

**Minutes of the Little Hoole Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 14th April 2025, at Walmer Bridge
Village Hall**

In attendance: Cllrs L Dryden (Chair), S Evald, D Owen, T Wilcock, J Rainsbury, S Rainsbury, P Ashby. Mr P Cafferkey (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer); and 4 members of the public.



1. **Apologies for absence:** none
2. **To agree the minutes of the last Parish Council mtg:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th March 2025, were accepted as a true record and agreed unanimously.
3. **To receive declarations of interest:** Cllrs Dryden and Evald items 14 and 17
4. **Matters arising from the minutes of last meeting:** None
5. **Public Time - matters raised by members of the public:** Member of the public queried when the drain on the corner of Dob Lane and Liverpool Old Rd would be fixed. Cllr Dryden reported that the drain was still awaiting a camera inspection.

With regard to item 6a 07/2025/00194/FUL. 42 Hall Carr Lane PR4 5JJ. 43 Hall Carr Lane PR4 5JJ. Members of the public were present to object to this planning application. Objections included, but not exclusively, the fact that the boundaries of the application include 2 meters of land that has been confirmed as belonging to an adjoining property of one of the members of the public present at the meeting. Previous planning in principle is only for one dwelling whereas this application is for two yet there is insufficient space to accommodate the dwellings outlined in the planning application. In addition, the property is considered to extend beyond the existing building line and existing roof line.

6. Planning Applications:

- a) 07/2025/00194/FUL. Land Adjacent 26 Hall Carr Lane Walmer Bridge. Erection of 2no. self-build dwellings.
- b) 07/2025/00173/PIP. Part Of Curtilage Of Balls Farm Brook Lane Little Hoole PR4 5JB. Permission in Principle for the erection of up to 2 no. dwellings.
- c) 07/2025/00130/FUL. Glen Dene Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB. Erection of a Class 7 MOT service centre (Use Class B2) following demolition of the existing HGV storage and maintenance building (Use Class B2)

Taking account of the public's comments and consideration of the councillors it **was resolved** that the Parish Council would issue a letter of objection with regard to item a) above. There were no objections to the other planning applications.

7. Transactions through the bank for Mar 2025.

Date	Payee	£	Description
Current a/c			
03-Mar-25	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	36.96	Website monthly fee
03-Mar-25	B/P to: McCluskey Window	25.00	Cleaning of Bus Shelters
10-Mar-25	B/P to: Lancashire County	306.00	Relocating of SPiDs
10-Mar-25	B/P to: Adam Watson	456.44	Cleaning of Brook & Work to Community Garden
14-Mar-25	B/P to: Frank P Matthews	686.76	Fruit Trees for Community Orchard
14-Mar-25	B/P to: Walmer Bridge VH	50.00	Hire of room for Parish Council mtg
14-Mar-25	B/P to: James Harrison	180.00	Weeding, Planting, Watering Summer 2024
19-Mar-25	B/P to: Employee 1	111.06	Clerk salary tax mth 12
21-Mar-25	LANCASHIRE CC GCF	-741.50	Community Orchard Grant from LCC
25-Mar-25	B/P to: UK Tents Ltd	4,069.98	2 x Marquees to be gifted to Walmer Bridge Village Hall
31-Mar-25	Service Charge	6.00	Bank monthly service charge
Deposit a/c			
31-Mar-25	Credit Interest	-214.36	Interest earned

It was resolved that the above transactions be approved.

8. **Payments approved by email or pre-approved and retrospectively noted – None.**
9. **Payments for approval: It was resolved** that the Clerk's claim for Mar 2025 of 17.01 hours and expenses of £3.70 be approved.
10. **To receive the Clerk's Financial Statement report as at 31st Mar 2025.** The Clerk reported that the closing balance for the financial year 24/25 is £66,424.88; of this balance £23,940.55 is earmarked as CIL monies. **It was resolved** that the clerk's financial statement be approved.
11. **To review Standing Orders and Direct Debits:** The Parish Council reviewed the existing Standing Orders and Direct Debits and **it was resolved** that these be approved.
12. **To discuss invoice re clearing of brook on New Year's Day 2025:** The Chair reported that he had tried to contact the contractor who had issued the invoice to raise some queries, he had left voice mail messages but no responses had been received. **It was resolved** that the Parish Council will take no further action with regard to this invoice.



