

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL  
2018/19 HELD ON MONDAY 15 APRIL 2019 AT 7.30PM IN  
HALE VILLAGE HALL, HALE, HALTON, CHESHIRE, L24 4AE**

**ATTENDANCE RECORD**

**Members of Hale Parish Council:**

Cllr Luke Trevaskis (Chair)  
Cllr Catherine Williams  
Cllr Ann Kierman  
Cllr Gary Wright  
Cllr Peter Platt  
Cllr Malcolm Spargo (left after agenda item 3)  
Cllr Sheila Hunter  
Cllr Bernie Cleary  
Cllr Peter Healey

**Member(s) of Halton Borough Council:**

No members in attendance.

**Member(s) of Public:**

Tracey Bellis (Clerk to Hale Parish Council)

Meeting commenced at 7.35pm.

**PART 1**

**APOLOGIES**

No apologies received.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**CO-OPTION**

It was resolved that Carol Mason (known as Carol Anderson) should be co-opted to Hale Parish Council. She then took her seat and participated in the remainder of the meeting.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of meeting were approved.

**HALE POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Stephen Marnick sent apologies but sent a representative.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Council received an update from the Village Hall Management Committee.

## **MERSEYTRAVEL CONCESSIONARY SCHEME**

This item was deferred.

## **FLY-TIPPING**

Motion was approved to note fly-tipping on the periphery of Hale Heath and along Oglet Lane and make representations to Peel and Liverpool John Lennon Airport requesting a copy of their land management mandate, seeking further clarification of how the fence will help resolve fly-tipping, and advising the risks associated with the fly-tipping and disappointment that the land does not appear to be managed adequately enough to ensure the debris is disposed of as a matter of urgency.

## **NALC**

NALC report was noted, and it was agreed to enter Hale Parish Council into the 'Council of the Year' category for the rebuild of Hale Village Hall. Deadline is Friday 28 June 2019.

## **FUTURE HIGH STREET FUND**

It was agreed to write to Halton Borough Council requesting a meeting to discuss the opportunities available for an improved shopping experience in Hale that would be a nod to the historical trade that used to exist in the village, whilst supplying a unique shopping provision that could not be found elsewhere in the borough.

## **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

Cllr Hunter expressed a list of concerns regarding health and safety of the lights, their installation and associated costs.

Clerk advised Cllr Hunter that Christmas lights had just been installed in Elton and had been well received by residents. The Chair added that if numerous Councils around the country could overcome health and safety risks, so could Hale Parish Council.

The item was deferred.

## **FINANCE**

The Council approved the schedule of payments.

It was agreed to delegate appointing an internal auditor to the Resources Exec Committee.

## **PRECEPT – NALC REPORT**

It was noted that Hale Parish Council was the only Parish Council in Halton not to increase its precept levy for 2019/2020 and this remains at approximately £65.00 per Band D household, below the national average, providing £43,225 to be spent improving the Parish over the next twelve months. This amount is much lower than neighbouring parishes such as Halewood who have increased their precept by approximately 10%, up £35,378 year on year to £407,791 – an amount equivalent to £77.80 per Band D property.

The largest precept increase in Halton was seen in Hale Bank with an increase of 22.2% year on year.

Despite Hale Parish Council not increasing its precept, the total Band D Council Tax in Halton has seen an increase of £86.46 (5.3%). It should be noted that this figure includes a new tax of £19.00 per Band D property that has been levied on residents to make up a Liverpool City Region Mayoral Precept raising a total of £0.664m across Halton.

## **PLANNING**

### **CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)**

It was agreed to write to Halton Borough Council indicating the importance of such a levy to improve the infrastructure in areas that may be most affected by the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan and to request further information on whether or not the charge schedule will be approved in the near future.

### **Hale Bank Waste Transfer Site**

It was agreed to write to Hale Bank Parish Council indicating support for their request for a judicial review into the decision regarding the new waste disposal site and to seek advice on any support that can be offered by Hale Parish Council.

### **Technical Consultation of Plan Viability Study**

It was agreed to write to Halton Borough Council indicating the views of Hale Parish Council in relation to the economic viability of new development in Halton.

