

**Minutes of a Meeting of Haigh Parish Council  
Held Monday 3 December 2018  
6:30pm St David's Parish Rooms**

**Present:** Councillors R Lawson (Chairman), G France, R Darbyshire, R Howarth, C Hatherall, A Thomson, G Fairhurst and the Clerk, Mrs K Pilkington.  
Mr K Bergman of Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles was present for Items 314 to 316.  
No members of the public were present.

**314 Apologies for Absence**

None.

**315 Declaration of Interests**

None

**316 Plans for Haigh Woodland Park**

A warm welcome was extended to Mr Keith Bergman of Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, who provided members with an update on current developments and future plans for Haigh Woodland Park. *See Appendix A.*

Mr Bergman concluded by inviting members to come along for a guided tour of the Park whenever they wished and was thanked for his update.

*Mr Bergman left the meeting.*

**317 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public**

There were no matters introduced by members of the public.

**318 Minutes of the Meeting (10 September 2018)**

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday, 10 September 2018 were agreed to be a true and correct record.

**319 Matters Arising**

**Canal & River Trust**

Cllr C Hatherall reported that he had established contact with the Canal & River Trust. This would be an agenda item at the meeting in January.

**Haigh Windmill**

The Clerk confirmed, in response to a question from a member, that she had been provided with the contact details of staff at Trencherfield Mill.

**Facebook Page**

The possibility of setting up a Facebook Page was discussed further, taking account of both the advantages and the disadvantages. The risks of the disadvantages were considered.

**Resolved:** The Clerk would set up a Facebook page for the Parish Council.

## 320 Planning Applications

A/18/85373/FULL	Leyland Mill Farm, Hall Lane, Wigan	Still pending consideration	Representation made previously - Noted
A/18/85826/RET	Fir Tree Farm, Pennington Lane, Haigh	To use stables for commercial livery purposes and to construct 2 no. equestrian menages	Noted
A/18/86049/FULL**	Grazing land to the north east of the Alms Houses, Hall Lane, Wigan	To construct new menage with new stables	Representation made - Noted
A/18/86110/HH	The Old Battery House, New Rd, Haigh	Conversion of part of existing detached garage to ancillary living accommodation	Approved with conditions - Noted

\*\*The Chairman reported that, because there had been significant objection from residents in relation to A/18/86049/FULL, he had made a representation on behalf of the Parish Council. His comments, which had been previously circulated, were discussed. To date the application had not appeared on the Planning Committee's agenda.

It was reported that the residents of Sennicar Lane had established that the Highways Department (not the residents) were responsible for the repair of the road.

The Clerk drew members' attention to the fact that the LA were currently consulting on the final draft of Standish Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council had been invited to send a comment. As a result of the discussion members were invited to read the draft plan on the Wigan Council website and, if they wished, send any comments to the Clerk by 14 December so that she could forward a collective response before the deadline of 19 December.

## 321 Haigh Windmill

Cllr R Howarth reported that he had visited the windmill approximately a month ago and had carried out a visual inspection of the exterior of the structure.

Cllr Howarth's findings, which were generally re-assuring, were as follows:

- The height of the land on either side of the stile made access to the windmill site difficult.
- The dome appeared to be sound, except for the patchy black dis-coloration. This was possibly mould and needed to be removed.
- The sails were warped, but they had been in this condition for a long time.
- Both the original and the replacement bricks looked sound. The restoration work carried out in 2011 had been done very skilfully and to a high standard.
- There were spaces in the brickwork that had been colonised by weeds, which needed to be cleared.

The one thing that did cause concern, however, was that serious attempts had been made to force open the steel door at the bottom of the building. In general Cllr Dr Howarth had been impressed by the state of repair of the windmill.

The condition of the windmill and the way forward were discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Bergman to find out whether the windmill came under his jurisdiction. If the answer were positive, she would ask him whether there was any possibility of his getting someone in to clear the weeds currently growing in the spaces in the brickwork.

