

**Minutes of the Meeting of Duddon and Burton Parish Council
at Duddon and Clotton Memorial Hall
on Thursday 20th January 2022 at 7.00pm**

PRESENT:

Cllr G Goulbourne Chairman
Cllr A Green
Cllr J Warburton
Cllr Lightfoot

Cllr C Cummins
Cllr J Leather – CWaC Ward Member
Members of the Public: 6
CLERK: Mrs T Ryall-Harvey (Temporary Clerk)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr H Tonge and were accepted.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident who had volunteered to investigate the possibility of improving the broadband within the area, confirmed that the project now had approximately £560,000 confirmed funding from the government due to the number of homes that have signed up to the scheme. It was now with Open Reach who are waiting for confirmation that their engineers can undertake the work, as they have 12 months to complete it.

A resident sought clarification as to if the village could be tidied up, including the footpaths that are slippery, hedges overgrown and nettles growing along pavements. The resident also suggested improving the website to include the amenities within the village. It was reported that the playing field had not been mowed on a regular basis and the resident requested the Parish Council find a permanent solution like employing lengths man to keep the village tidy. It was highlighted that the cost of taking on such a contractor to undertake this work that was currently the responsibility of CWaC would need to go out to consultation to see if all residents felt strongly about this.

ACTION: Clerk to check with Streetcare how often they have committed to mow the playing field in Duddon.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 2nd DECEMBER 2021

RESOLVED 21/016: That the minutes of the meeting of 2ND December 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The council noted the Planning Register as circulated at the meeting dated 11th January 2022 and noted no new planning applications have been received since the last meeting.

ACCOUNTS

Cashbook

RESOLVED 21/017: that the YTD Cashbook dated 11th January 2022 be approved.

Income Received Since Last Meeting:-

RESOLVED 21/018: that the following income received since the last meeting was approved:-

HMRC VTR	£2,683.59
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Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED 21/019: that the following expenses be approved for payment:-

Clerk's Salary – Tax Point 9	£225.96
Clerk's Salary – Tax Point 10	£225.96
PKF LittleJohn – External Audit Company Costs	£288.00
HMRC PAYE Payment YTD	£258.36
Bank Charges	£7.80
HMRC PAYE Jan-22 – Mar-22	£169.20

HSBC Bank Update

It was reported to the meeting that following a telephone call from Cllr Goulbourne with the bank in November a Mandate Change form was requested, however this had yet to be received.

RESOLVED 21/020 to add the temporary Clerk & RFO to the Mandate with the HSBC and it was suggested that the Clerk explore the possibility of changing banks for the future.

Budget for 2022-23

RESOLVED 21/021: that the budget for 2022-23 be set £8,161 as set out below:-

Budget Element	2022-23 Budget
EXPENDITURE	
People & Expenses	
Clerk & HMRC Tax	3,388
Expenses	600
Training	350
Professional service	
Insurance	835
Internal Audit	50
External Audit	240
Payroll	144
General Services	
Website	378
Village Hall Room Hire	150
Admin	
Membership/Subscriptions	205
Data Protection fee	40
Grants	
Village Hall Room Hire	0
Projects	
Lengthsman	
Village Enhancements	500
Playground Annual Inspection	200
Ad Hoc Beneficial Items (S137)	1,000
Inflation %	0
Contingency % of above	81
TOTAL CASH OUT	8,161

Precept for 2022-23

RESOLVED 21/022: to request a precept for 2022-23 of £8,005 which is a 1% increase on last years and a £0.32 increase on a Band D house.

Churchyard Grant Application

RESOLVED 21/023: to apply to Cheshire West and Chester for a Churchyard Grant on behalf of St Peter's Church, Duddon for the sum of £2,760.00

ANNUAL PLAY INSPECTION

The Annual Play Safety Inspection was circulated for the Parish Council's review. The comments were noted, and Cllr Goulbourne & Cllr Cummins undertook to take a walk around of the play equipment to review the inspectors' comments and bring any recommendations for improvements to the next meeting.

QUEENS PLATIUM JUBILEE

Cllr Goulbourne reported he had received the following suggestion:-

Plant a permanent Christmas Tree on the triangle of ground in Duddon – however there may be a License Fee of £100 to pay to CWaC for this.

Undertaking a footpath walk around Clotton, Duddon, Burton, Hoofield, Iddenshall.

Several residents undertook to seek suggestions from the community with regards to a Jubilee Event and bring suggestion to the next meeting for further discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Police and Crime Commissioners Budget Consultation for 2022-23

It was reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner had set out his priorities for 2022-23 and a proposal for the precept. Should the budget be approved then 120 more officers would be on the Cheshire Streets, increasing visible policing and making the goal of having the highest establishment of officers in Cheshire one step close to being achieved.

There will also be an increased focus on tackling anti-social behaviour that can often make people feel unsafe in their community and further action on making our county's roads safer. To this end the Commissioner was proposing to increase the precept by approximately 83p per month for the average Band D property.

Beeston Station Re-opening Project Update – it was reported that following previous correspondence with Parish Council's and Ward Councillors and the subsequent donations that were received in. The Beeston Station Re-opening Project had now achieved 100% of the funding required to cover the next phase of the project and a formal business case and outline design will be drawn up.

Highways Issues

The following issues were raised and asked to be reported to CWaC:-

A51 – sign posts are dirty – through Duddon.

Hook Lane, left for Burton – large conifers encroaching on road making the road difficult to pass .

Footpath between Duddon to Tarvin – overgrown.

Footpath between Bulls Head and Duddon – needs cleaning.

Farmyard manure on footpath from Willington Road on A51.

A resident asked for clarification of the following:-

What is the long-term strategy for Duddon and Burton? – It was confirmed that currently there was no long-term strategy for the Parish.

Do we have an improvement list for Duddon and Burton for the future – the Parish Council confirmed they would be happy to look at an improvement list for the future subject to residents input as to what they would like to improve.

Do we have a communication strategy – It was agreed that the Parish Council could draft an information sheet to tell all properties what the role of the Parish Council is, a resident undertook to distribute this information sheet on the Parish Council's behalf.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Duddon and Burton Parish Council would be held on Thursday 17th March 2022 at 7.00pm at Duddon Village Hall.

Meeting finished: 20.11