**OVERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Meeting**

Minutes of the Meeting of Overton Parish Council held in Overton Memorial Hall on

Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.00pm

**Parish Councillors Present:** J Higginson

J Dean

P Fleming

D Edmondson

S Ayrey

S Bargh

**Also Present:** C Mashiter - Clerk

**Apologies:** D Hamer

**The meeting opened at 7pm**

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| **23-196** | **There were no Declarations of Interest** |  |
| **23-197** | **There were no Dispensations** |  |
| **23-198** | **Open Section**.  There were no members of the public present. |  |
| **23-199** | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** The minutes were approved by everyone. Signed and dated by J Higginson |  |
| **23-200** | **Matters Arising from the Minutes**  There were no matters arising from the minutes. |  |
| **23-201** | **Village Christmas Tree**  As there has been no response from John Christian, Electrician, D Edmondson will contact A McDonagh and ask for a quote to install an outdoor electrical socket at the scout hut  Crabtree Christmas Trees, Cow Brow, Lupton. LA6 1PJ. Has been asked for a price on a tree 12-14ft. Nordmann Spruce with delivery.  The Scout Group will be involved when the tree is lit, probably providing refreshments. To be followed up. | **DE**  **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
| **23-202** | **Registration of Parish Council Property**  Still no progress. |  |
| **23-203** | **Defibrillator Update**  All defibrillators are Emergency Ready. |  |
| **23-204** | **Green Team**  A grant application for £6000 from Banks Renewables for a new mower has been rejected. Another attempt to be made at a later date.  An enquiry to The Environment Agency regarding the replacement of fencing posts on the banking at Trailholme Road revealed that the ownership belongs to the Parish Council. D Edmonson will supervise the repair.  Lancashire County Council have intimated that the matter concerning the cattle grid is now closed. Councillors want this re visiting as the grid is still not a deterrent to cattle.  A seat has been ordered from Glasdon for Chapel View. An email will be received by the Parish council prior to delivery to D Edmonson who will arrange for it to be fixed.  A decision on the request from Jay Goulding to take over responsibility for the maintenance of the grass verge between The Globe car park and Pedder Road was deferred pending confirmation of ownership. | **Clerk**  **DE**  **Clerk**  **DE**  **Clerk** |
| **23-205** | **Grants and Donations**  An application has been made to join the Lancashire County Council Local Delivery Scheme for a Biodiversity Grant. No decision has been received. The price of saplings from Trailholme Road area to be sought and clearance of brambles and ivy from the play park steps and boundary fence to be investigated.  A request was received from Tim Wingate on behalf of Overton Bowling Club for the purchase of a further piece of machinery. This was declined as they had already had funding for a piece of equipment and this second piece of equipment was purchased before a request for funding was received.  An appeal from the Lancaster Military Heritage Group for donations reflecting the number of war dead in the parish towards a professional website design was considered. Further information required. | **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
| **23-206** | **Grounds Maintenance**  Lancashire County Council to be contacted with regard to reinstating the pavement outside the sub-station on Chapel View. The grass verge has been replaced but not the pavement. Ongoing  There has been no response from Mr Preston regarding non payment of rent and neglect of field maintenance.  J Higginson will follow this up verbally with a visit to Mr Preston.  Licence to be inspected for eviction procedure criteria  Information has been received from Sam Bargh re treatment of Ragwort. See appendix 1.to these minutes  Action deferred pending discussion with Mr Preston. | **Clerk**  **JH**  **Clerk** |
| **23-207** | **Playground Inspection**  The swing has not yet been returned by the city council. To be progressed.  Bolts have been ordered from Wicksteed. £53.90 plus carriage and vat.  Re seeding growth of the ‘mud puddle’ in the play park has been patchy. Jaci Dean to price artificial turf for an area approx. 30ft x 15ft  Installation of goal posts from J Higginson to be undertaken after re surfacing | **Clerk**  **JD**  **JH** |
| **23-208** | **Road Maintenance. Cleaning and Safety**  Report on assets to be deferred due to the absence of  D Hamer. | **Cllrs** |
| **23-209** | **Speed Signs**  Cllrs P Fleming, J Higginson, Clerk C Mashiter, Head Teacher and Chair of Governors from St Helen’s School, Paul Connell - County Council Road Safety Advisor, County Cllr A Gardiner and PCSO Will Pomroy conducted a walk round the village to identifying suitable positions for speed signs. Two areas were selected and Paul Connell will make the necessary planning applications. A further three lighting columns were identified and an application for them to be tested for suitablility has been made to the council.  The cost for 2No Solar powered speed signs will be £4,500+vat. Funding to be sourced. | **Clerk** |
| **23-210** | **Definitive Map Modification Orders – Moss Lane**  Nothing to report on Moss Lane. |  |
| **23-211** | **Planning**  23/00130/DIS Discharge of conditions 3,4,5,6,8 and 9 on appeal reference APP/A2335/W/22/3305040. Land adjacent to Annie’s Barn, Yenham Lane, Overton for Mr Dobson. Repeat listing. **System doesn’t allow for comments.**  23/01023/FUL Construction of dormer extensions to front and rear elevations for Miss R Williams at 14, Pedder Grove. **No Objections** | **Clerk** |
| **23-212** | **Sunderland Point Road – road repairs**  See Appendix 2 of these Minutes |  |
| **23-213** | **Sunderland Point Toilets**  The city council will issue a further lease but no details of financial assistance has been offered. Thy are also open to discussions on their possible disposal of the toilet block.  J. Higginson will assess the extent of repairs needed at present | **JH** |
| **23-214** | **Overton Flag**  Ongoing.  It was suggested that large stones be placed by the flagpole suitably etched with the village name.  David Edmondson to ask the local monumental mason, Tony Holmes, if could undertake this work. On going | **Clerk**  **DE** |
| **23-215** | **Website**  Complaints Procedure, Code of Conduct and a Social Media Policy to be prepared with an issue number and signing sheet to be completed at the next meeting.  Standing Order to be precised ready for the next meeting, | **Clerk** |
| **23-216** | **Finances**  Update to banking procedures ongoing  A SIM only contract has been set up with Vodafone for £11.67 + vat per month. New No. 07437 830438  Payment has been received from Overton Bowling Club for their insurance contribution.  A Notice of Filing Penalty has been received from HMRC. The clerk has replied with a copy of the Successful Receipt of Filing Submission  **Accounts for Payment**  Replacement for out of date cheque  to J Higginson **£31.32**  C M Mashiter  Clerk’s Salary August 2023 285.50  Less PAYE -57.20  **Net Pay** **£228.30**    HMRC PAYE **£ 57.20**  Waterplus S/Pt Toilets **£ 12.39**  **Accounts Expenditure** **£329.21**  Plus D/D’s  E-On Aug Invoice 37.24  VAT 1.86  **TOTAL £39.10**  PWLB Loan repayment **£332.14** | **Clerk** |
| **23-217** | **Correspondence**  SLCC Sample Agenda – Format to be adopted  Local Area Energy Plan – No one available  Local Council Update  Communal Outdoor Wooden Notice Board – No Interest  Clerks and Council Direct Magazine  KAVS Nomination sent off  **There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.06pm**  **The next meeting is to be held on Monday, October 9th at 7pm** | **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
| APPENDIX 1.  On Wednesday, 6 September 2023 at 11:34:30 BST, Sam Bargh wrote  Having spoken to my agronomist, the options aren't great.  The best (but also most labour intensive) option is to dig each plant out with a spade/fork to ensure safe removal of the toxic plant and reduce the risk of regrowth. I personally agree with him however I categorically do not have the time for such a task and have no idea who you could contract such a job out to.  The next option is to spray with a herbicide to kill the plant, however the plant needs to completely disappear into the ground before animals are let back on to graze.  There is an extra option of flail topping the ground a couple of weeks after spraying to help the plant degrade into the soil but will still take time to completely disappear.   I haven't seen the area in question so not sure which option suits the situation in hand. Any thoughts?  Sam. | | |

