

HEAPEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on 5 January 2016 at 7.30 pm in St Barnabas Church, Heapey.

Present Cllrs C Grunstein (Chairman), M Allen, S Darcy, G France, M Osborne and J Ross-Mills.

Also present County Councillor K Snape.

16.01 Apologies for Absence

None received.

16.02 Councillor Vacancy

Applications for co-option from Messrs Bernard Melling, Steve Darcy and Dominic Jewell were considered. The applications were discussed at length and it was noted the Council had three excellent candidates to consider.

Resolved: Steve Darcy was co-opted.

16.03 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

16.04 Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 November 2015

Resolved: the Minutes (as circulated) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16.05 Public Participation

No issues were raised.

16.06 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

15/01229/DIS Application to discharge conditions 2 (landscaping) and 4 (manure containment) of planning application 08/00986/FUL at Land 91m West of Tootals Farm, Coppice Lane.

Resolved: Planning Officers are to be asked to visit the site to ensure the landscaping has been carried out in accordance with the approved plans.

15/01066/FUL Extension to an existing agricultural building at Land 91m West of Tootals Farm. Concerns were expressed regarding the visual impact of the existing building, which can be seen for miles around, and any extension will only serve to exacerbate the issue.

Resolved: an objection is to be submitted on the grounds of the impact on the visual amenity of the area and the impact on the nearby White Coppice Conservation Area..

15/01167//FUL Installation of sewage pump station for canal toilet facilities with connection to main sewer in Copthurst Lane at Canal Lock, 15m South of Lock Keepers Cottage, Copthurst Lane.

Councillors had no comments in respect of this application.

16.07 Financial Matters

Resolved: the financial update was received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors considered requests for payment to the Council.

Resolved: the following payments were approved.

£ 15.00	Heapey Parish Church	Room hire
£ 383.16	Employee 1	Salary
£ 95.60	Inland Revenue	PAYE

£ 238.90 Whitehill Direct
£ 90.00 Ark Welding
£ 307.80 Mayors
£ 65.00 DWG (NW)

Notice board
Notice board installation
Christmas tree
Christmas tree fence

16.08 Precept 2016-17

The Precept for 2016-17 was considered. A draft budget was presented, which would result in no increase in the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents.

Resolved: the Precept for 2016 - 2017 was set at £8863, which will result in no increase in the cost of the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents.

16.09 Internal Audit

Councillors considered the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the current financial year and the internal audit fee.

Resolved: Mr J Lawson is to be appointed and the fee set at £35.

16.10 Audit Procurement from 2017

Councillors considered arrangements for audit procurement from 2017. The options available are a Sector Led Body to provide independent audit provision or the Parish Council must undertake to appoint an auditor, involving a rather onerous statutory appointment process.

Resolved: audit provision is to be provided by the Sector Led Body.

16.11 Flooding

Recent flooding incidents were discussed. The entrance to the Heapey Chase estate was flooded, along with Tithe Barn Lane at the junction with Coppice Lane and Blackburn Road, by the Red Lion. Chorley Council and the emergency services were commended for their efforts. The main source of concern was the reservoir off Higher House Lane. The wall had been inspected by engineers and declared to be sound. Enquiries are to be made regarding responsibility for the reservoir and for the manual opening of the sluice gate. The former BAE Systems site was mentioned.

16.12 Consultations

Councillors considered a response to the Lancashire County Council proposed budget options. Potential cuts to libraries and services important to rural communities, including LCC's Countryside Services and local bus services, were discussed.

Councillors considered a response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Review of Lancashire. As the parish was unaffected no response is to be made.

16.13 Reports from Outside Bodies

Suggestions for priorities for the Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area meeting will include repair to a public footpath in the vicinity of the picnic table in White Coppice and wildflower planting on verges.

The Chorley Council/Parish Clerks meeting received information on digital inclusion for rural areas.

16.14 Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 1 March 2016.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Heapey Parish Council

Budget 1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017

Salaries	2950
General Administration	325
Room Hire	120
Insurance	400
Subscriptions/Entry Fees	200
Audit fees	200
Newsletter	120
Training	200
Grants/donations	2000
Flowers/Planting	1000
Play Area maintenance	1000
Street Furniture	1000
War Memorial expenses	1500
Parish Information	2000
Grasscutting	600
Christmas	400
Sundries	900
Earmarked Funds	1500
General Reserve	5000
Total	<u>21415</u>
Balance as at 05.01.16	17700
Add: Anticipated income to 31.03.16	<u>150</u>
	17850
Less: Anticipated requirements to 31.03.15	5625
Balance forward	12225
Add: Proposed precept	8863
Add: Proposed top up grant	<u>327</u>
	<u>21415</u>