



**HALE PARISH COUNCIL**  
OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN  
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
REMOTELY ON MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 AT 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Kierman, Cllr Williams, Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Wright,  
Cllr Cleary, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Spargo

In attendance: Mr. Brian Hargreaves (Proper Officer) and 4 Members of the  
public

1. **Apologies** – No Apologies for absence were received
2. **Declarations of Interest** – No declarations on interest were recorded
3. **Public Participation** - No members of the public participated in this item
6. **Minutes** - A series of votes to approve the amended Minutes for Hale Parish Council Ordinary meeting held on 15th February 2021 were taken

- (i) Removal of a reference to NALC's model Standing Orders was Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Kierman

Cllrs Trevaskis, Wright, Anderson, and Spargo voted in favour.

Cllrs Cleary and Mitchell were against the motion

**The Motion was approved**

- (ii) Removal of a reference to NALC's model Financial Regulations was Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Kierman

Cllrs Trevaskis, Wright, Anderson, and Spargo voted in favour.

Cllrs Cleary and Mitchell were against the motion

**The Motion was approved**

- (iii) An amendment to insert the agreed cost of £441.00 for engaging JDH Business Services Ltd as External auditor was agreed

Cllr Mitchell Proposed the amendment and Cllr Cleary seconded the motion

**The Motion was approved unanimously**

7. **Payments** - All payments for the period 5th February 2021 – 5th March 2021 were approved by members

8. **Accounts** – A proposal to consider and approve the financial statement for the period 8/10/2020 to 5/03/2021 was approved.

The updated asset list was considered. A question was raised regarding the inclusion of Hale Village Hall on the list. It was noted that the internal auditor had reviewed this list as part of the annual audit and raised no issues.

The Clerk agreed to seek clarification and it was noted that Hale Village Hall may need to be marked on the asset register as \*held in trust\*.

In a named vote the motion was proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Kierman

Cllrs Spargo, Wright, Anderson and Williams voted in favour

Cllrs Mitchell and Cleary were against

**The Motion was approved**

#### 10. **Planning Application 21/00065/FUL Carriage Close**

A motion for the Clerk to contact the planning department at Halton Borough Council and establish whether the proposed Glass frontage on the relevant application is in keeping with the values extended by the conservation area.

It is felt that the proposed construction may be incongruous to the street scene and could possibly set a precedent for similar installations if approved. It should be remembered that this is an Historic Village with important heritage and aesthetic issues to be considered.

The Clerk will ensure that Halton Borough Council planning dept are aware of these concerns and will seek reassurance.

In a vote proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Mitchell

Cllrs Spargo, Wright, Anderson and Williams were in favour

There was one abstention

**The Motion was approved**

11. **Traffic / Parking** – An update about the Traffic/Parking issues within the Village was presented by Cllr Spargo. This subject is being addressed by the Working party and will be on-going.

12. **Football Academy Funding** – A request for funding from The Football Performance Academy based at the Freemans Field was considered. This is one of a number of requests received over previous years.

There are some areas of concern which were expressed by both councilors and residents

- (i) It is understood that the facility may not be fully inclusive and available to all children and that the selection process and required skill levels for children to join the academy are subjective.

- (ii) It was also noted that this organisation is a commercial enterprise with 3 established bases.
- (iii) The facility is leased from The Freemen of Hale and any contribution would ultimately benefit the leaseholders.

It was resolved that a decision be deferred until the Clerk has been able to contact the Academy to obtain clarification regarding their request and to receive an official Grant application for their proposal.

In a vote Cllr Trevaskis, proposed the deferral and it was seconded by Cllr Spargo

**The Motion was approved unanimously**

13. **Ward Councillor Report** – It was resolved that the Clerk should contact the Ward Councillor to request a Higher Tier Authority monthly update for Hale Parish Council. It was agreed that members should be kept informed and be able to respond appropriately to any issues within Halton which may concern local residents.

It was noted that the new boundary considerations will mean that there will be 3 ward councilors available after 6th May 2021 to cover the area.

In a vote Cllr Kierman proposed the motion and Cllr Spargo seconded it

Cllrs Spargo, Wright, Anderson and Williams were in favour

Cllr Mitchell was against

There was one abstention

**The Motion was approved**

14. **Conservation Initiative** – It was resolved to purchase an owl box from the Barn Owl Trust at the cost of £167.00 plus postage (or from any supplier that manufactures boxes to the same specification)

Cllr Williams agreed to consult with a local ecologist to establish the best time, conditions and placement for the box. Advice from the Barn Owl Trust will also be considered.

Cllr Trevaskis proposed the motion which was seconded by Cllr Williams

Cllrs Kierman, Spargo Wright, Anderson and Mitchell were in favour

There was one abstention

**The Motion was approved**

15. **Dementia Friendly Community Awareness Training** – The proposal to consider booking a full day “Dementia Awareness” foundation course was considered. It was agreed that other options should also be explored before committing to any training. It was noted that adjacent local areas have established dementia support facilities and that these should be consulted to establish a way forward for Hale. It was noted that any proposed training being organised by Hale Parish Council should be advertised effectively.

The Alzheimers Society may be a good source of information about funding and the availability of any free training. In particular DBS checks should be made on all councillors involved with the general public and the vulnerable.

The proposal was amended to allow further consultation with The Alzheimers Society, Brushwood Sure Health assisted living in Speke (Speke Hub) and to allow consideration for offering DBS checks to any members requiring them.

It was resolved to make further enquiries regarding the matters described above.

The amended proposal was submitted by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Mitchell

**The Motion was approved unanimously**

**\*9.00pm - Cllr Spargo left the meeting by prior arrangement**

16. **Living Wage Foundation** – It was resolved to acknowledge and accept the minimum pay recommendation by the living wage foundation announced on Monday 9th November 2020.

The new rate of £9.50/hr. will be implemented for all employees on 1st April 2021.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Cleary

**The Motion was approved unanimously**

17. **Floral Contribution** – It was resolved to accept the proposal by a representative of a local volunteer gardening group. It was agreed that a budget of up to £300 was appropriate for the installation of a number of hanging basket floral arrangements at the Village Shops in Ivy Court.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Kierman and seconded by Cllr Anderson

Cllrs Williams, Mitchell, Trevaskis Wright and Kierman were in favour

There was one abstention

**The Motion was approved**

The Meeting was closed at 9.40pm