

PARISH OF HEATON-WITH-OXCLIFFE
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Grosvenor Park School on
Tuesday 13th December 2016 at 7-00 pm.

Present: Councillor Mr I Clift
Councillor Mrs M Baxter
Councillor Mr K Percy

Others in attendance: Mr P Melling (Resident)

1686 APOLOGIES: Councillors Mr. W Jackson and Mrs G Kelly due to other commitments. Apologies were later received from Councillor Mr. S Edmondson who was unable to attend due to the late change of date of the meeting.

1687 MINUTES: It was RESOLVED that, subject to minor corrections, the Minutes of the meeting held on 09th November 2016 be approved. Members commended the Clerk on the quality of the Minutes presented, and did not wish to make any changes to the current format. It was their view that the Minutes concisely report discussions that are often quite detailed and complex.

1688 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: There were no declarations of interest

1689 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

1) The Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from Lancaster City Council that the vacancy for a Councillor in the Westgate Ward could be filled by Co-option. Mr Peter Melling, in attendance at the meeting, had previously expressed an interest in the position.

Mr Melling responded to questions from Members about his reasons for wishing to be a Councillor, following which it was unanimously resolved that he be co-opted as Councillor for the Westgate Ward of the Parish of Heaton-with-Oxcliffe

2) The Clerk and Members reported on issues, activities and actions since the last meeting of the Council, for information only. These included:

- An inspection by the Lengthsman of a report of fly-tipping at Moss Road which appeared to include asbestos cement sheets. The Clerk subsequently contacted the City Council and the detritus was removed the next day.
- A request made directly to the Lengthsman regarding overgrown hedges on a path from Aire Close to Morecambe Road which he dealt with.
- The Clerk reported that, as requested, he had again contacted the City Council regarding the broken fencing around the culvert close to Grosvenor Park Play Area and the state of the area around the pond on Roeburn Drive. A full response is expected before the next meeting of the Council.
- The Clerk has submitted a further request to Lancashire County Council requesting an explanation of the reasons for a Bus Stop on Morecambe Road having been moved some distance from its original position as part of the Bay Gateway project. An acknowledgement has been received but no explanation to date.
- Members reported fly-tipping on Lancaster Road and near to Downeyfield Farm

Members noted the updates and matters raised and requested that the Clerk take further action and report back as necessary

3) The Clerk reported that he had received correspondence from various organisations regarding the affordability and availability of funding for automated external defibrillators (AED's) for community use.

Members noted the information provided and requested the Clerk to seek the view of the Governors at Grosvenor Park School and report back.

The meeting was reconvened

1690 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/01544/RCN	Cox Motor Group, Lancaster Volkswagen, Vickers Way, Heaton With Oxcliffe, LA3 3FB - Alterations, refurbishment and extension of existing motor vehicle dealership to form larger vehicle showroom and new bodyshop facilities (pursuant to the removal of condition 7, 8 and 9 on planning permission 12/01130/FUL to exclude the construction of a footpath)
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Members discussed the application and, in particular, the Decision Notice on the original application submitted in 2012/13. The Clerk explained that the original application appeared to have been granted subject to several conditions being met, as set out in the Decision Notice. It was noted that the application that Members were now being asked to consider seems to be pursuant to three of the specified conditions being removed and the exclusion of a footpath being constructed.

After some discussion, it was RESOLVED that a representation be made requesting further clarity on the application and the reason for the construction of a footpath being excluded. Further to Minute 1679 the Clerk reported that as a direct result of the Council's request, the planning authority have agreed to provide Parish Council's with guidance, training and support once developed.

1691 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

100295	Mr R Bailey, Parish Clerk fees and expenses for the quarter ending 31st December 2016	££1,158.18
100294	Mr John Fairclough – Grounds maintenance and Parish Lengthsman duties and cost of materials	£128.79

It was RESOLVED to that the above account(s) be paid.

1692 Members considered Issue 6 of the Parish Council Newsletter which included details of the submitted proposals for the redevelopment of Grosvenor Park Play Area and arrangements for consultation with residents. The Clerk reported that he had received positive feedback from some residents about the Council's plans for the Play Area and the three proposals received.

