

LEA & COTTAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH HALL, BLACKPOOL ROAD, LEA, PRESTON AT 7.30 PM on MONDAY 17TH MAY 2010

PRESENT: Cllrs Helvin, Butler, Hart, Jones, Noble, Oliver, Ward, Clegg, Dickinson, Hardcastle, Coward, Roulston, Broadley & Lambert

16 Members of the public were present.

39/10 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Hart was elected Chairman for the next 12 months.

Cllr Hart then formally thanked the retiring Chairman Cllr Clegg for her work during her term of Office.

40/10 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Ward was elected as Vice Chairman for the next 12 months.

41/10 APOLOGIES

None

42/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

43/10 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th April 2010 should be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

44/10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned for a period of public discussion

County Cllr M Otter introduced himself as the LCC Champion for Local Councils and briefly outlined his role in supporting local councils. He mentioned that work is currently being undertaken with regard to communication between the 3 tiers of local government following the demise of the Lancashire Local. He explained that he had a small amount of funds which he was able to distribute to parish councils to assist with local projects and was pleased to be able to respond to a request from Lea and Cottam Parish Council for financial support towards the cost of a new Christmas tree and decorations in Lea Town later this year. A cheque for £500 was the presented to the Chairman.

A representative from Preston CC then made a short presentation introducing a new initiative from Preston CC whereby free computer training had been made available using the Community Bus which had attended agreed venues and delivered training to people who are complete beginners. She mentioned that there had been a big take up for the training and that two new venues in this area had now been agreed locally. Leaflets had already been handed out to members for their additional information and also placed on the Parish Council notice boards.

Members of the public raised concerns with regard to the withdrawal of bus service 87 and its replacement with an extended service 31. It was pointed out that whilst the extended service was more frequent it did not cover the Hawthorn Crescent, Daisy Croft or Baytree Farm area which was now left with a service only every 2 hours using service 77. This meant that for a lot of people they now had a long uphill walk to Blackpool Rd to catch the more frequent 31 service. The Parish Council were asked to support residents in discussions with the appropriate bus companies in order to achieve a better resolution.

It was mentioned that a new planning application had been submitted for 2 additional dwellings @ New House Farm Tudor Ave Lea. It was confirmed that the Chairman and Clerk were aware of the application notification of which had been received too late for inclusion on the agenda for this meeting. Arrangements were being considered for a response possibly under the delegated authority of the Clerk who would be briefing members after closure of the meeting to seek a clear steer on an appropriate response.

The meeting was reconvened

45/10 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

It was resolved that the following representative appointments should be made:

- Lea & Cottam Pact Meetings – Cllrs Clegg and Broadley
- Western Area Forum Meetings – Cllrs Coward and Helvin
- Preston Parish Councils Consultative Forum Meetings – Cllrs Oliver and Ward

46/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- Retrospective application for the construction of external play equipment and hard play area @ Lea Endowed Primary School Lea Rd Lea Town
- Environmental works, including construction of new pond, installation of land drainage and associated landscaping @ Public Open Space South of Cottam adjacent to Lancaster Canal Valentines Lane Cottam

It was resolved that no representation should be made on the above applications

47/10 PAYMENTS

It was resolved that the under mentioned payments should be authorised

500584	Vaughtons	Repair Pendant Ribbon and New Bar	123.86
500585	L Slade	Internal Audit	100.00
500586	Viking Direct	Stationery	112.59
500587	ICO	Data Protection Registration Renewal	35.00
500588	LALC	Annual Subscription	570.69
500589	CA Traffic	Spid Batteries	84.60
500590	County Training Partnership	Courses for New Councillors	120.00
500591	Greenwood Gardening Services	Lengthsman	1110.20

48/10 INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

It was resolved that the Internal Auditors Report 2009/10 which had been circulated with the agenda should be approved.

49/10 ANNUAL AUDIT

It was resolved that the Annual Audit which had been circulated with the agenda should be approved and that the Chairman and RFO should be authorised to sign Section 1 (Statement of Accounts) and Section 2 (Annual Governance Statement) being part of the said Annual Audit for the year ending 31st March 2010

50/10 INSURANCE RENEWAL

It was resolved that renewal of the Councils insurance in accordance with the renewal documents already circulated at a figure of £551.83 (last year £579.94) should be approved.

51/10 BULB PLANTING JUBILEE RECREATION GROUND

Members has been asked to consider the purchase of bulbs (3000) to be planted on Jubilee Recreation ground as part of the works to improve the area which had so far included a community litter pick and the removal of overgrown bushes and vegetation by Preston City Council. Funds are available within the maintenance budget and the planting is expected to be done jointly by the lengthsman (within his present contract) and local residents as part of a further community event later in the year. It is expected that part funding (50% of bulb costs and lengthsman time) may be available through a Green Partnership Grant which will be applied for.

It was resolved to approve the purchase of bulbs as set out above and apply for a green Partnership Award Grant to offset part of the cost.

52/10 ADDITIONAL HANGING BASKETS LEA TOWN 2011

Members had been asked to consider the installation of and the erection of four additional brackets and hanging baskets in Lea Town next year at an approximate cost of £180 (brackets) and £80 (hanging baskets) & if approved authorise the signing of the official indemnity to LCC (copy enclosed) by the Proper Officer of this Council.

It was resolved that the purchase of additional brackets and hanging baskets as detailed above should be approved and that the indemnity which had previously been circulated should be authorised to be signed by the Proper Officer of the Council.

53/10 LANCASHIRE LOCALS

Members had been asked to consider a letter from Broughton Parish Council which had been circulated with the agenda seeking support in obtaining from LCC clarification with regard to future communication following the demise of the Lancashire Local and also to nominate a representative(s) to attend a meeting with Broughton Parish Council and other Preston City Council Parish Councils if arranged and considered appropriate.

It was resolved that this Council should support the seeking of clarification with regard to future communication with LCC and that Cllr Coward should be appointed to attend any arranged meeting on behalf of this Council.

54/10 BUS SERVICE 87

Members had been asked to consider a response to an e-mail received from a local resident concerning the proposals to withdraw service 87 and change arrangements with regard to Service 31. An initial response from Preston Bus had already been provided to members with the agenda for their further information.

It was resolved that this Council should oppose changes to all established bus routes in this parish and support resident concerns with regard to the withdrawal of service 87 and that it should appoint Cllrs Lambert, Clegg and Ward to attend on behalf of this Council any arranged future meetings concerning bus service alterations.

55/10 THANKS TO PCSO ANYON AND PCSO HULL

Members had been asked to consider sending a letter of thanks expressing this Council's appreciation of the service provided by PCSO Anyon and PCSO Hull who have now both left this immediate area.

It was resolved that an appropriate letter of thanks should be sent.

56/10 LALC AUTUMN CONFERENCE

It was resolved that the question as to whether any member should attend the LALC Autumn Conference at a cost of £33.00 each should be deferred until the next meeting in the hope that further detailed clarification might be available concerning the agenda content of the Conference.

57/10 NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting will be held on the 5th July 2010