

PARISH OF HEATON-WITH-OXCLIFFE
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Grosvenor Park School on
Wednesday 11th January 2017 at 7-00 pm.

Present:

Councillor Mr I Clift
Councillor Mrs M Baxter
Councillor Mr S Edmondson
Councillor Mrs G Kelly
Councillor Mr K Percy
Councillor Mr W Jackson

1697 APOLOGIES: Councillors Mr. P Melling was unable to attend due to a holiday

1698 MINUTES: It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th December 2017 be approved.

1699 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: There were no declarations of interest

1700 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

- 1) The Clerk and Members reported on issues, activities and actions since the last meeting of the Council, for information only. These included:
 - *Fixmystreet* issues posted by residents being: fly-tipping at the end of the Lineside footpath on Lancaster Road, adjacent to Snatchems; mud and leaves on the path at Westcliffe Drive and parked contractor vehicles which resulted in a resident having to go into the road with her young infant in order to get past. The Clerk reported that he had followed up the issue around the Bus Stop on Morecambe Road being moved from its original position as part of the Bay Gateway project and Councillor Kelly commented that the issue had now been addressed satisfactorily. **Members noted the matters raised by residents, acknowledging that these are 'hot spot' for flytipping and street cleansing matters, and asked that these be kept under consideration for possible further action.**
- 2) The Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from the Lancaster City Council Public Realm that the broken border around the culvert on Lune Road is their responsibility and would be dealt with in due course. Public Realm had also indicated that they would be open to a discussion about the ongoing maintenance of the trees / shrubs and grounds around the pond area on Roeburn Drive and will provide further advice at a later date. **Members noted the updates and asked to receive regular updates on these matters**
- 3) The Clerk informed Members that further to Minute 1683 the Government had decided not to go ahead with its proposals to impose the same referendum requirements on high spending local parish and town councils as are already in place for principal authorities. **Members noted the update**
- 4) The Clerk informed Members that the following correspondence had been received:
 - invitation to attend the meeting of the City Council's Budget and Performance Panel on Tuesday 24th January 2017 to hear the 2016/17 Budget Proposals of Lancashire County Council, Lancaster City Council, Lancashire Police and Crime Commission and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service;
 - invitation to the Lancashire County Council Parish and Town Council Conference on Saturday, 25th February 2017
 - notice of a Finance Workshop by Lancashire & Merseyside County Training Partnership on 23rd February 2017**Members noted the information received and will inform the Clerk if they wished to attend**
The meeting was reconvened

1701 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No planning applications had been received for consideration

1702 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

100297	Bay Typesetters – Newsletter Issue 6 printing and distribution	£260.00
100298	Lancashire County Council – Hire of meeting room on 09 November 2016	£45.00
100299	Society of Local Council Clerks - Annual Membership Subscription	£121.00
100300	Association of Local Council Clerks - Annual Membership Subscription	£10.00
100301	Mr J Fairclough – Grounds Maintenance & Parish Lengthsman duties	£91.66

After some questions, it was RESOLVED to that the above account(s) be paid.

1703 At a public meeting held prior to this meeting of the Parish Council the Clerk had provided a presentation of the three design and build proposals received for the development of Grosvenor Park Play Area. In line with the Council's specification all three designs included park furniture and equipment designed for children with a range of ages.

The Clerk informed Members that, subject to their decision on the preferred developer, funding of the project could come from a number of sources, including the Council's own finances and potential bids to Morecambe Town Council, Lancaster City Council, Banks Community Fund and the Lancashire Community Fund. The Clerk advised that the largest amount of funding, up to £30k, is likely to come from the Lancashire Community Fund for which the next deadline for the submission of bids is 10th February 2017.

The Clerk reported that he had received three comments from residents in support of the Council's plans for the Park and one from a resident who expressed concerns about the potential of older children being in a redeveloped park in the evenings. Councillor Mr K Percy informed Members that he had been approached by residents who expressed similar concerns with the risk that it could lead to incidents of anti-social behaviour.

Members discussed the proposals and the comments of residents in detail asking a number of questions. Assurances were given that a decision on a preferred supplier would not exclude future discussions with the successful supplier on the details of, and possible agreed changes to the design proposal, provided that the cost of any changes are within the parameters of the submitted quotation.

It was RESOLVED, with one abstention, that Wicksteed Leisure Ltd be appointed as the preferred supplier for the design and build of Grosvenor Park Play Area.

1704 Further to Minute 1693, Members discussed the Council's formal response to the National Grid's North West Coast Connections scheme, previously circulated, which had been put together by the Clerk and Councillor Mr K Percy on behalf of the Council and submitted by the consultation deadline of 06th January 2017.

The Clerk reported that the response was divided into three parts: a statement on why the Council's representations are important to the consultation procedure, a comment on the adequacy of consultation undertaken by the National Grid and the Council's opinion on, and questions about, the various environmental, social and economic impacts of the project which the Council considers must be addressed.

The response pointed out that due to the limited timeframe given to digest the large and detailed information adequately, to receive technical advice, to gather additional relevant data and to schedule suitable meetings of the Council to consider such information the Council's response was a statement of its opinions and questions on each matter and not Decisions or Resolutions. The response pointed out that the Council wished to reserve the right to make further statements as Interested Parties to this process in the future.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk and Councillor Percy be thanked for responding on behalf of the Council to the consultation on the National Grid's North West Coast Connections scheme and for registering the Council's interest.

1705 Members considered a Briefing Note outlining the details of an Expression of Interest submitted to the Government by the Morecambe Bay Partnership to set up a Coastal Community Team that, if successful will represent towns, villages and rural communities around Morecambe Bay. Morecambe Bay Partnership (MBP) with the support of South Lakeland District Council and Lancaster City Council propose to work with local communities and partners to enable the development of an Economic Plan for the Morecambe Bay area to 'help secure a better future'.

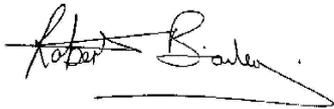
After some discussion, it was RESOLVED that the Council register its interest with the Morecambe Bay Partnership in the development of a Coastal Community team and an Economic Plan for the Morecambe Bay area, subject to Government approval. The Council also requested the Clerk to secure further information on the Morecambe Town and Heysham Coastal Community Team proposal mentioned in the document.

1706 The Clerk presented the proposed budget and precept for 2017/2018 for Member consideration based on expected balances and reserves at the end of 2016/2017 and the forecasted expenditure during 2017/2018, including a capital sum earmarked for the Grosvenor Park Play Area development.

Members discussed the proposed budget in some detail, asking questions and noting that financial planning in previous years has helped to increase capital reserves with the result that any increase to the precept can be managed.

Members suggested minor changes to the proposed budget before it was RESOLVED that the precept demand for 2017/2018 be set at £8,786 being the equivalent for a Band D property of £13.36 per annum, an increase of 0.83% on 2016/17 (£13.25 p.a.)

The Clerk advised Members that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Wednesday 08 February 2017** commencing at 7:00pm. The meeting closed at 8:10pm



Clerk of the Council