**Longton Parish Council**

#

MINUTES of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on

Tuesday the 1st April 2025 at **New Longton Village Hall** which commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Gooch, Alsop, Fox, Welch, Turner, Garside, Riley, Porter, Mather and Molder

There were six members of the public present.

 22/25 To receive apologies

 ***Cllrs Sumner and Barnes***

 23/25 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 25th February 2025

***It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th February 2025 should be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record***

 24/25 To receive Declarations of Interest

***Cllr Riley declared a personal and prejudicial interest planning application 07/2025/00153/PIP since she knew the applicant well. She left the room and did not take part in the debate or voting on this matter.***

***Cllr Porter declared a personal and prejudicial interest relating to the Grant request from Longton Carnival Committee since he had proffered advise to them in putting forward their application. He left the room and did not take part in the debate or voting on this matter***

 25/25 To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation

*The meeting was adjourned*

*Representatives of Longton Carnival Committee made a presentation concerning their planned forthcoming Xmas Event in 2025 and Carnival in 2026 in support of their Grant Application which was to be discussed later at this meeting. They responded to a number of questions advising that all lighting would be LED and accepted the view that to use the word ‘Parish’ in their title was somewhat confusing. They confirmed that various applications for street lighting and road closures had been submitted to the relevant authorities but were yet to be agreed.*

*It was mentioned that then Spid located on Wham Lane was now working and the Chairman, in his role as a LCC Councillor confirmed that he would let LCC know that the signage on the A582 directing traffic away from NL village was obscured by overgrowth. It was stated that HGV traffic through the village now seemed to be much reduced.*

*It was mentioned that the Central Lancashire Local Plan Consultation was ineffective in getting public opinion due to the responses having to meet quite restrictive criteria. It was also mentioned that there might be a planning application for further development on Chain House Lane.*

*The meeting was reconvened*

 26/25 To consider the following planning applications:

 07/2025/00153/PIP – Stage 1 Permission in Principle for erection up to one dwelling and associate infrastructure @ 79 Royalty Lane New Longton PR4 4JE

***It was resolved that no representation should be made***

 27/25 To approve the following payments:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 04/02/2025 | NEWGATE NURSERIES XMAS TREES |  | 55 | 408.00 |
| 04/02/2025 | P HESIE LENGTHSMAN |  | 56 | 1113.60 |
| 28/02/2025 | BANK CHARGES |  | 57 | 6.00 |

***It was resolved that the payments referred to above should be approved***

 28/25 To consider whether this Council wishes to make any comment in response to the Central Lancashire Local Plan Consultation (details of which have already been circulated to members)

*The Plan shows that there is only one Key Development Area allocated to Longton Parish Council comprising 270 dwellings behind Chapel Lane Longton (HS3.3)a significant part of which is already allocated in the existing Local Plan. The additional area was considered by this Council during the Preferred Site Allocations Consultation in 2023 and no objections were made to its inclusion. There are three other smaller sites comprising 23 dwellings in total. See page 58 and 226/227 of the Consultation - Local Plan.*

**It was resolved that no representation should be made.**

 29/25 To approve the enclosed Financial Statement as at 31st December 2024

***It was resolved that since the Financial Statement as at 31st December 2024 had not been circulated in advance it was not possible to comment and that since the end of year figures would be produced in the next few weeks this item would be superseded by the figure as at 31st March 2025.***

 30/25 To approve that the 2025/6 fees for the use of the New Longton football pitch should be set at the same figure as those applied to LVMRG football pitch being proposed at £446.00, which is a rise of 3.4% in line with the Retail Price Index published 25/3/2025

***It was resolved that the 2025/6 fees should be set as outlined above.***

 31/25 To consider ‘In Principle’ the enclosed Grant Request from the Longton Carnival Committee for £5K for the purchase of Christmas Steet Column Lights to be used during the proposed Longton Christmas Event for 2025 and potentially in future years.

*This is an ‘In Principle’ consideration which if agreed would require formal quotations to be obtained in the name of the Parish Council, detailed specifications of the equipment to be purchased to be provided with photographs for members to see and approve plus final invoicing to the Parish Council who will then reclaim Vat and gift the equipment to the Carnival Committee who would then take full ownership and responsibility.*

***A recorded vote was requested.***

***Those in favour Cllrs Gooch, Alsop, Welch, Turner, Garside, Riley, Mather and Molder***

***Those against Cllr Fox.***

***It was resolved therefore that ‘In Principle’ this Council would allocate £5K for the purchase of appropriate lighting, subject to the conditions outlined above and final confirmation that the event would take place as outlined on the 30th November 2025 (no purchase to be made until this latter confirmation and all permissions had been received)***

 32/25 To note that the next meeting is scheduled for the 13th May 2025

***It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for the 13th May 2025***