

ULNES WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 8 March 2010 at the Old School, Ulnes Walton Lane, Ulnes Walton @ 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr D Todd (Chairman), Cllr E Doran, Cllr B Pickthall, Cllr D Ormerod, Cllr D Williams
In Attendance: A Partington (Clerk), County Councillor Mike Otter, Parish Council Champion, County Councillor Keith Iddon and John Dalton.

031/10 Apologies

Cllr G Bird offered apologies for absence.

Cllr Williams arrived at this point in the meeting.

032/10 Declaration of Interest

No declarations made.

033/10 Minutes of Last Council Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting of 8 February 2010 were accepted as being an accurate record of the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Council **RESOLVED** to adjourn the Parish Council Meeting to allow public participation.

034/10 Residents Surgery

No matters were raised.

035/10 Updates from County and/or Borough Councillors

County Councillor Mike Iddon was welcomed to the meeting. He advised the Parish Council that following a decision taken at County, the Lancashire Locals are to be disbanded and the last Lancashire Local Chorley will be held on 24 March 2010. It was pleasing to note that the Community Group has been awarded a Local Grant of £400 towards the Annual Gala Day. CC Iddon advised that the Lancashire Locals are to be replaced by what is called The Public Realm Strategy which has been developed to provide an integrated approach to working and give parish councils an increased role in the development of their localities. CC Iddon suggested inviting Jo Turton who is Head of the Environment Directorate at LCC to come and give a presentation to the six parish councils CC Iddon covers on this new strategy. CC Iddon will liaise with the Clerk to make arrangements.

An update was provided on the gritting issues that had arisen throughout Lancashire, during the months of December, January and February when the county was hit with bad snow and ice conditions. The teams worked tirelessly to keep Lancashire's roads open and safe for highway use. As a result of the bad weather, the roads are now in an extremely bad state of repair and outside contractors have been appointed to carry out a full survey of all Lancashire roads. The necessary repairs will be undertaken progressively and will be prioritised in order to mitigate further safety hazards and further damage/compensation claims. The Clerk was asked to email Lancashire Highways with any particular bad roads in Ulnes Walton.

As a result of this, Cllr Otter updated the Parish Council on an initiative LCC is currently investigating to look into other ways of dealing with bad weather conditions in future years. A suggestion that local farmers could be utilised and paid a supplement to keep a designated route on the road network open during bad weather conditions is being considered. The position would obviously need further scrutiny and health & safety/insurance aspects carefully managed.

Cllr Williams provided County Councillors with a brief update on the planned Youth Engagement Day. It was suggested that George Askew who is the Parish Council Champion for Young People could assist with the event. The Clerk is to follow up accordingly. Cllr Otter advised that the Youth Council at Chorley have a pot of funding and agreed to email the Clerk with details.

036/10 Police Update

No police update was provided.

037/10 County Councillor Mike Otter, Parish Champion, Lancashire County Council

County Councillor Mike Otter was welcomed to the meeting. The purpose of his attendance was to present the Parish Council with a grant funding cheque in the sum of £430.00 towards the purchase of a notice board. CC Otter is the Parish Champion at Lancashire County Council and is working to improve relationships with the Parish Councils and services for local people. Cllr Otter is also a Parish Councillor in Farrington and has a real insight into how parish councils work and is appreciative of what is being done at a local level. The Parish Charter developed by LCC aims to develop close working with parishes and CC Otter looks forward to working with Ulmes Walton in the future. CC Otter was thanked for his attendance at the parish council meeting.

Cllr Ormerod provided a brief update on the 'Re-greening Ulmes Walton' project. Cllr Otter advised that there are many pots of funding which can provide the means to undertake re-greening/tree planting schemes eg. Global Renewables who manage the waste development plant at Leyland will be providing funding to undertake tree planting in the Borough. Cllr Otter offered to arrange a visit to the plant for the parish councillors to see how the plant operates. The plant is looking to employ between 200 and 250 people and are currently going through the recruitment process.

038/10 Progress on Youth Engagement Project

John Dalton (Chairman of the Working Party) provided an update to the Parish Council on the progression of the Youth Engagement Project. The last working party was held on 3 March 2010. The meeting was well attended by all members of the group and partner organisations together with a group of young people from Wymott who have now agreed to pick up the marketing plan for the event. It was agreed the Parish Council laptop could be offered to the young people to assist with the marketing plan and that a letter of support to Wymott Social Club be drafted to ask if a small room can be made available for them each Monday evening between now and June to give them a place to meet. Roles and responsibilities have been created and all funding has been applied for. The next Working Party Meeting is scheduled for 7 April 2010.

The Council agreed to re-convene the Parish Council Meeting to continue with Parish Council business.

039/10 Planning

039.01/10 – Members noted the following decisions: -

Application #	Decision	Location	Development
None notified.			

039.02/10 – New Applications

Application #	Location	Proposed Development
10/00089/FUL	367 Southport Road, Ulmes Walton	New vehicular access from Southport Road for use of tractor access to haylage.

Members reviewed the above application and **RESOLVED** to oppose the application based on insufficient evidence being available to substantiate and support the need for a new vehicular access. The clerk advised that since the issue of the agenda, two new applications had been received, details of which will be circulated and an extension to the consultation deadline requested if required.

