



Minutes of a meeting of Hilldale Parish Council

Thursday 4th January 2024, 7.00pm

at Hilldale Village Hall

Participants: Cllr G Ward (Chairman), Cllr S Ashcroft (Vice Chairman), Cllr I Bell, Cllr D Whittington, and Trish Grimshaw (Parish Clerk) & 2 members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence** - None
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
 - a. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in relation to items on the agenda
 - b. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests
 - c. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriateNone received
3. **Public Participation:** The meeting was adjourned for a period of public participation.

The ongoing issue in respect of the overflow of the manhole at the bottom of the field has been reported to United Utilities by Bill.

Thanks were extended to the Parish Council on the speedy replacement of the play area following a successful grant submission by the Clerk, this was acknowledged as a great asset to the community of Hilldale.
4. **To consider the request from Hilldale Community Association to hire of the village hall for fully inclusive New Age Kurling and agree a way forward.** A discussion took place regarding this request. Concern was expressed regarding the potential damage to the skirting boards, the effect of the slope in the floor and the length of the hall which may not lend itself to kurling. The heavy stones may be better used on a solid concrete floor rather than a wooden one irrespective of the effect of steel bearings on the floor covering. It was ratified that type of activity in the hall requires further research, it would be helpful to see the equipment to be used to ensure this will have no detrimental impact on the new floor at which time the request will be discussed further.
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – it was resolved to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 06.12.23, proposed by Cllr Ward and seconded by Cllr Ashcroft.
6. **Parish Clerks Report** (previously circulated). The Clerk was thanked for the report, the content of which was noted.
7. **To receive an update on the hall decoration.** The decoration was successfully completed on time today (4/01/24) enabling the hall to be re-opened on Friday following the Christmas/New Year break.
8. **To receive an update on signage for the disabled car parking space.** The Clerk circulated a quotation for a disabled sign and post. It was ratified that a sign only is required.
9. **Items for information – reports from outside bodies.** None received.

10. **To receive an update on the play area.** The Clerk reported the play area was successfully completed at the end of December and suggested an official opening inviting the primary schools prior to the February half term. It was ratified to go ahead and organise a date.
11. **To receive an update on the lamppost locations for the SPID.** It was ratified to identify suitable locations; Cllr Bell offered to forward lamppost numbers to the Clerk for submission to LCC and for the Clerk to forward technical data of the new SpID quotations to Bill and LCC for their comments. Due to the increased cost of the SpID the Clerk will apply for a grant to the Champions fund.
12. **To receive an update on the Tree Consultancy report.** The tree consultant has advised a review will be provided asap.
13. **To receive an update on the Lancashire Environmental Fund tree and bulb project.** Following the successful grant application, the Clerk advised that the deadline for completion of the project is 28/02/24, hence an order will be placed for trees and bulbs asap with a view to a community planting date of 24.02.24, 10.30 until noon.
14. **To receive items for the spring newsletter.** The Clerk reported she is finalising the draft newsletter detailing the successes of the past year and will forward to all for comments and the Chairman for his introduction. The newsletter will be printed and circulated before the end of January.
15. **Planning Matters – to discuss and decide a response (if applicable) to planning applications together with any received after the agenda is published**

Councillor Whittington reported the Enforcement Officer has been off hence no update is currently available regarding Hunters Lodge

Ward: Rural North East Ward Parish: Hilldale Application No: 2023/1125/LBC

Date Valid: 11 December 2023

Proposal: Listed Building Consent - Single storey rear extension. Conversion of garage to living accommodation.

Site Location: Sanderson House Farm, Sanderson Lane, Hilldale, Heskin, Chorley.

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hart Decision Level: Delegated to the Corporate Director of Place and Community for determination unless Member request consideration by Planning Committee

Response Deadline: (for Ward Councillors & Parishes) 19 January 2024

Parish Councillors had no comments to this application.

16. **To agree the subject of this year's capital grant application to WLBC.** It was ratified to submit more than one application. 1. The remodelling of the rails outside the hall, this to include disabled space floor markings and sign. 2. Village Hall chair replacements 3. New crockery for the Village Hall.
17. **To review and finalise the second draft budget proposal for the 2024/2025 financial year.** It was ratified to remove the 'elections' spend on the budget and add a second phase play area project (requiring 100% grant). A future project suggested was for a permanent pathway around the playing field to provide better accessibility.
18. **To confirm the precept for 2024/25 financial year after receiving confirmation of the Council tax base and subsidies from WLBC.** This was ratified as follows:

Support Grant 2024/25 Tax Base 271.66 (up by 0.24 from 271.42)

Precept Required before 2024/25 Grant

£17,560 (5%) increase

Less Council Tax Support Grant £495.00

Precept to be raised from Council Tax £17,065

Precept to be raised from Council Tax £17,065 with a tax base of 271.66 gives a Band D equivalent Tax level of £62.81 an increase of £3.02

19. **To consider and approve the schedule of accounts for payment** - approved.

20. **Financial reports – to ratify accounts and authorise payments.** - approved

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.01

Clerk: Trish Grimshaw

E mail: Clerk@hilldaleparishcouncil.gov.uk

SignedG Ward.....

G WARD, CHAIRMAN, Dated 07.03.24.....