

24.142

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19 AUGUST 2024 AT THE SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, HALL LANE, LATHOM COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.

24.143

PRESENT: Councillors A Beckett (Chair), E Pope, I Fairclough, A Sherman and Parish Clerk D Abram.

24.144

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors L McDonnell and M McDonnell.

24.145

COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

Councillor Pope declared an interest in the planning item.

24.146

ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Residents raised items in relation to item 4 (c) :-

- The hours of use i.e. 8.00 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week and potentially 365 days a year.
- The scale used on the plans is not of the standard used by Surveyors and the sizing in relation to the site boundaries and other existing buildings on the site, with dimensions specified including those to the boundaries to scale are incorrect.
- Residents are concerned in relation to the charitable aspect of the company who propose to use the football pitches. This aspect was raised in January 2024 and has as yet not been addressed. It has been stated by the Applicant that the football will be run by a non-profit charitable organisation who are seeking football fields to play on.
- Does the charity that is already in place have a Memorandum of Articles in relation to their business.
- Residents request that the Applicant provide written evidence that there are no facilities on pitches in the surrounding area to accommodate them.

- Concern is raised that the application itself is vague in many areas especially in relation to the viability of running a business profitably on the site.
- Queries have been raised with regard to the matches being separated by a significant time to allow current users to vacate the area and then the next pitch users to be able to gain access to the car park without the need for a queuing arrangement thereby blocking access roads to the area. There is general concern regarding pedestrian access to the location the bus stop on Briars Lane will involve pedestrians having to cross a busy main road. Ring O'Bells Lane does have a footpath but pedestrians will need to cross the road for the last 50 yards as there is no footpath until you reach Carr Lane. Carr Lane has a very narrow footpath and Meadow Lane itself has no footpath. Other surrounding roads do not have a pavement e.g. Hollowford Lane.
- Residents mentioned that the application is incorrect as there are no buses or trains running to the area on a Sunday.
- Volume of traffic data has been provided for Meadow Lane but not Carr Lane. Residents are concerned that the volume of traffic in the area exceeds what the Applicants are estimating. No consideration has been given to the current volume of traffic on Ring O Bells Lane which has significantly increased over recent months with the reopening of the pub and at peak times there is restrictive access on the road as a result of traffic parking on both sides of the road in the area where the pub is by cars parking on footpaths, actually on the brow of the bridge which has reduced the road down to a single track road.
- Residents are concerned that the wider access route to the entry point at Carr Lane i.e. Ring O Bells Lane (30 mph), Meadow Lane (60 mph) and Carr Lane (60 mph) are currently used as a "rat run" at present and additional usage will only result in more accidents occurring especially as this all merges to a 5 point junction. There are many other accidents at this point which do not involve injury and the report itself only addresses 2 accidents where injury occurred.
- Previous applications i.e. marina on Carr Lane have been rejected as no new entrance/exits could be created on Carr Lane.

- Will the highways department provide a further report given the change re the entrance/exit for the new planning application.
- Residents have moved to Lathom to live in the countryside and enjoy the peace and quiet which is now going to be disturbed.
- The noise report has been “softly” reported and that there is a decibel permittance in rural areas e.g. a referee’s whistle. There are concerns that Environmental Health to provide an impartial full noise assessment report which should be chargeable to the Applicant.
- The usage of maintenance vehicles to maintain the land for the purpose of the football fields will impact on local residents i.e. reverse beepers.
- Residence are concerned that the Greenbelt area will be damaged as a result of the installation of football pitches and will take away the openness of the land especially if hedgerows are left to grow and the visibility of the proposed building and cars to be parked in this area.
- The Applicants have not addressed the overwintering bird survey given that Martin Mere Wetlands is only a short distance away.
- Concerns have been raised regarding the agricultural land which is currently Grade A status e.g. neighbouring field 4 crops of lettuces have been grown this year on Grade A land.
- Should an independent test be carried out to grade the land to be paid for by Applicant.
- If the land is converted from Grade A growing fields to football pitches and the application is granted will there be any restriction on the use of the land if the football pitches is not viable financially.
- Given the number of proposed football pitches there is concern that the Applicant has underestimated the number of vehicles that will attend the adult football matches. If the pitches are broken down for children to play on this will mean more vehicles will need to attend the site.
- There is no area to park outside of the proposed hardstanding that is within the application due to the country roads in the area. Meadow Lane itself is mostly a single track road.
- Concern has been raised regarding the parking spaces in that a minimum of 20% of parking should be electrical charging points.
- What happens if visiting vehicles do not access the car parking via the one way system in terms of both Meadow Lane and Carr Lane being narrow.

