



MINUTES of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on
Monday the 3rd April 2023 at Cottam Community Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

Present Cllrs: Butler, Lambert, O'Donnell, Parker, Smith, Coward and Gibson

There were four members of the public present.

23/23 To receive apologies

Cllrs Helvin, Brown and Abram

24/23 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th March 2023 (enclosed)

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 6th March 2023 should be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record

25/23 To receive Declarations of Interest

None

26/23 To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation

The meeting was adjourned

It was mentioned that repairs had now been carried out by Preston CC to the steps adjacent to the maze which had recently been reported to them as potentially dangerous.

The meeting was reconvened

27/23 To approve the following payments:

17/02/2023	SAVOY TIMBER BRIDGE REPAIR	121	100.42
17/02/2023	GGs LENGTHSMAN	122	1101.10
03/03/2023	MILJUE GS ASSISTANT LENGTHSMAN	123	577.50
03/03/2023	NEWGATE NURSERIES	124	145.26
03/03/2023	FRETFOIL BLACK LITTER BAGS	125	135.00
03/03/2023	FITZPATRICK ASSISTANT LENGTHSMAN	126	630.00
03/03/2023	SAR SERVICES ASSISTANT LENGTHSMAN	127	351.75
03/03/2023	GGs LENGTHSMAN	128	1053.91
03/03/2023	G THOMPSON ASSISTANT LENGTHSMAN	129	420.00

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

28/23 To consider planning application 06/2023/0245 which proposes a dry ski slope, mountain bike track, creation of leisure lake and siting of 13 lodges to be occupied by children in care (Class 2) together with associated development as shown on planning application @ Phoenix Park Wallend Road Preston PR2 2HW

It was resolved that this Council should support the application as it would enhance the facilities of the area.

- 29/23 To consider the response from PCC recorded as minute number 10/22 to remove diseased crab apple trees in Cottam and replace with Japanese Flowering Cherry trees the intention being that our own lengthsmen team would undertake planting. There have been several on site meetings on this with the following results.

The crab apple trees are diseased but not dead. PCC are prepared to allow them to be replaced but have advised that Japanese Flowering Cherry are not appropriate to the ground conditions. In order to remove existing would require the crowns to be lifted which is outside our lengthsmen team capabilities. They also consider that any new trees planted must be suitable to ground conditions and of sufficient size to create impact and provide increased chance of long-term survival. Alternate species have been suggested and a planting scheme drawn up by PCC which will be available at the meeting. Specification notes are attached. The works, if agreed, would be placed to external tender and would include removal of existing, crown lifting, replanting of recommended species (31 trees) and clearance of a significant amount of bramble and scrub in the vicinity of the new plantings including stakes and tree protection. An initial estimate has been produced indicating that the project would cost in the region of £20K whereas our original plans only provided a budget of £3.7K. Final cost subject to tender results. The project would need to be totally managed by PCC team. PCC are willing to go with the proposals now drawn up or would if it is felt to be too expensive consider a smaller project involving fewer removals and fewer new trees.

It was resolved that this Council did not wish to pursue the proposals put forward by Preston CC since they were not in line with this Council's original proposals, that it was felt that some of the trees were inappropriate as they would grow too tall and that the indicated costs were far too high. The Clerk was authorised to convey this message to PCC and request that they consider a reduced proposal with planting in such a way as to create an avenue rather than individual clusters of trees and with species that would blossom in spring and thus create an attractive walk through which had been this Council's original intention.

- 30/23 To consider whether this Council, in the light of increased costs related to the solar Xmas tree in Lea Town, should now arrange for a permanent electrical supply to be installed by Preston CC at a cost of approx £5000 which on the basis of these additional maintenance costs will pay for itself within 5 years.

It was resolved that PCC should be asked to pursue the installation of a permanent electrical supply within the budget outlined and that firm costings should be provided before any works were undertaken.

- 31/23 To note that the date of the next meeting is scheduled for the 8th May 2023

It was noted that date of the next meeting is scheduled for the 8th May 2023