contacts to report back to her if they have any Lathom maps. Councillor Mrs Shaw suggested we obtain an OS map which is what the clerk has been trying to do, so if anyone has any ideas please let her know.
 IMOD

23.39 REPAIRS & RENEWALS The clerk suggested that we ring fence some of our balance carried forward into a Repairs & Renewals Fund to pay for work on the parish street furniture such as the "Welcome to Lathom" signs which need repainting and repairing. Councillors A Beckett and E Pope to consider. AB/EP

23.40 CIVIC SERVICE/REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The clerk again mentioned having our Civic Service and making arrangements for Remembrance Sunday as wreaths need ordering, the Chapel needs to agree a date for the Civic Service and invitations need to be sent to the people attending, especially Remembrance Sunday. The clerk was told to put on July agenda but this is very short notice as we don't meet in August and so we could find that the uniformed guests like the police will have made other arrangements.

IMOD

23.41 PROW-Public Rights of Way/Biodiversity Grants update

The clerk reported that the 2022-2023 PROW Grant of £500 had been paid into the bank but £295.00 had already been spent in this months' accounts for payment list. This leaves a balance of £205.00 which is to be used on strimming footpaths and vegetation around gates, stiles and any overhanging branches. All work must be agreed at a meeting and all contractors must be correctly insured to carry out the work. The £300 Biodiversity Grant for 2022-2023 was also in the bank and this is to be spent on bat boxes, bird tables, food, nesting boxes, wild flowers and seeds. The suggestion is to involve local groups such as the school, scouts and guides. We did approach the school last year when we applied for the grant and they were very keen but of course it is now coming close to the end of term. We will apply for both these grants for 2023-2024 if they are offered to carry on this year. All the rules regarding these grants must be followed and all work must go via the clerk. Councillor M McDonnell asked about where to see where in standing orders the rules were being broken and the clerk agreed to forward the PROW and Biodiversity papers giving LCC lists of what work could be carried out by the parish council. Councillor Mrs Shaw had obtained and forwarded details of the Highways Act 1980. Paragraph 43. (1) – The councillors considered this legislation and decided that it gave them the authority to have the footpath work done. The clerk advised that this conflicts with LCC legislation in regards the PROW Grant terms and conditions on how the parish council may spend the grant on footpaths and Bridleways.

ALL

23.42 WEBSITE

Councillor Shaw stated she had been unable to scan the annual accounts documents as they were too faint. The clerk to send some replacements.

IMOD

23.43 WLBC – Report on WLBC Meetings

Councillor Pope reported that planning permission had been granted for the British Legion building site in Lord Street Burscough to be used to build 3 houses.

23.44 PARISH MATTERS

Councillor Mrs Shaw reported that all the grids around the junction of Hall Lane, Briars Lane and Lowry Hill Lane were all Blocked with soil. Clerk to report to Clean & Green.

IMOD

The subject of what the parish were considering to celebrate the King's Coronation was raised as we had suggested either a tree or a bench. The council also have a legacy from Alderman Ken Vincent which was also discussed with regards to planting a tree or placing a bench. The clerk to place on July agenda.

IMOD

The date of the next meeting Monday 24th July 2023

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed.....Chairman