It was RESOLVED, that details of the proposals received be made available for residents to view and comment on from **6:00pm on Wednesday 11th January 2017**, after which an open discussion of the proposals will take place at the Council meeting to follow. The Council will then make decisions, if possible, on the preferred option and on the process for seeking funds for the project.

1693 Members considered an update on the National Grid's North West Coast Connections project currently out to public consultation until 06 January 2017. It was noted that details of this major project and the public consultation had included in the recent Parish Newsletter. Councillor Mr K Percy reported that he had recently attended the following:

- i. an exhibition in Heysham Library arranged by the National Grid on 24th November 2016 and;
- ii. on 28th November 2016 a meeting at Middleton Parish Hall organised specifically for representatives of local parish councils by LALC to meet with consultants retained by the major local authorities to assist them in constructing their responses to the consultation

Councillor Percy explained that the exhibition in Heysham was well organised and that he was given the opportunity to ask a number of questions about the environmental, ecological and socio-economic impact of the project in Heysham and Middleton and surrounding area. Whilst the National Grid representatives did their best to answer the questions the answers given were largely partial or unsatisfactory and gave him the impression that more evidence is required to support the proposed options for the scheme and to assess robustly the impact it will have on communities and the local environment.

At the Middleton meeting, the consultants highlighted the short consultation period available for a project of this complexity and outlined a number of issues and shortcomings in the project documentation, aims and plans. This perception was reinforced by the consultants' observation that the cost of the project (estimated at £2.8 billion) and the timetable for completion are very likely to be an underestimate.

It was pointed out that the project costs will be largely met by electricity consumers and that there is, as yet, a great deal of uncertainty about the wider implications of the project.

After much discussion, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk and Councillor Percy draft a response on behalf of the Council for submission as part of the current consultation. The response will outline that the local knowledge of the Parish Councils should be an important factor in the development of the project and will set out, in broad terms, the Council's initial concerns and questions relating to the purpose of the project and its potential impact on the local environment, heritage, wildlife and residents.

1694 Members again considered whether to respond to the Lancaster District Local Development Plan - Infrastructure Delivery request for information / comment. The Clerk reminded Members that the City Council are asking Parish Councils and the public to submit comments about their aspirations for the local area in the future that, subject to proper diligence, will be included in the Local Plan currently being developed, setting out the plans for the whole district until 2031.

After some discussion, it was RESOLVED that comments be submitted in line with the aspirations set out in the Parish Plan around improving the local environment. This to include the attractiveness of open spaces and footpaths; improvements to community facilities; access to Superfast broadband and actions aimed at managing and reducing the risks associated with local flooding.

1695 Members considered Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2017 – 2022. It was outlined that the intention of the document is to set out the direction of the Fire Service for the five-year period through an assessment and management of risks; improved performance in key areas and clear priorities and service delivery. Members were advised that there is a six-week consultation period on the plans, ending 08 January 2017.

Members considered that the document only sets out details of aspirations and the governance processes that are undertaken and, as such, does not sufficiently and clearly set out the Fire Service's plans or exactly how the stated priorities will be delivered. It was also felt that there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate the impact that improved performance and delivery has had, and will have, on our communities.

It was RESOLVED that Members' views and observations be fed back to Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service before the end of the consultation period.

1696 Members considered the following reports and information received from Lancashire County Council:

- **Severe weather bulletin issue 1** setting out the work that Lancashire County Council have carried out, and will continue to provide, over the winter in order to keep the roads of Lancashire moving. The document also provides advice to residents and businesses on how to keep warm and well and be more resilient over the winter period;
- **Parish Champion Newsletter November 2016** providing information on a workshop aimed at helping Parish Council's to support the provision of bus services; the work of the Safe and Healthy Travel team and options for reducing speeding and improving road safety; an update on the Superfast Broadband project to delivery fibre broadband across the county, and; further information on staying safe and well during the winter

It was RESOLVED that the reports, advice and information received from Lancashire County Council be noted and that details be posted on the Council's website as appropriate.

The Clerk advised Members that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Wednesday 11th January 2017** commencing at 7:00pm. The meeting closed at 8:40pm



Clerk of the Council