040/10 Finance

040.1/10 Payments

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following payments.

Value	Payable To	Description
£160.14	A Partington	Salary for February 2010
£40.20	Inland Revenue	Tax for February 2010
£36.00	A Partington	SLCC Membership for 2010 (50% of cost)

040.2/10 Monitoring Statement

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the monitoring statement for the period to 8 March 2010 and the Chairman signed the copy on behalf of the Parish Council.

041/10 Correspondence (for information purposes)

A list of correspondence received from 09.02.10 to 08.03.10 was tabled to the meeting, in particular the Clerk drew attention to a revised questionnaire which had been received from Chorley Council in relation to the Rural Housing Needs Survey. The next meeting concerning this initiative is scheduled for 30 March 2010 and Cllr Ormerod is scheduled to attend. Members were asked to review the new draft questionnaire and provide any comments to Cllr Ormerod in time for the meeting.

042/10 Youth Engagement Day

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would contribute £202.00 to the Youth Engagement Day scheduled for 19 June 2010.

043/10 NHS Car parking

Members acknowledged and ratified the responses that had been forwarded to the NHS in relation to the consultation on NHS car parking. The Clerk briefly went over the responses which are summarised below: -

The design of the questionnaire was found unhelpful in constructing a response representing the needs of the Parish. A questionnaire which focused on identifying the principles involved in establishing equitable car parking charges and procedures on NHS premises would have been preferable. Representing the point of view of residents in a rural area, the following principles should be observed: -

- Any charged scheme for car parking should be non profit making.
- Penalties for unacceptable use of NHS car parking facilities (commuting, shopping, etc) should be effectively enforced and sufficient to act as a real deterrent.
- Concessionary rates should be available to visitors able to demonstrate financial hardship.
- Priority parking arrangements at cost should be made available to all patients attending timed appointments for out patient or day treatment.
- Attention should be given to co-ordinating the operation of Patient Transport Services, volunteer drivers and local public transportation service timetables in relation to the timing of out patient clinics and visitor hours.

044/10 2010/11 Budget

Members acknowledged and ratified the responses that had been forward to Chorley Council in relation to their consultation on the 2010/11 budget. The Clerk briefly went over the responses. In particular, Members felt the timeframe for responses was too tight and in addition would have liked to hand deliver copies to all residents in Ulnes Walton to encourage completion and get a fuller representation of the views of residents in the Parish. The Clerk had requested that when the results are analysed, it would be interesting to receive a breakdown of how many residents in Ulnes Walton actually participated in the consultation.

045/10 Annual Risk Assessment

Members received and considered the Parish Council's Annual Risk Assessment (previously circulated). The document and recommendations were reviewed. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the document.

046/10 Appointment of Internal Auditor

Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Mr J Lawson as the Internal Auditor for the financial year ended 31 March 2010 and further **RESOLVED** the audit fee in the sum of £50.00.

047/10 Terms of Reference for Internal Auditor

Members considered and reviewed a document outlining the Terms of Reference for the Internal Auditor for the financial year ended 31 March 2010 and **RESOLVED** to adopt the document.

048/10 Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit

Members carried out a review of effectiveness of the internal audit. It was noted this review is an integral part of continually improving governance and accountability and forms part of the annual governance statement which is Part 2 of the Annual Return. The review covered independence, competence, relationships with clerk and councillors, audit planning, audit scope and audit reporting. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the evidence of achievement from the review which was duly documented.

049/10 2010/11 Meetings

It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting dates for 2010/11 would be 12 April 2010, 10 May 2010, 12 May 2010 (Annual Parish Assembly), 14 June 2010, 12 July 2010, *August - No Meeting*, 13 September 2010, 11 October 2010, 8 November 2010, 13 December 2010, *January – No Meeting*, 14 February 2011, 14 March 2011, 11 April 2011 and 9 May 2011.

050/10 NALC

Members considered renewing membership to the National Association of Local Councils and briefly

discussed the merits/benefits of membership. It was **RESOLVED** to renew for the year 2010/11 and approve the annual fee of £132.88 which was a reduction of £8.73 compared to the previous year.

051/10 Annual Parish Assembly

Members discussed ideas for the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting. It was agreed in principle to change the location of this year's meeting to the Wymott Social Club, subject to availability. It was agreed the meeting would be held on Wednesday 12 May 2010. It was agreed that Gemma Hyland from YPS, LCC would be invited to the Assembly to provide a presentation on the work she and her team have been doing with the young people in Wymott.

052/10 Newsletter

Members discussed the content of the forthcoming newsletter and agreed the timetable for production. It was **RESOLVED** that the cost of printing of £20.00 be approved.

053/10 Website Proof

The Clerk provided proofs for the new look website. Members **RESOLVED** to accept the proofs and the Clerk was asked to liaise with Copper Creative to ensure that the website would go live in due course. It was suggested that a number counter be visible and the archive section remain. It was noted that Cllr Williams would liaise with Cooper Creative to discuss some technical aspects of the site.

054/10 Date of Next Meeting (for information)

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday 12 April 2010, commencing at 7.30 pm. It was noted that the Clerk will be on holiday and therefore it was agreed that a deputy clerk would be sourced, if possible, for the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at approximately 9.30 pm.

Signed:

Dated: