

HILLDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2019 at 7.00 pm

- 1) Apologies for Absence.** Apologies had been received from Cllr. May Blake and Cllr Ashcroft.
- 2) Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.** There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations
- 3) Minutes of the previous meeting.** Having been circulated, the minutes of the Council Meeting held 7th. Nov 2019. were approved as a correct record.
- 4) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.** Cllr Whittington advised that the issue of drainage on Grimshaw Green Lane / Robin Lane had been referred to LCC officers.
- 5) Public Time.** a) On behalf of a resident unable to attend the meeting Mr Halkett raised the ongoing issue of standing water on Chorley Road outside the Mission. b) Mr Halkett advised that HCA had funding available if the council wished to replaced the defective dishwasher in the Village Hall kitchen. c) HCA Mr Halket noted that play equipment was on the agenda for the meeting and advised that HCA still has funding available to help meet replacement / repair costs. d) On behalf of a resident unable to attend the meeting Mr Halkett asked that the council give consideration to providing rugby posts on the field. e) Mr Halkett asked if police reports of recent crimes in the village were available and if so could they be circulated to help residents guard against becoming victims of similar crimes.
- 6) Update from the HGV group.** Cllr Whittington presented s report from the group. The group will shortly be launching a website. The group have been asked by the “Stop” campaign group on Parbold Hill to quantify the volume of HGV traffic on the B5246. Cameras are being set up to allow monitoring of HGV traffic along road. The next meeting of the Group will be attended by CClr. Keith Iddon, portfolio holder for Highways. The new Penwortham bypass offers a safer, more direct route for HGV’s travelling north on the M6 and M65. It is hoped this will lead to a reduction in traffic using the B5246 to access the M6 northbound at junction 27.
- 7) Update on switching the PC’s bank account.** The Co op bank account recommended by RBS as suitable for Switch is not available to Parish Councils. The acting Clerk has raised the issue with Co Op Bank community support. The Clerk will check co- op bank Charges.
- 8) To discuss the condition of the Village hall roof.** A preliminary discussion was held regarding repair or replacement of the roof after contractors highlighted leaks and possible damage to the fabric of the building by water ingress. It was suggested that increasing storage space would be desirable if the roof did require replacement. A preliminary report is available, and work has been carried out to mitigate the damage. The effectiveness of this work will need to be monitored.
- 9) To consider and recommend replacement of play equipment, taking into account the latest Play Equipment Inspection and the capital cost involved, or to appoint a contractor to carry out repairs to the existing equipment.** Based on preliminary costings available it was decided to defer repair work and give consideration to replacing equipment in the next financial year. Regular inspection of the existing equipment will be essential to monitor possible worsening of current low level risks.
- 10) Clerks report.** The clerk gave a brief report on current work in progress,
- 11) To review and agree a budget for the 2020/ 2021 financial year.** After discussion it was agreed to include project work subject to grant funding in the budget for the 2020 / 2021 financial year. The budget was agreed.

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12) To set a precept for the 2020 / 2021 financial year. After discussion it was agreed to set the precept at £15300 less any council tax support grant forthcoming from WLBC

13) Update on the Accessibility Review of the PC website. The review and testing had been completed by Techknowhow on behalf of the Council. Remedial work had been carried out on issues identified at an additional cost of £45.

14) To agree dates and process for interview of candidates for the role of Clerk to the Council. It was agreed to interview candidates between the 10th.and 18th of January inclusive. The final format of questions will be confirmed at the meeting on 9th. January

15)Planning Matters. 2019/0834/FUL – it was noted that permission for variation of conditions had been granted.

16) To discuss accounting and financial control, and consider viewing an on line presentation of a Parish Council accounting package. The Clerk gave an overview of an accounting package available from Scribe. Details of the package were distributed.

17) Schedule of Payments. A schedule of payments was presented and approved.

18) Financial reports. Financial reports were inspected and approved.

19) To agree the dates and times of forthcoming meetings of the Council. A schedule of meetings through to March 2021 was agreed. The schedule will be posted on notice boards, and the PC website. HCA have kindly offered to publish the meeting dates on their website, and in their newsletter.

20) Date and time of next meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council will be on 9th January 2020 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Signed

G Ward, Chairman **Date**