



*Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith
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Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at the Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane, Lathom, WN8 8TY at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 14th December 2022.

**Councillors in attendance: Cllr Carol Blackledge,
Cllr Roger Clayton (Chairman),
Cllr Andrew Chanter,
Cllr Ernie Pallas**

Apologies received: Cllr Andrew Beeston

Councillors absent: Cllr Ian Moran

In attendance: One member of the public attended the meeting

MINUTES

1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Andrew Beeston.

2 To receive declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th November were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4 Public Participation

The meeting will consider any matters raised by members of the public by email to the Clerk

No matters were raised by the public.

5 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

Santander	161122	Bank charges	b.t	£.0.05
Hugo Fox	181122	Website hosting	b.t	£23.99
J Smith	291122	Clerk's gross salary Sept (incl backpay from Apr 22, as per national pay agreement)	s.o	£860.41
Design 4 Print	041222	Newsletters	b.t	£215.00
Cricket Club	141222	Room Hire	b.t	£45.00

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

6 To ratify CIL Report for Financial Year 2021/22 to return to WLBC

The CIL report for the financial year 2021/22 was approved. It was noted that CIL funds needed to be spent within 5yrs of receipt by the Parish Council or unspent monies would be claimed back by WLBC.

7 Update on Swells Wood, wood management work

Cllr Andrew Chanter had met with Andrew Greenough to discuss creating an easier entry into Swells Wood from Plough Lane to enable the use of a woodchipper on site. It was estimated that a digger would be needed for two days to grade off enough earth to enable a track vehicle to enter into the old railway area. Some hardcore may be needed for levelling purposes and a couple of trees would need to be cut back. Cllr Chanter advised he would contact a local contractor for an estimation of cost.

The meeting discussed how best to access and remove a pile of rubbish which has been dumped in Swells Wood on a bank above the stream. It was established that access to remove the rubbish would need to be via the adjoining land. Cllrs Clayton and Chanter will make arrangement to visit the land owner to discuss possible options.

It was noted that rubbish left on adjoining land owned by Jacton Properties was attracting rats.

8 To discuss any current planning issues

There were no current planning applications to consider.

9 Update on issues raised regarding building works off Firwood Road by Wainhomes

The Clerk had contacted WLBC regarding the mud on Firwood Road caused by construction traffic from Latune Gardens. A WLBC Planning Enforcement Officer had visited the site and concluded the deployment a mechanical road sweeper twice a day, on three days a week was insufficient to meet the requirements of condition 8 of the planning permission and therefore there was a breach of planning control at that time.

The LPA had subsequently asked the developer to increase the mechanical road sweeper capability at the site to keep the highway clear of mud. The developer has increased the provision to twice a day on Monday to Friday and once on a Saturday if required. The sweeper will operate for two hours am and two hours pm.

It was noted that in the Spring of this year, Wainhomes had applied for a variation to conditions to allow a road sweeper, instead of an on-site wheel wash facility. The application for variation to the condition had gone unnoticed which raised the question, 'are variation to condition applications included on the weekly planning lists circulated by WLBC?'

The application to no longer include affordable housing on the site had been rejected but is open to appeal.

10 Initial consideration of budget for Financial Year 2023/24, including any capital purchases and Community Infrastructure spending but excluding exceptional items.

An initial draft budget had been circulated prior to the meeting for information purposes. Confirmation of the Concurrent Grant and Council Tax Support Grant figures for 2023/24 had not yet been received. Councillors were asked to consider if some reserves should be accessed when deciding on the final budget setting and precept request.

The Clerk requested permission to use reserves to book some training for new Councillors (£60) and a pre-election training course (£60) for the Clerk, in addition to the FILCA training previously approved. The meeting approved the additional courses.

11 Initial consideration of application for Capital Funding 2023/24

The meeting agreed that there were currently no plans for any projects which would warrant applying for Capital Funding. No application would be made for 2023/24 funding.

12 To discuss the Public Realm Agreement

The Public Realm Agreement had been circulated by LCC for consideration and comment. The meeting had no comments to feedback.

13 Report from South Lathom Residents' Association (SLRA) for information only

The issue with the cycle route/footpath to XL Business Park has now been acknowledged and SLRA are waiting to see if an officer from WLBC is going to visit the site to establish how the cycle path can be linked to a road from its junction with FP 8-2-101.

14 Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.45pm.

**Cllr Roger Clayton
Chairman**

11th January 2023