

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BILLINGTON AND LANGHO PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 29th JUNE 2015 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, LANGHO.

PRESENT

Parish councillors Brian Haworth, John Aspden, John Green, Frank Havard, Tony Austin, Councillor Bibby, Councillor Schofield, Councillor Atkinson, Councillor Dobson and Councillor Mirfin.

Justin Smith the agent for Langho burial ground attended the meeting to present the plans for the development of the Langho Natural burial ground.

There were several members of the public present.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Martin Hincks, Simon Kerins and Michael Collins.

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Register of Interests – Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b) No members disclosed any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter to be discussed at the meeting.

ITEM 3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 18th 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2015 were signed as a true record.

ITEM 4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Justin Smith the agent for Langho burial ground attended the meeting to present the plans for the development of the Langho Natural burial ground. He stated that there would be a full consultation for members of the public to attend within the next three to four weeks. The main points he raised were,

- A new burial ground is needed as the existing one at Pleasington has no room for future expansion. The developer stated that there are no other suitable locations
- The burial ground will be built with charitable funds and will be self-financing
- The burial ground has been designed as a natural site with screening and woodland planting on a site that at present is unimproved pasture. The site will have a low visual impact.
- The development consists of a service building constructed of wood and local stone, car parking on grass for sixty vehicles, crushed stone/green pathways, ponds, buffer areas away from watercourses planted with trees.

- The proposed entrance is off Northcote Road
- It is envisaged that there will be two burials per week, the number of weekly burials will be restricted by the environment agency
- Changes to the highway access, landscaping and buildings have been made since a previous application on this site several years ago

Several questions were raised by the Councillors and members of public present,

1. Councillor Atkinson was worried about the impact of traffic backing up Northcote Road – Justin Smith replied that there would only be low key burials which would take place out of rush hour.
2. Councillor Atkinson asked about the depth of the groundwater on the site – Justin Smith stated that burials would not take place in areas where the groundwater was less than three metres and that trees would be planted in these areas.
3. A parishioner asked why couldn't a site be found in Blackburn with Darwen – Justin Smith replied that enquiries had been made but there were no suitable sites.

ITEM 5 PLAYGROUNDS

Following a recent playground inspection the safety surfaces need repairing clerk to obtain a quote.

ITEM 6 ACCOUNTS

It was resolved to approve the following accounts for payment,

C Walton Lengthsman	£270.88
Nurture Landscapes	£238.40
Viking Direct	£60.98
Tracey McCarney Clerks Salary	£833.32
Brewers	£60.00

The May bank reconciliation was reviewed and signed by the chairman, the June/July expenditure was circulated.

ITEM 7 PLANNING

3/2015/0278 – Domestic extension to meet the needs of a disabled person and the extension of the residential curtilage at Chew Mill Farm, Elker Lane, Billington.

No objections

3/2015/0243– Front and rear dormer, at 71, Hillcrest Road, Langho.

No objections

3/2015/0349 – Two VHF antennas at the top of the telecommunications mast, Moor Lane, Billington.

No objections

3/2014/0931 – Installation of steel floodlighting columns to be installed at Blackburn Rovers Academy.

As previous objections

ITEM 8 **HIGHWAYS**

There were one highways issue raised,

1. Discussions were being held re moving the zebra crossing further up the road between Whinney Lane and Moorland Avenue.

ITEM 9 **OFFICERS REPORTS**

There were no officers reports

ITEM 10 **CORRESPONDANCE**

1. Public right of way Sunnyside Avenue Billington.
2. Nurture Landscapes renewal of grass cutting contract
3. Accounts and Audit Committee minutes
4. Report of the diseased tree at the war memorial – Councillor Haworth will read the report.

ITEM 11 **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting will be held on Monday August 24th 2015.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chairman _____

Date _____

