**Forton Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Forton Parish Council Meeting held at**

**Methodist Church Hall, Hollins Lane on Monday 4th November 2024 at 7pm**

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| **Present**:  Cllrs Janet Huddart, Peter Young, Lesley Dodgson, Sue Tresilian, Neil Wigglesworth, Andrew Redmayne, Cllr June Farebrother, PCSO Denise Creighton | Note |
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| **In attendance:**  Mrs H Alcock - Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer. | Note |
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| **1913. Apologies for Absence**:  Cllr Wesley Wilson, Borough Cllr Charlotte Walker, County Cllr Matthew Salter. | Note |
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| **1914. Notification of Interests**  There were no declarations of interest nor any request for a dispensation for any item on the agenda. | Note |
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| **1915. Minutes of the last Meeting**  The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th October 2024 were confirmed and signed as a true record. | Note |
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| **1916. Public Participation**  Two members of the public present.  Borough Cllr Walker was not in attendance but provided the following update:-  Having stood from 07:20 on the A6 at the junction to Forton on Friday 18th October so was witness to a number of vehicles over taking the buses and driving onto the opposite side of the road to pass the pedestrian island. I have sent the video evidence to Cllr Matthew Salter, the local PCSO and Wyre Police direct. I have asked the police if it would be possible to have traffic officers attend the junction at busy periods so that they can see for themselves what is happening. Hopefully we will be able to get something done moving forward.  Over the last month I have spoken to a couple of residents who have raised concerns over possible future housing developments and the potential effects on their own land. I have assured them that both myself and the parish council will keep an eye out for future applications, whilst also pointing out that residents can and should raise any concerns themselves via Wyre Councils website.  County Cllr Salter was not in attendance but provided the following update:-  In relation to the bus stop I have had a further response back from highways on Wednesday which failed to really engage with the issues I had raised on behalf of the parish council, and it is still the case that no solutions or improvements are forthcoming. I am intending to discuss this with the cabinet member for Highways and Transport at Lancashire shortly and I am hopeful that the photos provided may yet be able to convey the concern we have.  PCSO Creighton confirmed that Sergeant Elliot Jones was currently liaising with the Roads Policing team in Highways and that vehicle registrations captured on the footage provided can be dealt with retrospectively. PCSO Creighton agreed to speak to Alison Hankinson in the Road Safety Team at LCC.  Cllr Wigglesworth suggested inviting a reporter from the Lancashire Evening Post to our next meeting in relation to the A6 bus stop safety concerns.  A resident highlighted that the newly replaced speed sign on Winder Lane has been changed to 60mph speed on both sides of sign and only one sign has been replaced. The Clerk was asked to report to Wyre Council. | Note  Note  Note  Note  Clerk |
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| **1917. Planning**  Cllr Young confirmed that Planning Application 23/01220/FUL for an extension to Shireshead Cricket Club has been passed. | Note |
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| **1918. New Community Hall Finances**  A spreadsheet outlining the budget and current expenditure was circulated to all members and it was agreed that the next batch of invoices would be paid by the Parish Council.  Alice Jesmont provided the following update:-  The noise assessment report has been submitted. Highways have commented that the entrance to the hall is not wide enough. Mason Gillibrand have agreed to attend the Village Hall Committee meeting to meet the newly appointed committee members due to take place at 7pm, 11.11.24 in the Pavilion. | Note  Note |
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| **1919. Finance**  The following payments for October were checked and agreed: -   * Easy Website - £30.36 * Cllr Young expenses - £10.90 * Stuart Williams - £1,500 * Austin Walmsley - £180 * Frances Forestry - £1,734 * Cllr Redmayne expenses - £21.44 * Cartridge shop replacement ink - £42.55 * Cllr Huddart expenses - £17 * Clerks wages - £388.70 * Clerks expenses - £26.00 * Clerks backpay following recent local government pay increase £117.18.   Approval was requested and agreed for the following items to be paid:-   * Laburnum Nurseries - £55.39 * British Legion wreath - £20 (the clerk to confirm payments made earlier this year for crosses) | Note |
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| **1920. Parish Reports / Issues from Councillors**  Hollins Lane updates  Dog fouling on Hollins Lane and the Hollies Estate was reported, Yuk leaflets to be put up. Stones have been removed from the wall at the entrance to the Hollies Estate at A6 entrance. Children from Laurus Homes estate reported causing a nuisance around Hollins Lane, Cllr Tresilian to discuss with PCSO Creighton.  SPID  Cllr Tresilian reported that 90% of motorists are observing the speed limit, although there are occasional higher speeds recorded early morning and late evening. | Cllr Tresilian  Note |
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| **1921. Cllr Huddart updates**   * Lancashire Parish & Town Council conference attended 2.11.24, an update on devolution was provided by Phillipa Williamson, Leader of LCC and a Highways update by Matt Townsend Director of Highways and Travel. Cllr Huddart reported that general feedback on the day from attendees was a lot of dissatisfaction with Highways and the Love Clean Streets app. * The Bolds have kindly offered to donate two Christmas trees again this year which are due to be delivered 25.11.24 in advance of the Christmas lights switch on 6.12.24. The Clerk was asked to make a donation same as previous year to Cancer Research. * James Pickering has been asked to cut back the hedgerow behind our Hollins Lane noticeboard. | Note  Clerk  Note |
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| **1922. Clerks updates**  The Clerk provided the following updates:-   * Proposed 2025 meeting dates were circulated and agreed. * Local Government pay services agreement has been finalised and circulated to Councillors. | Note |
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| **1923. Any Other Business**  Cllr Young circulated a newspaper article taken from the Lancashire Evening Post dated 23.10.24 stating that £4.5m is set to be spent on highways on the A6 between Broughton and junction 33 to include improving pedestrian and cycle facilities, upgrade to signals, an increase in crossing facilities, improvement to cycle routes and link opportunities. The Clerk was asked to contact County Cllr Salter to establish if comments can be put forward on what monies could be spent on.  Cllr Tresilian asked the Clerk for contact details of the Parish Champion Paul Rigby to look at the possibility of a bench replacement.  Cllr Young is due in hospital for a hip replacement on 19.11.24, hopefully he won’t be out of action too long.  Cllr Farebrother asked about a possibility of a bleed kit for the village, Cllr Huddart to enquire at the School. | Clerk  Clerk  Note  Cllr Huddart |
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| **1924. Agenda items for Next Meeting**   * Dog fouling | Clerk |
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| **1925. Date & Time of Next Meeting**  The date of the next meeting is Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7pm. Items for the agenda and reports, to reach the Clerk before 24th November 2024. | Note |
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| There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8pm | Note |

**Minutes prepared by: ……………………………………………. Hilary Alcock (Clerk)**

**Approved by: ……………………………………………….….. Janet Huddart (Chairman)**

**Date: …………………………………**