Enquiries would also be made to establish the expertise of staff at Trencherfield Mill with a view to finding out whether any of them would be able to expedite any repairs to the mechanism of the windmill.

### 322 Review of Internal Audit 2017/18

The Internal Audit 2017/18 was reviewed. The conclusion was that the auditor had fulfilled all of the criteria and that the audit had met most of the requirements, with the exception that he had not fully checked the Council's compliance with the new transparency regulations.

### 309 Appointment of Internal Auditor 2018/19

The appointment of a new Internal Auditor for 2018/19 was discussed.

**Resolved:** The Parish Council appointed Heelis & Lodge as internal auditors for 2017/18 for a fee of £50 plus £30 carriage.

### 310 Accounts 2017/18

#### Income:

WWI grant = £200  
 WWI grant paid in error = £200  
**TOTAL = £400**

#### Expenditure

No	PAYEE	NARRATIVE	NET	VAT	PAYMENT
18	St David's Haigh & Aspull PCC	Room rent	£ 20.00	N/A	£ 20.00
19	Employee No.1	Salary (Sept, Oct, Nov)	£469.04	N/A	£469.04
20	K Pilkington	Mileage, postage	£ 12.66	N/A	£ 12.66
21	Wigan Council	Refund (grant overpayment)	£200.00	N/A	£200.00
22	HMRC	Tax	£117.20	N/A	£117.20
<b>Total:</b>			<b>£818.90</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>£818.90</b>

**Resolved:** The above items were approved for payment.

Balance at bank on 2 October 2018 = **£6,511.85**

The following prior payments had not been presented by 2 Oct 2018:

St David's Haigh & Aspull PCC	= £20.00
HMRC	= £315.00
Royal British Legion	= £100.00
Wigan Council	= £150.00
Contractor	= £50.00
I Cropper	= £85.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>= £720.00</b>

Estimated Balance at bank after the above prior payments and the above expenditure = **£4,972.95**

### **325 Budget Monitoring 2018/19**

The figures had been updated to include budgetary expenditure up to the end of November and were reviewed. Most cost centres were on line. However, the Insurance, etc cost centre was beginning to show an overspend. This was mainly due to increases in both insurance and internal audit costs.

**Resolved:** To cover the cost of room rent to the end of March – the only future expenditure anticipated under this heading this financial year – the Council vired £61 from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Insurance, etc' cost centre.

### **326 Future Funding**

Concern had been raised in recent meetings about the future funding of the Parish Council's operations and projects. At present the income was such that it was difficult to support expenditure without using reserves, which were very limited. Possible sources of funding were discussed. It was agreed that residents would be asked to put forward suggestions for future projects via the new Facebook page.

### **327 Budget 2019 Preparation**

The previously circulated draft proposals for the 2019 budget and precept were discussed at length. Wigan Council had confirmed that they would again be giving the Parish Council a council tax support grant of £1,032. The Council Tax base had still to be confirmed.

**Resolved:** The draft proposals for the 2019 budget and precept were agreed in principle.

### **328 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report was received. *See Appendix B.*

The discussion returned to Standish Neighbourhood Plan and led to a discussion in relation to neighbourhood plans in general. It was agreed that the Clerk would explore the possibility of officers from the Planning Department at the LA coming to a meeting of the Parish Council to give a presentation on the initiative.

**329 Any Other Business**

**Greater Manchester Spatial Plan**

It was observed that it was now some time since the last consultation on elements of the Spatial Plan. The Parish Council needed to anticipate the possibility of another consultation in the not too distant future.

**330 Dates of Meetings 2019**

The previously circulated list of proposed dates were considered and amended.

**Resolved:** The dates of meetings for 2019 were approved. In future all meetings would begin at 6:30pm.

The date of the next meeting would be Monday 21 January 2018 at 6:30pm.

The meeting closed at 7:50 pm

**Chairman**