|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DRAFT Minutes of the Little Hoole Parish Council Meeting**  **Held at 7pm on Monday 14th July 2025, at Walmer Bridge Village Hall**  **In attendance:** Cllrs L Dryden (Chair), S Evald, D Owen, T Wilcock, S Rainsbury. Mr P Cafferkey (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer); and 2 members of the public. |  |

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs P Ashby & J Rainsbury.
2. **To agree the minutes of the last Parish Council mtg: It was resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2025, be accepted as a true record and were agreed unanimously.
3. **To receive declarations of interest:** None
4. **Matters arising from the minutes of last meeting:** None
5. **Public Time - matters raised by members of the public:** The Clerk read out a very polite and positive email from a young person thanking the Parish Council for listening to the wishes of young people and providing the Zip Wire on Dob Lane Park.   
     
   A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for the weeding and planting of flowers in and around the village.  
     
   A query was raised as to whether permission had been granted by the Parish Council for the banner displayed on one of the circular planters on the corner of Dob Lane, the Clerk confirmed that no such permission had been granted.
6. **Planning Applications:**
7. 07/2025/00438/DIS. Bakers Farm Brook Lane Little Hoole PR4 5JB. Discharge of conditions 4-6 and 9-12 pursuant to permission 07/2024/00823/OUT - outline application for the erection of 3 dwellings with access.
8. 07/2025/00429/PIP. Brookhouse Brook Lane Little Hoole PR4 5JB. Permission in principle for the erection of up to 4 no. dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling.
9. 07/2025/00398/HOH. Hill View Poultry Farm Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB. Single storey side extension.
10. 07/2025/00477/HPD. Glen Dene Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB. Application for prior approval for single storey rear extension. Proposed length - 8m, height - 2.8m (eaves) - 3.6m (ridge).
11. 07/2025/00475/CLD. Glen Dene Knoll Lane Little Hoole PR4 4TB. Certificate of lawful development for a proposed single storey side extension (garage)

There were no objections to the above planning applications.

1. **Update re Planning Item 07/2025/00194/FUL. Land Adjacent 26 Hall Carr Lane Walmer Bridge. Erection of 2 no. self-build dwellings.** Following new documentation appearing on the SRBC planning website with regard to this application, **it was resolved** that the Parish Council would send a further letter of objection.
2. To approve the following transactions in the bank for June 2025.  
     
     
   **It was resolved** that the above transactions be approved.
3. **Payments approved by email or pre-approved and retrospectively noted**. None
4. **Clerk’s Claim for June 2025. It was resolved** that the Clerk’s pay claimfor June 2025 be approved, comprising 18.39 hours.
5. **Finance Statement as at 30 June 2025.** The Clerk reported thatas at 30 June 2025 Little Hoole Parish Council is forecast to have a closing balance as at 31 March 2026 of £50,402.07, compared with an opening balance at 1 April 2025 of £66,424.88. This represents an estimated net expenditure during 2025-26 of £16,022.81. Of the estimated balance of £50,402.07, as at 31 March 2026, an amount of £8,252.43 is earmarked for CIL expenditure, but as yet remains uncommitted against any specific project.
6. **Drain on Corner of Dob Lane and Liverpool Old Road – Update:** The Chair reported that he had made contact with the Chief Executive’s Office at Lancashire County Council. As at 14 July the Chief Executive had issued a holding response pending further enquiries and information gathering with County Council officers, a further response is expected within the next 11 working days.
7. **Summer activities programme funded by the Parish Council – Update:** No further update other than the fact that the activities, each Thursday during the month of Aug, were to proceed as planned
8. **Summer Planting – Update:** The Chair reported that a local resident, Mr M Worthington, would be doing some of the Lengthsman type duties, e.g. weeding, planting etc.
9. **Update: grant application from Little Hoole Primary School PTA for £2,000 for playground markings.** The Clerk reported that the PTA has provided a quote of £7,336.95 for this work; for which the Parish Council has previously resolved to provide a grant for £2,000 towards the cost (mins 9th June 2025, item 18 refers.).
10. **Remembrance Day Poppies: It was resolved** thatexpenditure for lamppost poppies and wreaths be approved in line with the previous year’s expenditure i.e. approx. £210.00.
11. **Christmas Lights & Christmas Tree: It was resolved** to purchase a Christmas tree from Bolton Christmas Trees, as last year’s tree (from a different supplier) was not considered to be the same quality (although slightly cheaper) than that supplied previously by Bolton Christmas Trees. **It was resolved** to purchase new Christmas lights for the trees in the circular planters as some lights were found to be not working last Christmas. It was also agreed that a price would be obtained for a contractor to take down the old lights and to install the new lights.
12. **A59 Crossing Refuge / Patrol:** It was agreed to continue dialogue with Hoole Parish Council with regard to a pedestrian refuge and/or crossing patrol for the A59. However, Councillors pointed out that previous approaches to LCC for a pedestrian refuge had been rejected by LCC, since then the speed limit on the A59 has been decreased to 50mph, thus making it even more unlikely that LCC would agree to any such proposal. The Parish Council would continue to consider options for a school crossing patrol but were minded that employment of a school crossing patrol officer by Little Hoole Parish Council was not realistic.
13. **Proposal by Hoole Parish Council to collaborate with Little Hoole Parish Council on a local business directory of local services and suppliers: It was resolved** not to approve this proposal on the basis that Little Hoole Parish Council felt that they were not in a position to be seen to recommend any contractors or suppliers to members of the public. Also, Lancashire County Council Trading Standards already operate a Safe Trader Scheme at the following link <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/safe-trader-scheme/>
14. **Progress re Children’s bowling at Hoole Bowling Club**. Following the award by the Parish Council of a grant to Hoole Bowling Club for the purchase of Junior Bowls the Clerk updated the Parish Council as to progress i.e. Saturday morning sessions have been held on the bowling green for young people. A qualified trainer from the bowling club has also been into Hoole St Michael’s Primary School to hold an indoor bowls session, and Little Hoole Primary School has also been approached. This is in addition to sessions held on the green with Hoole Cubs and Beavers.
15. **Parish Councillors to confirm their Declarations of Interest are up to date.** The Clerk reminded Councillors to confirm that their declarations of interest, as declared on the website, are still relevant and up to date.
16. **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**.**
17. **Correspondence** – See item 5.
18. **Date & Time of Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting is to be held on Mon 11th Aug, 2025, 7pm, The Lounge, Walmer Bridge Village Hall.