13. **Police Speed Checks in Local Area – Update** Cllr Evald reported that both Much Hoole and Longton had received mobile speed checks. Unfortunately, whilst Little Hoole had signed up to the speed check initiative Little Hoole had not been included, but the Police has stated that, if the initiative continues, then Little Hoole will be considered.
14. **To discuss summer planting and mower / servicing costs** It was resolved that quotes would be obtained for summer planting. Mower / servicing costs see section 17.
15. **To consider the Central Lancashire Plan (Planning Document)** It was resolved that no comments would be submitted to SRBC with regard to this.
16. **To approve retrospectively costs for Bus leaflets re new bus service.** With regard to the recent introduction of bus service 115 (Leyland & Chorley local service) both Little Hoole Parish Council and Much Hoole Parish Council had collaborated on the production of a leaflet to promote the service. The cost of producing the leaflet and delivery to all households in Little Hoole is in the region of £180. It was resolved that this cost be approved retrospectively.
17. **To discuss lawn mower service/parts/fuel re Community Garden** Cllr Dryden reported that he had purchased a new commercial mower from his own monies which he uses on a voluntary basis for the grass maintenance of the community garden and Walmer Green. Cllrs Evald and Dryden withdrew from the meeting whilst this item was discussed. It was resolved that the Parish Council would pay for any servicing, repairs and fuel for this mower on the production of supporting receipts.
18. **To approve request to fund cost of new shears - (approx. £40) for volunteer (Cllr Paul Cocker – Much Hoole Parish Council) who inspects and helps to maintain public rights of way in Little Hoole & Much Hoole.** It was resolved that the Parish Council would fund the cost of the shears.
19. **Gift / Grant to Walmer Bridge Village Hall re Marquees– Update.** The two new professional marquees funded by the Parish Council for use by Walmer Bridge Village Hall have now been delivered.
20. **Community Orchard – Update** Cllr Wilcox reported that the planting of the Community Orchard had been a great success. The Community Orchard was funded by a grant from Lancashire County Council.
21. **Zip Wire project – Update** Cllr Evald reported that project is now complete although the Zip wire may need tensioning after initial use. It was resolved that whilst the Parish Council had funded the Zip wire, the ownership of this asset had now been passed to SRBC as they have assumed responsibility for all ongoing costs with regard to insurance, maintenance and safety checks.

22. **To discuss Parish Council's insurance renewal** The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's insurance was due for renewal as of 31st May 2025.
23. **To discuss progress re switch over to .gov.uk email addresses.** Most councillors have now transferred to their .gov.uk email addresses.
24. **To discuss the method / cost by which the Clerk is refunded for printing It was resolved** that the Parish Council would fund the purchase by the Clerk of all future printer cartridges and copier paper, as he reported that his printer is now solely used for Little Hoole Parish Council business.
25. **Information and Updates:** This item is purposefully not recorded; it is to allow Councillors a short time to discuss any matters that might result in a future agenda item. No financial or legal decisions are made.
26. **Correspondence: email from Hoole St Michael's Church re grant towards repair of Church bells.** The Clerk reported that he had forwarded a grant application form as requested by Hoole St Michael's Church.
27. **Date & Time of Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting is to be held on the 12th May, 2025, The Lounge, Walmer Bridge Village Hall, the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will commence at 18.45pm, to be immediately followed by the May meeting at approximately 19.15pm.

Signed as a correct record – Laurence Dryden – Chair. 12th May 2025

