



Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on
Monday the 5th September 2022 at Cottam Community Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs C Abram, Gibson, Parker, Whitham, Foster, Bielas-Barnes,
Helvin, Butler, O'Donnell, Brown and Lambert

There were 4 members of the public present which included 2 City Councillors and 1 County Councillor

1. To receive apologies

Cllrs Smith, Coward and N Abram

2. To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th July 2022 (enclosed)

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th July 2022 should be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

3. To receive Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parker declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the items referring to a suggestion that a Christmas tree should be erected on Miller Green and the suggestion that the Council might sell or lease land to David Lloyd Clubs to build a tennis facility since she lives adjacent to the location. She left the room and did not take part in the debate or voting on these matters.

4. To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation

The meeting was adjourned

It was mentioned that the provision of new schools in the area was not yet guaranteed since appropriate funding had not yet been secured. Expansion of existing schools is likely to be undertaken on a year-by-year basis this being under consultation at the present time, although it was suggested that there was little scope to meet future needs by doing this. It was noted that the timescale for any new schools is 3 years. It was also noted that this Council had not received any report from LCC following contact with the Cabinet Member concerned and that the Clerk would be chasing this up and requesting the meeting which it had already asked for.

The meeting was reconvened.

5. To approve the following payments:

06/06/2022	S WISEMAN INTERNAL AUDIT FEE	27	150.00
06/06/2022	GGs LENGTHSMAN	28	1019.72
22/06/2022	MILGUE GS ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	29	430.50
22/06/2022	G THOMPSON ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	30	472.50
22/06/2022	GGs LENGTHSMAN	31	1448.78
22/06/2022	S FITZPATRICK ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	32	493.50
22/06/2022	SAR SERVICES ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	33	399.00
22/06/2022	FRETFOIL LITTER BIN BAGS	34	132.00
22/06/2022	AMBEROL LEA TOWN PLANTERS	35	1726.68

22/06/2022	G MASON SKIP HIRE COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT	36	400.00
22/06/2022	MARMAX TWO BENCHES COTTAM WAY BY POND	37	909.60
22/06/2022	NEWGATE REPLACE PLANTS	38	10.32
22/06/2022	REIMBURSE COST OF BANDING FOR LEA TOWN PLANTERS	39	258.00
22/06/2022	HMRC 1ST QTR	40	1812.31
22/06/2022	W V WHITTLE SALARY 1SR QTR	41	2427.67
30/06/2022	BANK CHARGES	42	18.00
04/07/2022	NEWGATE NURERIES LAMP POST PLANTERS - PLANTS ETC	43	357.84
04/07/2022	GGG LENGTHSMAN WKS 13 -14	44	1022.45
19/07/2022	SAR SERVICES ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	45	346.50
19/07/2022	FITZPATRICK ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	46	656.25
19/07/2022	THOMPSON ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	47	630.00
19/07/2022	MILJUE GS ASSIST LENGTHSMAN	48	294.00
19/07/2022	GGG LENGTHSMANWKS 15 -16	49	1006.72
19/07/2022	COTTAM COMMUNITY ASSOC ROOM HIRE	50	30.00

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

6. To consider in principal a suggestion from a local resident that a Christmas tree should be erected on Miller Green each year in line with those erected elsewhere in the Parish. The resident has already obtained quotations from LCC (her husband has worked for them in the past) which indicate that to install the requisite equipment to a location near to the existing notice board would cost £5750 plus Vat whilst a location nearer to the centre of the green would cost £9995 plus Vat. The works would include trenching to supply an electrical connection, connection costs and the provision of a suitable collar to house a cut tree.

The works do not however cover the cost of lights nor the annual tree installation and removal costs which would be similar to those for our existing tree installations. Lights are expected to be in the region of £1000. Last year we paid on average £1350 for each tree for its erection and removal. These figures are now expected to be significantly higher this year given the current level of inflation.

Project cost in year one between circa £8500 to £12700 depending on location and £1350 per year thereafter (these figures do not account for ongoing inflation)

The Council is asked to approve in principle or otherwise the request based on information above before any further investigation is undertaken.

Points which the Council might wish to consider:

1. Preston CC have undertaken all ground works in the past to install the equipment for existing trees and so it might be appropriate to obtain a quotation from them considering the level of expenditure should this Council wish to peruse the suggestion further.
2. With inflation at its present level and not expected to fall going into 2023 all above costs are likely to increase further.
3. A full cost specification should be obtained from whoever might undertake works so as to ensure all connection charges are covered
4. It is highly unlikely that the works could be undertaken this year since we do not have any final estimates or detailed specifications.

It was resolved that this Council did not wish to erect a further Xmas tree in the Parish since it was unanimously felt that the provision of one tree in each ward was sufficient and that expenditure of this nature during a time of rising inflation and a cost-of-living crisis would not be appropriate.

7. To adopt the enclosed Social Media policy which has already been circulated to Members

It was resolved that the policy referred to above should be approved

8. To approve the enclosed Financial Statement as of 30th June 2022

It was resolved that the Financial Statement referred to above should be approved

9. To consider the attached letter from David Lloyd Clubs concerning Miller Green

It was resolved that this Council did not wish to sell or lease any part of Miller Green which was well used by residents as amenity open space at the present time.

10. To consider whether this Council should ask that Lancashire County Council look at the necessity of putting double yellow road markings along both sides of Lea Road from Cottam Way to the Canal Bridge – see attached rationale.

It was resolved that this Council should not contact LCC asking that they look at the necessity of putting double yellow lines along both sides of Lea Road as detailed above since it was felt that the present issues were mainly caused by the temporary traffic lights, that local residents fronting Lea road would likely object and that it would be premature to make the requested suggested until all works to the roads in that area had been fully completed at which time a further assessment might be appropriate.

11. To note that the date of the next meeting is scheduled for the 10th October 2022

It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for the 10th October 2022