- What form of signage is to be adopted and is permission required for this.
- The hedgerows surrounding the area are currently 1.2 metres and the Applicant has stated that these can be left to grow higher. A resident attending the meeting advised that the hedgerows do not belong to the resident.
- The same resident has raised concern with regard to their own trees which may act as a sheltering due to weather conditions and will therefore increase the noise level.
- The Ethylene pipeline runs under the area of land proposed for the football pitches will the proposed access route (entrance and exit), buildings and hardstanding for the football pitches fall within the area that needs to be protected. Has the HSE been contacted to provide their input on the application.
- There is no detail as to the proximity of the pipeline in relation to the plan submitted.
- Concern is raised as to whether there is a requirement for 2 adult football pitches specifically in the Lathom area given that there are other pitches in the surrounding area. The proposed pitches will support neighbouring areas rather than Lathom itself which will result in additional traffic on all main and country roads in the area. The demographic of Lathom is of a mature nature with only one small village school. Can the Applicant provide evidence of the need for the extra pitches.
- Residents are concerned as to who will question the anomalies within the application itself i.e. noise report, car parking spaces, etc.
- No details have been provided as to how to keep people out and stop people accessing the site out of hours.

24.147

PLANNING

Applications considered:

- a. 2024/0649/FUL - Moorfield, Hoscar Moss Road, Lathom, Ormskirk, Lancashire - Demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of a two storey extension at the rear of the dwelling along with increased ridge height. New gate posts to front boundary – comment to be submitted.
- b. 2024/0563/FUL - Ring O Bells Public House, Ring O Bells Lane, Lathom, Ormskirk, Lancashire - Works to stabilise grassed area for overflow parking

to Ring o Bells (PH) and associated lighting (comment deadline 23 August 2024) – comment to be submitted.

- c. 2024/0636/FUL - Land West Of, Meadow Lane, Lathom, Lancashire - Change of use of land for outdoor sport with associated facilities (comment deadline 30 August 2024) – comment to be submitted.
- d. 2024/0448/FUL - The Flat Langleys Farm, Blythe Lane, Lathom, Ormskirk, Lancashire - Erection of a garage (comment deadline 30 August 2024) – comment to be submitted.

24.148

FINANCE

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

| | | |
|--|---------------|----------------------|
| Ormskirk District Scout – Hall Hire | 002054 | £ 24.00 |
| Diane Abram salary | 002055 | £263.72 |
| - July 2024 Noticeboards (8 miles @ 0.45p per mile) | | £ 3.60 |
| - July 2024 Monthly Meeting (6 miles @ 0.45p per mile) | | <u>£ 2.70</u> |
| | | £270.02 |
| LALC Conference | 002056 | £ 35.00 |
| LALC – Planning for Parish & Town Councils | 002057 | £ 40.00 |
| Rawsthornes | 002058 | £226.00 |

24.149

Councillors to raise issues for discussion

No items were raised.

24.150

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

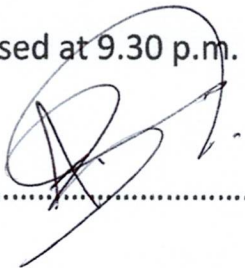
The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 23 September 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – 19 August 2024

| Chq No | Payee | Amount |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 002054 | Ormskirk District Scouts | £24.00 |
| 002055 | Diane Abram | £270.02 |
| 002056 | LALC Conference | £35.00 |
| 002057 | LALC – Parish & Town Councils | £40.00 |
| 002058 | Rawsthorne (strimming) | £226.00 |

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right, positioned above the dotted line of the signature field.