

**Minutes of the Little Hoole Parish Council Meeting  
held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024, at Walmer Bridge Village Hall**

**In attendance:** Cllrs L Dryden (Chair), D Owen, J Rainsbury, S Rainsbury, S Evald, T Wilcock, Mr P Cafferkey (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer); County Councillor G Gooch and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** No absences.
2. **To agree the minutes of the last Parish Council mtg held on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024:**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 were accepted as a true record and agreed unanimously.
3. **To receive declarations of interest:** None
4. **Matters arising from the minutes of last meeting:** Confirmation had been received from Lancashire County Council (LCC) that they would not be undertaking an assessment of vehicle speeds in the village. LCC had also confirmed that they did not feel it necessary to install pedestrian barriers at the location of the A59 roundabout adjacent to the Fox Cub pub – this refers to item 7 of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 minutes.
5. **Public Time - matters raised by member of public:** A member of the public asked for an update on improving the appearance of the circular planters; this is covered in agenda item 15.  
County Councillor Gooch highlighted that the Chancellor has recently committed more money to public transport and in particular bus transport. Consequently, he explained that now would be a good time to make enquiries with Lancashire County Council about the possibility a bus service from Little Hoole to Leyland / Chorley, especially given that there is no such service to the administrative centre of South Ribble (Leyland) and the large new housing development at Centurion Village.
6. **Planning Applications:**
  - a) 07/2024/00072/HOH 1 Airey Houses Dob Lane Walmer Bridge PR4 4SU, Proposed single story side/rear extension, garage conversion and rear dormers.
  - b) 07/2023/01063/FUL Springfield Farm Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB, Erection of a livestock Housing Building following the partial demolition of a glasshouse
  - c) 07/2023/01027/DIS Fair Acre Farm Moss Lane Little Hoole PR4 4SX, Discharge of Conditions 3 (Removal of Containers); 5 (Materials); 6 (Contamination); and 14 (Landscaping) of Planning Permission 07/2023/00331/FUL
  - d) 07/2024/00125/DIS, Fair Acre Farm Moss Lane Little Hoole PR4 4SX, Discharge of Conditions 11 (Foul Water Drainage) and 12 (Surface Water Drainage) of Planning permission 07/2023/00331/FUL
  - e) 07/2024/00042/FUL, Springfield Farm Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB, Erection of An Agricultural Building for Livestock Handling

The planning applications were noted and **it was resolved** that no representation would be made.

7. **To approve payments transacted through the bank for Feb 2024:**



Date	Payee	£	Description
01-Feb-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	36.96	Monthly website subscription
06-Feb-24	B/P to: James Harrison	140.00	Setup Christmas Tree & Lights, remove deal tree, weeding
19-Feb-24	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	11.50	Clerk's Expenses Tax Month 11
19-Feb-24	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	163.16	Clerk's Salary Tax Month 11
20-Feb-24	CROSTON PARISH COU	-29.99	Croston PC share of MS 365
26-Feb-24	B/P to: Walmer Bridge VH	33.00	202324087 15/49
<b>Instant Access a/c Feb 2024</b>			
Nil Transactions			

**It was resolved** that the above transactions be approved.

8. **Payments for approval: It was resolved** that the Clerk's claim for Feb 2024 of 14.19 hours and expenses of £3.80 be approved.
9. **Payments approved by email or pre-approved and retrospectively noted:** Nil
10. **Financial Statement as at 29th Feb 2024:** A detailed financial statement was presented by the Clerk to the parish council showing the following balances as at 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024:

current account balance of       £32,999  
deposit account balance of       £19,175

The balances stated above, and as presented in the financial statement, were independently verified to copies of the bank statements by Cllr Evald.

As at 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024:

the council's forecast expenditure outturn for 2023/24 is £34,877.

the council's forecast income outturn for 2023/24 is £25,509

This is a net deficit forecast outturn for 2023/24 of £9,368. This is a net improvement in the forecast deficit for 2023/24 of £1,106 between the budgeted deficit of £10,474 and the forecast outturn deficit of £9,368. Therefore, the opening balance at the start of the financial year 2023/24 of £60,239 is forecast to be a closing balance of £50,871 at the end of 2023/24

**It was resolved** that the financial statement be approved.

11. **Parish Councillor Vacancy:** The vacancy has been advertised. Unless a request for an election is made by 10 persons, whose names appear on the current Register of Electors by the 11th March 2024 to South Ribble Borough Council, then the parish council can co-opt a suitable person.
12. **Annual Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:** These had been reviewed and no amendments were considered necessary, therefore **it was resolved** that Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be ratified for a further 12 months.
13. **To Discuss Approach for Funding by Hoole St Michael's C of E Church:** An initial approach had been made by the church exploring the possibility of a grant from the parish council. The Clerk has provided an application form.
14. **Dog Waste Bin, Dob Lane Recreation Ground – Update:** South Ribble Borough Council has confirmed that the new waste bin has been well used and, therefore,

will become a permanent fixture. One of the lesser used bins on the park, will however, be removed.

15. **Proposal for Summer Planting: It was resolved** that the quote of £2,050 from Acer Garden be accepted, this includes the planting of 2,000 mixed colour non stop begonias. **It was also resolved** that two local handymen be used for the repairing and staining of the barrel planters at an approximate cost of £200 to £250, not including cost of paint and materials. The two handymen would also be approached to paint the wall behind the bus shelter and James Harrison would be asked to undertake ad hoc work around the village (e.g. weeding).
16. **Proposal for Summer Activity Programme: It was resolved that** the Summer Activity proposal by Cllr Wilcock be accepted with the proviso that at least a second quote be obtained, if possible, for the bouncy castles. The activities will take place one day a week (days to be agreed) during August 2024 on the Dob Lane Recreation Park. Two quotes had been received for the provision of a climbing wall, the lowest quote being from Rider Evolution Ltd at £395 per day including provision of staff member, risk assessment and public liability insurance. A second quote had been received of £800 per day from the Anderton centre. **It was resolved** that the quote from Rider Evolution be accepted. A quote from Bouncelona of £420 per day had been received for the provision of an inflatable slide, an inflatable obstacle course, provision of two generators, supervision, risk assessment and public liability insurance. Bouncelona have previously provided a good service to the parish council, but it was agreed that a second quote, to demonstrate value for money would be sourced if possible and if necessary, agreed by email.
17. **Cleaning of Bus Shelters - Update:** South Ribble Borough Council has confirmed that they will clean the new bus shelters three times per year commencing in June 2024. If any additional cleaning is necessary, it was agreed that a one-off price would be obtained.
18. **Dog Waste Bin, Dob Lane Recreation Ground – Update:** This is an erroneous duplicate of agenda item 14 – please see item 14.
19. **Venue for Future Parish Council Meetings:** The Clerk reported that he had written to the village hall and that they had kindly agreed to accommodate the parish council's preferred January meeting date as well as agreeing to ensure that the lounge meeting room would be kept clean and tidy for future meetings. **It was resolved** that future meetings would be held in the Lounge at Walmer bridge Village Hall.
20. **Correspondence:** None.
21. **Information and Updates:** This item is purposefully not recorded; it is to allow councillors a short time to discuss any matters that might result in a future agenda item. No financial or legal decisions are made.
22. **Date & Time of Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting is to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2024, 7.15pm, Walmer Bridge Village Hall.

Approved as a true & accurate record, Laurence Dryden – Chair – 8 April 2024

