

**Minutes of the Little Hoole Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024, at Walmer Bridge Village Hall**  
**In attendance:** Cllrs L Dryden (Chair), J Rainsbury, S Rainsbury, S Evald, T Wilcock, P Ashby, Mr P Cafferkey (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer); and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr D Owen.
2. **To agree the minutes of the last Parish Council mtg held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024:**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 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:** None.
5. **Public Time - matters raised by members of the public:** Prior to the immediate start of the meeting the Clerk, the Chair and Cllr Evald had been approached by two members of Little Hoole School PTA to help with the PTA's efforts to raise funds for improvements to the playground (painting of lines). A third member of the PTA, now present at the meeting, reiterated this request. The specific request was for the Parish Council to fund the hire of a bouncy castle to help in attracting visitors to Little Hoole School's Summer Fair to be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
6. **Planning Applications:**
  - a) 07/2024/00285/APD, 2 Pine Avenue Little Hoole, PR4 5LB. Change to use from agricultural storage to general household/garden/building material storage and distribution use
  - b) 07/2024/00271/DIS, Tusons Farm Gill Lane, PR4 5GN. Discharge of conditions 6, 7, 9 and 12 of Planning Approval 07/2021/00650/VAR
  - c) 07/2024/00261/DIS, Unit 1 Lesser Marsh House Farm Station Road Little Hoole, PR4 5LH. Discharge of Conditions No 7 (biodiversity) and 9 (lighting) of Planning Approval 2023/00889/VAR and details of Drainage Scheme approved under planning approval 07/2022/00360/OUT (Condition no 5)
  - d) 07/2024/00238/TDC, Land Opposite Langdale Brook Lane Little Hoole, PR4 5JB. Application for Technical Details Consent for the erection of one detached dwelling relating to Stage 1 Permission In Principle Ref 07/2023/00626/PIP. (Application suffix has changed from 07/2024/00238/FUL to 07/2024/00238/TDC)
  - e) 07/2024/00237/FUL, Land Adjacent to Langdale Brook Lane Little Hoole, PR4 5JB. Erection of two detached dwellings together with hard and soft landscaping.

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



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

Current a/c April 2024			
Date	Payee	£	Description
03Apr2024	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	36.96	Monthly website fee
16Apr2024	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	3.30	Clerk's expenses tax mth 1
16Apr2024	B/P to: Paul Cafferkey	178.56	Clerk's salary tax mth 1
25Apr2024	Direct Debit (HMRC SDDS)	150.60	Clerk's tax to HRMC tax mths 10,11,12
Instant Access a/c April 2024			
Nil transactions			

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

- 8. Payments for approval: It was resolved** that the Clerk's claim for Apr 2024 of 11.60 hours and expenses of £2.00 be approved.
- 9. Payments approved by email or pre-approved and retrospectively noted: Nil**
- 10. To confirm the Parish Council's 2024-25 budget:** At its meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023 (item 11 of Dec mins refer) the Parish Council agreed a net budget of £48,898 (excluding precept income). At its meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> Apr 2024 (item 10 of Apr mins refer) it was agreed that the budget would be amended to include a budget line for VAT income. The Clerk presented the amended budget, now including a budget line of £3,000 estimated VAT income, therefore amending the budget for 2024-25 to £45,898. **It was resolved**, therefore, that the revised budget for the Parish Council for 2024-25 of £45,898 (excluding precept income) be approved.
- 11. To approve the Parish Council's AGAR (Annual Governance & Accounting Return) for 2023-24:** On the advice of the Clerk, this item was deferred to the June 2024 meeting.
- 12. To approve in advance NALC invoice £450.66 (no VAT): It was resolved** that this invoice be approved for payment.
- 13. To authorise the Clerk to renew the annual Parish Council insurance: It was resolved** that the Clerk be granted delegated authority to renew the Parish Council insurance which is due for renewal from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024.
- 14. To discuss the possibility of a Parish Council newsletter:** Cllr Evald outlined her idea for a Parish Council newsletter, possibly once per year, outlining what the Parish Council was doing to improve the community. This was agreed in principle.

- 15. Proposal for the purchase of a pump for the pond at Old Mill Court:** Cllr Dryden presented his detailed proposal for the Parish Council to fund a fountain for the pond at Old Mill Court (Walmer Bridge) in order to improve the aeration, water quality and appearance of the pond for the benefit of the residents of Old Mill Court and the community generally. The cost (including purchase of a Life Buoy) is £2,912.50. As part of the proposal Cllr Dryden had secured an undertaking from Progress Housing (as proprietors of Old Mill Court) that they would fund the monthly maintenance of the pond. This proposal was agreed in principle pending further assurances from Progress Housing that the pond would not be filled in at some future date. It was also suggested that the residents of Old Mill Court could ask for the pond to be designated as an asset of community value.
- 16. To discuss future venue for Parish Council meetings:** It was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries with Progress Housing as to using Old Mill Court for meetings during the winter months (Oct to Feb inclusive) due to its more central location in the village and its larger room. The Parish Council stressed that they would look to continue to financially support the Village Hall by possibly paying a retaining fee for those months it might not use the Lounge at the Village Hall.
- 17. Summer Activity Programme – Update:** Cllr Wilcock confirmed that work was ongoing for the summer activity programme.
- 18. Correspondence, Update from LCC re Bus Service funding:** Further to the Clerk writing to Lancashire County Council about the possibility of a bus service from Little Hoole to Leyland / Chorley; the Clerk reported that he had now received a response (letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024) from County Councillor Aidy Riggott Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Growth, Lancashire County Council. In summary, the letter stated that the County Council was awaiting further guidance from the Department for Transport on the scope of the Local Transport Fund, which would determine the type of schemes that would be eligible for funding.
- 19. Information and Updates:** This item is normally not recorded as it is to allow councillors a short time to discuss any matters that might result in a future agenda item. Given the approach made by Little Hoole School's PTA (section 5 refers) and the immediacy of the date for the School Summer Fair (29<sup>th</sup> June) it was agreed in principle to fund up to £450 to enable the PTA to hire a bouncy castle to assist them in their fund raising. The PTA would also be requested to complete a grant application form.
- 20. Date & Time of Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting is to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2024, 7.00pm, Walmer Bridge Village Hall.

*Agreed as a true record, Laurence Dryden, Chair. 10 June 2024.*

