

# PARISH OF GOLDSHAW BOOTH

**Minutes of Goldshaw Booth Parish Council held on Thursday 1st February 2024,  
held at St. Mary's Church, Newchurch-in-Pendle**

Present: Councillor Ainsley Macadam  
Councillor Frank Shiers  
Councillor Kathleen Wilkinson  
Councillor Beccy Murrell

Also Present: Neil Corry, member of the public, and Ruth White, member of the public and minute-taker.

## **1. Welcome and Introduction**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2. Public Forum**

No members of the public wished to speak at the public forum.

## **3. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Anthony Dawson

**RESOLVED** to accept the above apology.

## **4. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Wilkinson declared an interest for item 16 when she will leave the room.

## **5. Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd November 2023.

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd November with no amendments. Proposed Cllr Wilkinson, Seconded Cllr Murrell

## **6. Application for Position of Councillor**

The applicant has not submitted all the paperwork but still intends to apply next month. No decision required at this meeting.

## **7. Recruitment of Parish Clerk following resignation of Joe Cooney**

Interviews of the three candidates took place on 18th January. Neil Corry has been offered and accepted the post. All in favour of the appointment. Joe Cooney left the post on New Year's Eve but is willing to help training the new clerk.

**RESOLVED** Neil Corry and Cllr Macadam to arrange meeting.

## **8. Reports from Chairman and Parish Councillors**

Cllr Murrell reported on the state of Haddings Lane in Sabden Fold. Work had been carried out in the autumn to improve the surface with spray tarmac but this has now disappeared. A number of people have reported the state of the road to LCC.

Cllr Murrell also informed the Council of a Climate Change Community Event for residents of Pendleside and Barrowford which is planned for the 4th of May at St Thomas'. The event will involve speakers, workshops and activities on a range of climate and environmental issues. A crowdfunding platform is being set up but the organisers will be approaching the Council to ask for a contribution to the event.

Cllr Shiers reported that completion of monthly action plan has not happened owing to the resignation of the clerk. However, this will become part of future agendas and will be updated by the clerk.

### **9. Report from Police**

No report provided this month

### **10. Lancashire County Council and Pendle Borough Council Updates**

No report provided this month

### **11. Spenbrook Mill Update**

Neil Corry reported that the road and site remains a disgrace. He reported that drain at the top of John Hallows Way as been removed and the area covered with tarmac. This was carried out after the drain was found not to be coping with the amount of water. The land is part of the development and will need to be in good repair prior to adoption by LCC. Concerns were raised about the effectiveness and appearance of the work.

**RESOLVED** Clerk Corry to investigate further and report to the Council.

### **12. Financial transactions**

#### **i) Monthly Bank Reconciliation**

Cllr Macadam is still working on the bank reconciliation. This will be raised when she meets with Joe Cooney. November and December were completed by Joe but Cllr Macadam encountered difficulties using the Scribe software.

#### **ii) Monthly Income**

**RESOLVED** to note £11 income from toilets and £54.49 from Electricity NW Ltd (way leave)

#### **iii) Monthly Payments**

Reimburse Cllr Macadam for PAYE/NIC final payment for clerk £284.89

**RESOLVED** to approve payment Cllr Shiers Proposed, Cllr Wilkinson Seconded

Water Plus £35.07

British Gas £42.43

**RESOLVED** to approve the payments

#### **iv) Budget**

Cllr Shiers circulated a detailed spreadsheet outlining the current and suggested budget, highlighting the percentage changes. The proposed changes take account of the level of funds held in reserves. He also brought the additional green bin and toilet donations to the attention of the Council.

Cllr Murrell noted that the subscription fee for Scribe needs to be added. She also queried the percentage increase in the contingency funds. Cllr Shiers clarified the relationship with the overall budget.

**RESOLVED** to accept the proposed budget

Proposed by Cllr Wilkinson, Seconded by Cllr Murrell

#### **v) Precept**

Looking to increase precept to £9,805.00 (Band D payment of £74), this is an increase of 11.46%

Cllr Shiers noted that there was no increase made in the precept in 2023.