### **Residential Planning Applications**

It was agreed to make no representations to 19/00139/PDE, 19/00165/FUL, 19/00174/FUL, and 19/00166/FUL.

## **18/00513/FUL**

It was agreed to write to Liverpool John Lennon Airport and Peel and ask why at no point were the Parish Council informed that the 'open session' held in Hale Village Hall was to form part of the evidence base to a solar farm application submitted a week later.

It was agreed to write to Halton Borough Council asking for an update on the application, clarification on the number of times the deadline date changed for representations, alongside reasons as to why the dates for representation kept changing. It was also agreed to write to request the anticipated opening date for Bailey's Lane.

It was agreed to write to the Secretary of State asking for this application to be called in, owing to all the reasons stated in Hale Parish Council's objection.

It was agreed to write to Cllr Mike Wharton asking for this application to be called in, owing to all the reasons stated in Hale Parish Council's objection.

It was agreed to write to MP Derek Twigg asking for his support to object to this application, owing to all the reasons stated in Hale Parish Council's objection.

It was agreed to write to all other local MPs, Councillors and Local Authorities outlining the Parish Council's position and requesting their support, owing to all the reasons stated in Hale Parish Council's objection.

## **BOUNDARY REVIEW**

Whilst Cllr Mike Wharton did not submit an objection to the merging of Hale with Ditton, and advised he was certain that three ward councillors would continue to promote the uniqueness of Hale, it is proposed to write to Cllr Wharton asking him to reconsider his position in light of the number of objections submitted by residents of Hale and the number of comments submitted by electors in support of the Parish Council's proposal to retain Hale as a single-member ward.

It was agreed to write to all Halton Councillors, MP Derek Twigg, and local organisations asking them to support the proposal made by Hale Parish Council in the second consultation.

## **DALP / GREEN BELT REVIEW**

It was agreed to write to all Halton Councillors, MP Derek Twigg, and local organisations asking them to support the proposal made by Hale Parish Council to protect this land in the second consultation of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

It was agreed to write to Cllr Mike Wharton requesting his support and advice on how to protect the 60 acres of Green Belt and to ask what he can do to help safeguard this land for future generations to come.

It was agreed to support Hale Bank Parish Council in their objection to the removal of Green Belt for their proposed housing allocation.

It was agreed to ensure earmarked reserve is used for the protection of Green Belt and to work with appropriate service providers at appropriate time – namely consultants used by Hale Bank Parish Council and Daresbury Parish Council.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Item 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4 and 14.6 were deferred. The Council noted approved monthly surgery dates.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – 10am-12noon – Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Kierman

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – 10am-12noon – Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Anderson

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – 10am-12noon – Cllr Williams, Cllr Kierman

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – 10am-12noon – Cllr Williams, Cllr Kierman

## **HISTORIC PROWS**

Council approved a working party to report back – Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Kierman, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Hunter and Cllr Williams.

## **LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER ACCREDITATION**

The Council noted it had been operating as a Living Wage employer since 2018 and has become invited to become one of approximately 5,000 accredited employers across the UK.

It was approved for Hale Parish Council to become the first Parish Council in Halton (and one of only two in Cheshire) to become an officially recognised Living Wage Foundation employer. By becoming a recognised employer, the Parish Council would be entitled to use the Living Wage Foundation's recognised emblem, appear on their website, and contribute to press releases and campaign opportunities to promote Hale Parish Council as a fair employer. The official accreditation costs £60 and would need to be exercised during any future contracting process, to ensure all contractors and suppliers of Hale Parish Council also pay their staff a fair wage.

## **TRAINING**

The new training date for Full Council was confirmed for 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 6pm. All Councillors confirmed attendance.

It was deferred to discuss who to send to NALC's annual conference at a later date.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was noted and it was agreed to write to the Councillors of HBC involves with the approval of offering free council tax to foster carers.

## **URGENT ITEMS**

None to consider.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Heather Charles made representation about the gardening equipment stored in Hale Park.

Jimmy Ross questioned Hale Bank Parish Council's use of precept funds to fight against the waste transfer site that has already been erected.

Bernie Mitchell spoke of much confusion being caused by recent meetings changing dates.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Date of the next meeting was confirmed for 7 May 2019 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.24pm