



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
14th March 2018 at 7.30pm at the
Methodist Church, School Room, Moss House Lane**

Present; Cllrs E Houghton, A Taylor, M Gelder, R Gelder, N Woodcock

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Brown and Fenton

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllr Taylor and Cllr Houghton declared an interest in Item 9 regarding the Village Hall

Cllr M gelder declared an interest in relation to item 12

3. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to sign the Minutes of the meeting of 14th February 2018 as an accurate record.

4. Resignation of Councillor Cowburn

It was resolved that Councillors Cowburn's resignation be accepted and that a note be placed in the minutes thanking her for her contribution. It was noted that a casual vacancy now existed and it was **Resolved** that the process for filling the vacancy be initiated as follows:

Notices advertising the vacancy to be posted on 15th March 2018. If within 14 clear days, 10 or more community members notify the returning officer requesting an election be held (effective closing date 6th April 2018) then an election must be held. In the absence of any such requirement being notified to the returning officer, then the Council may co-opt a new councillor.

5. Adjournment for Public Participation

There were no members of the public present

6. Off Road Cycle Track

It was noted that there is some evidence of minor mole activity that will be monitored. There was also some litter that had been cleared during the routine inspection. The above issues relate to the grassed areas only and overall the cycle track remains in a good state of repair

7. Finance

It was resolved to authorise the following payments;

Clerk's salary £200 net of tax payment)	Cheque	No 552
Clerk's expenses of £6.75	Incl in Cheque	552
HMRC tax payment re deductions from Clerks salary £50	Cheque	No 553
Methodist Church heating invoice £40	Cheque	No 551

8. Community Led Projects

It was resolved that the clerks email address would be provided for community members to make suggestions regarding the spending issue a consultation document with the newsletter to ask for residents' ideas for projects.

It was resolved to place a 'drop box' at the village shop to collect paper suggestions.

The clerk would continue to investigate the possibility of placing a link on the website which would open a 'survey monkey' facility to canvass views on spending proposals, if one could be set up in sufficient time to coincide with circulation of the newsletter.

9. Much Hoole Village Hall

A copy of the business plan has been received and circulated to members and Cllr R Gelder made a number of observations and suggestions in regard to its content. A written update about the next stage was received and noted.

10. Trafalgar Gardens

Due to inclement weather, no maintenance work has been possible on the Trafalgar Gardens

11. Newsletter

The draft is with the printers and will be ready to be delivered before the end of March. It **was resolved** that an additional sheet will be included with the newsletter. This will be printed by LALC and will provide detail in regard to the ways in which residents can express their views on how the community project funds should be spent. It will also advertise the vacancy. When the newsletter and insert sheet is completed it will be distributed by volunteers.

12. Planning Applications

It was resolved to note both applications.

13. Building work on Liverpool Old Road

An update was provided in relation to the building of a wall which appeared to encroach onto the public highway. The ownership of land and boundary issues are being investigated.

14. Grass Cutting and Planting

It was resolved to defer discussion until a later date. Some comments were made to the effect that the use of winter pansies had not been completely satisfactory and this may be a consideration

15. Local Meetings

The Western Parishes Neighbourhood Forum meeting had been provided with an update on the Village Hall project and details of the 'In Bloom' had been announced

16. Items for Next Agenda

St George's Day arrangements

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on 14th March 2018 and will commence with the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.15pm

