

Minutes of the Meeting of Hilldale Parish Council

Thursday 5th November 2020; 7.00pm by electronic communication under the provisions of Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

Participants: Cllr G Ward (Chairman) (GW) Cllrs Whittington (DW), Stuart Ashcroft (SA), Ian Bell (IB), Trish Grimshaw (Parish Clerk) (PG)

1. Apologies: None

Welcome: The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None declared.

3. Public Participation

Bill Hackett reported a van parking on the pavement and ongoing speeding concerns in Hilldale; whilst these were acknowledged it was agreed these are matters for the police and the highways department. Bill also suggested implementing a roundabout/give way on Malt Kiln Lane from Ecclestone to Hilldale, this was noted as being previously discussed, no further action is required.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 3 September: These were agreed as a correct record; proposed by Cllr S Ashcroft and seconded by Cllr D Whittington and will be duly signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the Previous Minutes: Item 14 from 03.09.20 meeting – the Clerk gave an update re the bank account. Since speaking to the Clerk at Parbold it appears that Parbold Parish Council are moving to the Coop Bank which is still offering a offering time limited funding to switch (£1,500). It was agreed that the Clerk should apply for this account.

6. Parish Clerks Report: The Clerk provided a verbal summary of the work which has been undertaken since the last meeting (report previously circulated).

7. Update on Covid 19

Village Hall

The Clerk was delighted to report that today she has received confirmation of financial support from West Lancs of £900 in respect of the Covid 19 pandemic. The Parish Councilors were pleased to accept the offer.

The purchase of a Ultra Violet room sterilisation unit was discussed. It was agreed to purchase a unit and a thermometer to use on re-opening the hall. Due to the current government lockdown restrictions the re-opening of the hall will be discussed at the December meeting.

8. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Playsound to replace the Springer for the junior play area. The Clerk explained that the quotation was discounted based on purchasing both springer and climbing frame and associated flooring which is currently not possible due to budget constraints. The Clerk was requested to contact Playsound to enquire if we agreed to the quotation installing the springer in the first

instance but delaying the installation and payment of the climbing frame and flooring until next financial year.

The Clerk to contact the Community Association to enquire if any financial assistance is available regarding the purchase of the springer.

9. The Clerk has obtained quotations from Playdale and Playsound for a replacement of the 8 to 16-year-old play equipment – previously distributed. It was agreed in principle to add this to next year's budget with funding being obtained from either a grant or loan.

10. To consider and approve the schedule of accounts for payment – approved

11. Financial reports – to ratify accounts and authorise payments – approved

12. Update on external audit completion - The Clerk reported that the external auditor has raised an enquiry regarding our fixed assets which have not increased in line with purchasing the new toilets and path upgrade. A response has been forwarded explaining that a large element of these projects was due to labour costs.

13. Discuss and agree action in relation to planting and path building on the field. The Parish Councillors agreed it would be appropriate to write the relevant residents to advise that the field is in trust and as such ownership is with the Parish Council who are responsible for the planting and pruning; and that the building of paths is prohibited.

14. Discuss and agree action in relation to an overgrown stile on footpath 31 between Grimshaw Green Lane and Chorley Road. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should report the overgrown stile to the County Council. GW agreed to telephone the landowner.

15. Discuss and decide on supporting a proposed litter pick by residents. It was agreed that in principle the Parish Council will support the proposed litter pick by residents.

16. Discussion to consider. "Support to include providing PPE, picking sticks, biodegradable litter sacks. recycling of collected rubbish, risk assessment and provision of insurance cover under the Council's policy Covid Compliance

The provision of assistance with a risk assessment, litter pickers, high viz jackets, gloves, bags and investigation into insurance implications was agreed in principle.

17. Preliminary discussion on affiliating the Council to the " Keep Britain Tidy" campaign to generate increased awareness of litter.

Following discussions agreement was reached to pursue the planned April 2021 litter pick.

18. To receive an update on the cleaner vacancy and agree the recruitment process.

The Clerk reported that she has advertised the role in Parbold, Hilldale and Mawdesley, to date no applications have been received, however as the hall is currently closed Parish Councillors agreed to review this again in December.

19. To review a draft budget proposal for the 2021/ 2022 financial year and agree priorities.

The draft budget (previously circulated) was discussed. An update to incorporate provision of grant funding will be included and re-circulated prior to the next Parish Council Meeting.

Priorities included:

- The Village Hall roof - it was agreed to contact West Lancs Council for advice, specifically to source a structural survey to establish the condition of the roof.
- Installation of the second phase of the junior play area i.e. climbing frame
- Replacement of the large 8-13 play area – offset against grants

20. To discuss LCC decision on Parbold Hill Landfill and agree and decide on any particular course of action.

No further action is currently required.

DW thanked individual councillors for their individual letters of support.

21. Date and time of next meeting.

Thursday 3rd December 2020

Clerk: Trish Grimshaw

E mail: Clerk@hilldaleparishcouncil.com

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.25

Signed

G WARD, CHAIRMAN

Dated