# Minutes of the Little Hoole Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 08/02/2021, by Zoom video conference

In attendance: Cllr D Rimmer (Chair) Cllr J Rainsbury (Vice Chair)

Cllr S Rainsbury Cllr L Dryden Cllr D Owen Cllr T Wilcock

Mr D Swift (Clerk/minutes)

**Also in attendance:** Two members of the public.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Councillor Foster was unable to attend.

## 2. To agree the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11/01/2021 were agreed as a true record.

#### 3. To receive declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

# 4. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

#### 5. Matters raised by the public

None.

#### 6. Planning applications received since the last meeting

07/2021/00066/FUL – Lesser Marsh Farm, Station Road, Little Hoole, Preston, Lancashire, PR4 5LH. *No objections were raised.* 

#### 7. Financial Statement

The Clerk presented the Financial Statement, as at 31/01/2021; the balances are:

• Current Account: £17,031.05

Business Reserve Account: £18,610.07

#### 8. Grant applications

The 2 grant applications (Upkeep of the burial grounds at St Michael's Church and the Methodist Church) were discussed. Councillor Wilcock stated that she had no objection to the same grants of £350 (St Michael's Church) and £150 (Methodist Church) respectively being awarded but questioned if additional funding might be secured via Much Hoole Parish Council. Councillor J Rainsbury proposed, seconded by Councillor Wilcock, that Little Hoole Parish Council supports the awarding of the grants in principle. However, the Clerk is requested to contact the grant applicant to check if any approach had been made to Much Hoole (or other funding authorities). The Clerk will report back by email or at the next meeting.

## 9. Payments

The payment shown below was presented for discussion and agreement.

Payment Description	Amount	Proposed by	Seconded by
Clerk's salary (January 2021)	£192.00	Councillor Wilcock	Councillor Owen

The payment was unanimously approved.

#### 10. Online banking: update

The Clerk reported the switch of the current account from NatWest to Unity Trust was completed on 05/02/2021. All funds from the original account along with standing orders and direct debits were transferred. Councillor Wilcock enquired about the reserve account, which is still provided by NatWest, and suggested that this should also be switched. The Clerk will contact Unity Trust to discuss this and make arrangements for it to be set up in due course.

The Clerk also outlined the process of setting up beneficiaries for online payments plus the payments themselves. The Clerk will arrange a separate virtual meeting with the signatories as a training exercise as soon as feasibly possible.

## 11. Champion's Grant Fund for Parish and Town Councils

The Clerk introduced the scheme and its purpose. Councillor Wilcock stated she had looked at it but wasn't sure if it was appropriate for Little Hoole Parish Council but it was duly noted.

## 12. Correspondence

The Clerk had no items to outline here but has recently updated the website to add the details concerning Walmer Bridge Village Hall which were discussed at the last meeting. Councillor Dryden raised a recent issue regarding the timing of correspondence related to Parish Council business – the information contained within (in respect of a planning matter) had not been passed on in time. The Clerk acknowledged this and stated that he will, in future, endeavour to forward all necessary emails/letters as soon as is practically possible.

## 13. Virtual meetings

Councillor Dryden has paid the Zoom licence which the Parish Council has been using since mid July 2020 and it was unanimously agreed that he be fully recompensed for this expense. Councillor Wilcock suggested using Microsoft Teams as an alternative. The Clerk proposed performing a 'test' to check that this software will be suitable for Parish Council business going forward. *The Clerk will set this up in due course.* 

#### 14. Members additional information

Councillor Owen mentioned Walmer Bridge Village Hall and referred to its 'Go Fund Me' page, the link to which is on its website. The Clerk will edit the Parish Council website entry regarding the Hall and add this information. Councillor Rimmer stated the area around the brook is 'holding up' despite the recent rains. Councillor Wilcock asked if there had been any response from the Environment Agency. The Clerk will chase this up. Councillor Dryden said he had had no updates regarding the speed signs, despite recently making a further enquiry.

# 15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 08/03/2021 at 7pm.