



## **Minutes of a meeting of Hilldale Parish Council**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 7.00pm**

### **at Hilldale Village Hall**

**Participants:** Cllr G Ward (Chairman), Cllr S Ashcroft, Cllr I Bell, Cllr D Whittington, and Trish Grimshaw (Parish Clerk).

1. **Apologies for Absence** – None
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
  - a. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in relation to items on the agenda
  - b. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests
  - c. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriateNone received
3. **Public Participation:** Cllr Whittington referred to the triangle piece of land at the top of Malt Kiln Lane which is frequently damaged by large vehicles. Cllr Whittington advised of a series of white posts which are located on Tannersmith Lane which may be a solution; Parish Councillors agreed to view these prior to the next meeting.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting - to resolve to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 07.11.24.** It was resolved to approve the minutes proposed by the Chairman and unanimously ratified by all.
5. **Parish Clerks Report (previously circulated).** The Clerk highlighted correspondence received from NALC regarding the impact of the government's changes to national insurance, which Parish Councils now need to consider in the 2025/26 budget as the threshold falls from £9,100 to £5,000.  
The Clerk to obtain further information regarding the second invoice received today from the drainage company.  
Parish Councillors agreed to a new bin will be ordered for the kitchen.  
LCC have requested use of the hall on 1 May 2025; a charge of £450.00 was agreed at the meeting.  
The Clerk reiterated the smart meter (electricity) is still not working, this has been reported to EON.
6. **Items for information - reports from outside bodies.** None to report.
7. **To discuss progress with the request to United Utilities (under the Freedom of Information Act) for plans of the field drainage system.** Iain Pilling from UU has offered a team's call with the Clerk and Parish Councillors. A date and time will be set in the new year.
8. **To discuss the quotation for the supply and installation of LED lighting in the kitchen and office and agree a way forward.** It was ratified to go ahead with the quotation for x 2 5ft lights and the x 2 replacement spotlights. Following investigation the remaining lights (detailed on the quotation) already have LED bulbs fitted.
9. **To receive an update on the stage curtain.** The Clerk received a request from the stage curtain company to attend site in order to re-measure for the curtain. Following rearrangement this took place on 16/12/24.

10. **To discuss and decide the provision of an emergency contact to be displayed on the playing field.** The Clerk previously circulated an example of wording used on Mawdesley Parish Council's play area. It was ratified to go ahead with similar wording and to include a disclaimer statement. The Clerk to e mail the final version to Parish Councillors for approval.
11. **To discuss the meeting held on 22.11.24 with LCC, Cllrs Ward and Bell regarding the location and type of SpID for Hilldale and agree a way forward.** At the meeting 3 possible sites were discussed and photographed. LCC returned 3 site suggestions, it was noted that 2 of these were from previous suggestions. Preferred locations discussed were a) near the village hall, b) by the primary school or c) near Parbold's SpID. A solar powered SpID and pole will be required. LCC will be contacted to liaise with the highway's authority for the relevant permissions. It was ratified to delegate the final decision to the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
12. **Planning Matters – to discuss and decide a response (if applicable) to planning applications together with any received after the agenda is published.**

**Proposed conversion of an existing brick build barn and stable building to form a residential dwelling. Land to the rear of 60 Chorley Road Hilldale. Ref 2024/0934/FUL**

Parish Councillors to respond to Cllr Whittington with views by Friday 20/12/24.

13. **To agree a draft budget proposal for 2025/26 and agree priorities.** It was ratified to increase the cost of hiring the kitchen to £10.00 due to increased utility costs. Projects for 2025/26 to include is a new picnic bench (WLBC grant application), additional maintenance i.e. wood preserver for the fence; repairs to areas of tarmac on the car park and painting the toilets.
14. **To consider and approve the schedule of accounts for payment.** Approved.
15. **Financial reports to ratify accounts and authorise payments.** Approved.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.13

**Clerk: Trish Grimshaw                      E mail: Clerk@hilldaleparishcouncil.gov.uk**

**Signed..... G Ward .....      G WARD, CHAIRMAN, Dated .... 23.01.25 .....**