

Forton Parish Council
Minutes of the Forton Parish Council Meeting held
Via Zoom on Monday 1 March 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Huddart, Young, Taylor, McLoughlin, Farebrother, Dodgson,
Leech and Cllr Slater A Nicholls - Clerk to the Parish Council 2 residents

1226. APOLOGIES

None received.

1227. NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors were asked to disclose any pecuniary and nonpecuniary interests on matters to be considered at this meeting. None were raised.

1227. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: The update of the Parish Council meeting, held on 1 February 2021, was agreed with a minor amendment

1228. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned.

County Councillor Mathew Slater said there was a 1.99% general Council Tax increase with 2% ringfenced for adult Social Care. In these uncertain times there are major financial pressures.

The good news is sustainability for the future has been budgeted for and the budget is not in deficit.

An extra 10 million pounds had been added to the Highways budget and 5 million to flood defences.

Councillor Leach would be approached to assist with the litter issue and can help with litter pickers and bags.

Residents raised concerns about the additional pressure on the roads and traffic from the proposed Ellel holiday village App:20/01453/OUT. The development will be close to the proposed abattoir and auction Mart the additional visitors will exasperate situation.

1229. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillors to commented on the following application: -

Planning Application 20/01453/OUT

Development of 450 lodges, hotel, marketplace, artisan workers' pods with ancillary service and storage, vehicular access off A6 and across Lancaster Canal

It is a major intrusion in the countryside, and it does not seem to be on land designated for development in the Lancaster District Local Plan. It is contrary to the principles of Policy SP3 and it is not included in their Policy HP2 which lists the sites which are to be developed in rural areas.

New tourist development with new build accommodation needs to be supported by a business plan demonstrating long term viability. This has not been provided; if the business fails then there could be an application to convert into a large housing estate contrary to the Local Plan.

This development would significantly increase traffic density on the A6 since traffic will not only come from the north or the M6; some will be on the A6 going north. In 2017 Lancashire Highways published a study of the implications of new housing set out in the Wyre Local Plan on main roads. The recommendation included setting a maximum of 530 new house in Forton and Hollins Lane

before this part of the A6 was up to capacity. Planning permissions for most of this limit have been granted and so the Ellel plans would breach [t. Wyre planners have agreed to improvements to the Forton exit to the A6 to prevent excessive queuing so additional traffic on the A6 would bring back this problem at the junction.

Resolved: Objection letter agreed, Clerk to write a letter as detailed above.

1330. Cricket Club Correspondence

The correspondence updated the Parish Council on the Cricket Clubs current S106 bid.

1331. Parish Reports/Issues from Councillors

Parish Maintenance/State of Pond

The pond which is owned by a private landowner which used to be leased by the Parish Council is currently flooded and the safety equipment provided by Parish Council funds is in a poor state of repair in addition the council seats remain on the land.

It was resolved that the Chairman and Cllr Young would write to the landowners.

New Clerk

It was the Clerks first day in post. It was agreed to archive the large amount of paperwork and investigate purchasing a smaller more economic printer.

Hollins Lane Update – Flooding/SID Sign

Residents of Hollins Lane have been consulted about the position of the SID signs and no objections have been raised.

Flooding has occurred on Hollins Lane due to blocked drains. This can be reported on the Lancashire County Council website www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it with exact details of the location.

Established hedge rows have been removed in the new development that was not approved on the planning application. The issue has been partially acknowledged but the replacement saplings will take years to establish.

It was agreed a letter of concern would be written to Wyre Borough Council.

Lune Valley Rural Housing Association/Lancashire Association of Local Councils

Nothing to report.

Website/GDPR

It was agreed to retain the additional domain name in case it was required in the future.

Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee/Trust

Nothing to report.

1332. Ratcliffe Wharf Lane/Whinney Brow

Many residents of Whinney Brow have raised concerns about the traffic situation as it is one of two exits from Hollins Lane to the A6. Some of the residents would like to see Whinney Brow made into a cul de sac. This had been discussed at length at the last meeting.

Cllr Slater was asked to raise the issue with Lancashire County Council Highways.

It was resolved the Parish Council would ask the Planning Department to fully consider health and safety of road users in all planning responses.

1333. Handyman/Litter

Chairman Cllr Huddart will liaise with the Handyman about current litter concerns.

1334. FINANCE

The following payments have been made:

1. Clerk wages – January	£ 248.24 by Standing Order 1.2.21
2. RBL Poppy Appeal	£ 30.00
3. Clerk Expenses – January	£ 18.00
4. Village Hall Electricity Contribution	£ 100.00
5. Zoom Subscription	£ 143.88
6. Chris - Handyman Inv 43	£ 61.00 stiles/footpaths/willow at pond
7. Chris - Handyman Inv 45	£ 195.00 clean/restore church pew at VH.
8. Clerk Wages – February	£ 248.24 by Standing Order 1.3.21
9. Cllr Huddart Expenses - Toner	£ 10.99
10. Colin Cross VV Feb/Mar	£ 341.00

The following invoices require payment:

1. Clerk expenses – February	£ 18.00
2. LALC Subscription	£ 287.97

The Bank Reconciliation January

	Current Account	£ 9,056.62
Supported by Cashbook	Receipts	£26,504.26
	Payments	£17,447.64
	Total	£ 9,056.62
Reserve Savings Account	£40,414.75	

Resolved: The above transactions were agreed.

Bank Mandate

The mandate required updating with the retiring Clerk Lindsey Hall to be removed from the mandate and the new Clerk Angela Nicholls to be added.

Resolved: the existing signatories would make the changes to the mandate.

1335. AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Any items that will need a resolution will be deferred to the next meeting and placed on the Agenda to allow information on the subject to be gathered. Councillors can report defective street lighting; blocked drains etc. to the Clerk at any time and these will be taken up with the appropriate authorities. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Chairman:

Date:

The date of the next Meeting is Monday, 5 April 2021