

**PARISH OF HEATON-WITH-OXCLIFFE**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Grosvenor Park School on**  
**Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7-00 pm.**

**Present:** Councillor Mr W Jackson (Chair)  
Councillor Mrs M Baxter  
Councillor Mrs G Kelly  
Councillor Mr K Percy

**Others in attendance:** Mr P Melling (Resident)

**1675 APOLOGIES:** Councillor Mr I Clift due to attendance at a City Council meeting

**1676 MINUTES:** It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016 be approved

**1677 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** There were no declarations of interest

**1678 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

- 1) The Clerk and Members reported on for information only matters and activities, actions and problems arising since the last meeting of the Council. These included:
- The Clerk had sought further information regarding the consultation on the Infrastructure Delivery Plan that forms part of the Lancaster District Local Development Plan (Minute 1673 refers). The Clerk reported that the draft document was not yet available and that the City Council were seeking '*information*' that will help in putting the Infrastructure Delivery Plan together. This information could take the form of '*aspirations in the Parish that you may wish to put forward such as issues with the highway network; improvements to community facilities, open spaces and playing fields, the broadband network or to the street scene and public realm*'. It was reported that, going forward the Infrastructure Delivery Plan will be '*continually updated to reflect changing circumstances and new emerging issues*'.

***Members requested that the Clerk forward the details received for further consideration with a view to a response being provided at a later date***

- The Clerk reported that problems posted on fixmystreet.com including flytipping on Moss Road, and an abandoned caravan and overgrown hedge on Salisbury Close has been dealt with by Lancaster City Council;
- Councillor Edmondson reported that fencing around the culvert adjacent to Grosvenor Park Play Area is in need of replacement and will require approximately 200 metres of fencing and a 'top-rail' to make it more stable. This work could be done by the Parish Lengthsman, subject to agreement with the City Council;
- The state of the area around the pond on Roeburn Drive was discussed together with the suggestion that residents periodically maintain the area, subject to initial clearance by Lancaster City Council and support from the Parish Lengthsman as necessary;
- Concerns were raised about the Bus Stop on Morecambe Road having been moved some distance from its original position due to the Heysham M6 link

***Members noted the updates and requested that the Clerk make further enquiries with the relevant authorities regarding matters raised and report back to the Council***

- 2) The Clerk reported that before the next meeting he would be publishing, and arranging the distribution of, the next edition of the Council Newsletter that would focus on informing residents about the plans and expressions of interest received in relation to Grosvenor Park Play Area, including an invitation to residents to view and comment on the plans.

**The meeting was reconvened**

**1679 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

16/00169/FUL	Mrs J Altham & Sons, Hillside Farm, Heaton-with-Oxcliffe – Demolition of existing agricultural building/farm house, erection of a food production facility, access, construction of new road, erection of detached agricultural building and creation of a pond
16/00022/ENF	<b>APPEAL</b> Mr J & Mrs W Hoey – Land rear of 302 Oxcliffe Road, Heaton-with-Oxcliffe
16/01358/CU	Britaniacrest Ltd, Riverside Caravan Park, Lancaster Road, Heaton-with-Oxcliffe – Change of use of land for the siting of static caravans for holiday occupation 12 months of the year
16/01228/FUL	Mr & Mrs D Welch, Red Roofs, White Lund Road, Morecambe – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a new detached dwelling

Members had a discussion about how they and the Council can develop their understanding of the complexities of planning requirements and thereby have more confidence that any representations by the Council will be a valuable contribution to planning decisions made by the principle authority. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts the planning authority with a view to establishing what support, guidance and training might be available to the Council. In terms of the planning applications and appeal considered at this meeting, it was RESOLVED that representation be made on 16/00022/ENF in support of the planning authorities position in respect of the breach of planning conditions.

**1680 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

100293	Lancashire County Council – Hire of meeting room at Grosvenor Park School	£45.00
100294	Mr John Fairclough – Parish Lengthsman duties and grounds maintenance	£115.66

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

**1681** Members considered details of the formal opening of the National Grid’s North West Coastal Connections project consultation which runs from 28th October 2016 to the 06th January 2017. The Clerk reported that a number of information events are being held at various venues, including two at Heysham library where more details on the project to connect the proposed new nuclear power station at Moorside in Cumbria into the electricity network. This £2.8bn project will connect 102 miles of the western coastline running from Harker Substation near Carlisle to the new nuclear power at Moorside, Egmont, onwards to Barrow-in-Furness and then under Morecambe Bay, culminating at a new substation at Middleton.

After some discussion, it was RESOLVED that, if available, Members would attend one of the information events to be held locally and report back to the next meeting of the Council. In the meantime, the Clerk will provide more information for Members consideration as it becomes available.

**1682** Members considered a request from David Morris MP that the Council considers the Boundary Commission’s initial proposals for the Morecambe and Lunesdale constituency resulting from a review of Parliamentary seats to reduce the number down to 600 from 650. Mr Morris states argues that the proposals do not reflect the current needs of the area and states that a large number of residents from Overton, Heysham and Morecambe are strongly against the planned changes. Mr Morris has asked the Council to write to the Boundary Commission rejecting the proposals.

After some discussion, it was RESOLVED that, at present, the Council is not in a position to express a view at the upcoming local public consultation on the basis of the ‘initial proposals’ but would be prepared to do so once firmer and clearer proposals are available for consideration.

**1683** Members considered information from the National Association of Local Council's (NALC) on an upcoming consultation of government proposals for parish council precepts and council tax referendums. A paper provided by NALC sets out that government is concerned about increases in parish precepts in the last year and that there is a view that the principles of a referendum should be applied to higher spending Parish Councils or possibly all of them. Members also considered a press release by NALC setting out disagreement with the proposals, broadly on the basis that the increase in precepts illustrate how parish councils are 'continuing to invest in local communities' and as a result of new services being delivered by local council's that are often taken from principal councils.

It was RESOLVED that NALC's current position be noted and considered further once the consultation is published.

**1684** Members considered a consultation by the principal authority on the Localised Council Tax Support Scheme for 2017. Members were advised that the City Council must review the scheme each year to ensure that council tax meets the needs of the local area and continues to be affordable. It was reported that for 2017 relatively minor changes are being proposed to the scheme to ensure consistency and reduce confusion for housing benefit claimants.

After some discussion about the continuing affordability and value for money of council tax, it was RESOLVED that the proposed revisions to the scheme be noted.

**1685** Members considered the following reports and information received from Lancashire County Council:

- A notice that another workshop specifically for local councils in the Lancaster district on the operation of bus services by local councils is to be provided later in the year
- A Winter Briefing Note explaining how the County Council has prepared for the winter months to keep traffic moving on main roads and what the public can do to be prepared, including advice on keeping warm and well and how to help elderly and vulnerable people during the winter;
- Details of a flooding awareness campaign to be launched that aims to inform residents and businesses about their role during severe weather and increase the overall level of awareness, preparedness and resilience in the event of future floods

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 necessary

The Clerk informed Members that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016** commencing at 7:00pm. The meeting closed at 8:05pm

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 7:00pm**



Clerk of the Council