Agreement Proposed by Cllr Macadam, Seconded Cllr Wilkinson, all in favour.

**RESOLVED** to accept the increase in precept

#### **vi) HMRC Penalty**

Cllr Macadam reported that the HMRC Penalty Notice had been overturned.

**RESOLVED** to note the removal of the HMRC Penalty Notice

### 13. Parish Maintenance

- 30mph sign is still down but has been reported.
- Fallen trees in the plantation off Jinny Lane need to be reported to Electricity Northwest. This is the area where fallen trees affected the power lines in 2022.

**RESOLVED** report fallen trees to Electricity Northwest

There is water cascading down the steps by the toilet. Water runs into grate in road at foot of steps. To be reported to United Utilities.

Cllr Murrell also asked if the colour and visual impact of the recently installed fence around the pump house could also be raised with UU.

**RESOLVED** report water on steps along with colour and appearance of fence to United Utilities.

#### i.) Spenbrook Gateway Project

Members noted that the 3 contractors have been asked to submit quotes. Two have responded that they have no availability and the third has not responded. Ideally the money (£1,000) needs to be spent by end of March. After discussion it was decided that the money should be spent on plants. Cllr Murrell raised deferring spending by buying vouchers. Cllr Macadam proposed getting a team of residents to do the clearing and planting. Cllr Shiers and Neil Corry agreed to help with the project. The project will need 6-8 people on a couple of Sundays. Neil Corry will help find volunteers and Cllr Wilkinson will advise on type of plants.

Cllr Wilkinson raised the point that the Spenbrook Mill construction company will need to disturb the banking to lay an electricity pipe.

**RESOLVED** to email Montford Construction for more information

**RESOLVED** to buy plants and organise volunteers

#### ii.) Park/Footpath Update

Outcome of Small Claims Court Judgement awaited.

#### iii.) Trees/Woodland Area

Budget of £1500 has been approved by Barrowford and Western Parishes Committee.

Cllr Murrell reported some costs:

Woodland Trust 420 whips= £420, does not include guard or stake

RJ Trees and Hedging nature pack 750 trees along with biodegradable guards and stakes

£1500 (includes VAT, which can be reclaimed)

Cllr Shiers proposed buying some more mature trees.

**RESOLVED** Cllr Dawson to remove the trees affected by ash dieback. Also arrange volunteers to remove the area of brambles at side of children's playground.

Buy one hardy native tree pack at £420 (£1 a tree), along with biodegradable (80p) guards and stakes. Also buy approximately 35 larger trees at £10 per tree along with guards and stakes. It was noted that the project relies on tree removal by Cllr Dawson.iv.) Gardening Contract Three quotes requested, one had no availability, one at £25/hr and one at £23.50/hr.

Cllr Macadam proposed accepting Montford Cottage quote at £23.50. Seconded by Cllr Murrell.

Montford Cottage had also made the effort to visit the site and took the time to discuss the requirements in detail.

**RESOLVED** accept quote from Montford Cottage

The Council discussed the spending limits and decided to have a monthly limit of 11hrs (5.5hrs every 2 weeks) with a cost of £300 every 4 weeks.

### 14. Events Committee

No report received

**15. Planning**

23/0669/LBC – Sabden Great Hall, Sabden Fold - Listed building consent. Extension to existing outbuilding to form a plant room; internal works to include kitchen relocation, replacement of ground floor suspended timber flooring with limecrete concrete, modification to the en-suite bathroom on the first floor and minor changes to existing bedrooms.

There were no objections raised to this planning application.

**16. Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw, due to the nature of the business about to be transacted which is considered to be prejudicial to the public interest.

**17. Items for Next Agenda**

Climate Change Action and Awareness day on 4th May, 2024

**18. Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 7th March, 7.15. St Mary's Parish Church, Newchurch in Pendle