**Appendix 2.**

I am the chair of the Sunderland Point Community Association and last December we contacted Operations, Highways and Transport, LCC, with a report on the very poor condition of the road from Overton to Sunderland Point. I attach a copy for your information and background.  
  
The causeway is tidal and sea covers the road (mostly) twice a day. This is a daily hazard and vehicles trapped in the tide are a frequent occurance. The road is the only vehicular access to the road and is therefore vital to residents, emergency services and other essential support to the Point.  
  
Our main concerns are, the covering of mud on the road, repairs to infrastructure, improving drainage around the road and a resurfacing of the road. No significant repairs have been performed on the surface since 1980 and it is now worn out.  
  
Matthew Holmes and his team have responded to our requests and we are grateful for their attention.  
  
During the past four months periods of work have taken place with many tons of mud removed and minor repairs mostly carried out. Unfortunately, these have been performed by contractors with varying degrees of success.  
  
There is agreement the surface of the road requires attention. It has been suggested that the cost of a full resurfacing of the road would be prohibitive given the small population at Sunderland Point. However, it may be possible to look at alternative surface treatments which may be effective and cheaper.  
  
We are told this has been raised by the Operations group with the Highway Asset Management group but without any response.  
  
Sunderland Point is a location of important historic interest and natural beauty, and whilst the population is around 60, it is inflated by an estimated 10 - 15,000 visitors each year.  
  
Whilst it is understood there are many other roads in the county requiring repair with limited resources, our road is important.  
  
The help we request –  
A formal estimate of the cost of a full resurfacing and a discussion on whether this is prohibitive or not.  
A proper consideration of alternative road surface treatments which would improve the existing condition of the road.  
  
Best wishes,  
Bill Morris  
Chair of the Sunderland Point Community Association.

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