



## Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council

The Village Hall, Firbeck Avenue, Laughton-en-le-Morthen, S25 1YD

(Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025)

Present: Councillors: Mr K Downing (Chairman), Mrs J Cutting (Vice Chairman), Mr J Hall, Mr T Stanway, Ms J Valenzuela and the Clerk, Caroline Havenhand. In attendance Parishioners: Two Parishioners attended the meeting.

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
<b>25/79</b>	<b>To receive and approve reasons for absence.</b>	
	Councillor T Hutson gave reasons for absence. It was <b>resolved</b> that the reasons for absence are approved.	
<b>25/80</b>	<b>To receive declarations of interest in respect of business on the agenda.</b>	
	No interests were declared.	
<b>25/81</b>	<b>To authorise the chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025, as a true and correct record.</b>	
	The minutes were confirmed as a true and correct record, and the Chairman accordingly signed the file copy.	
<b>25/82</b>	<b>To identify any agenda items which may be considered following the exclusion of the press and public, due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.</b>	
	None.	
	<b>Open Forum for Parishioners in Attendance – Public Participation Session</b>	
	No items were raised.	
<b>25/83</b>	<b>To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.</b>	
25/83.1	To receive any written applications for the office of parish councillor and to co-opt a candidate to fill the existing casual vacancy. To be followed by delivery of their acceptance of office. If no applications are received to agree further advertisement.	
	No applications were received. This matter was deferred until the next meeting with the vacancy to be advertised again.	<b>Clerk</b>
25/83.2	To receive a report from Ward Councillors.	
	Ward Councillor Amanda Clarke was unable to attend the meeting but sent an update which was circulated to Council.	

25/83.3	To review the most recent play inspection report and agree any action.	
	Council engage RMBC monthly to check the equipment and point out any areas that may need repair or monitoring. The clerk circulated the latest play report dated 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 which was designated “Moderate risk” due to issues with the Cableway. The clerk has a meeting to get quotations for the play surface, and it was <b>resolved</b> that she ask for a quotation to repair the cableway issues and a few of the minor issues identified on the report.	<b>Clerk</b>
25/83.4	To provide an update on the addition of plaques to the hanging baskets	
	The clerk advised that the hanging basket plaques have now all been fitted by the contractor. Information noted by Council.	
25/83.5	To discuss village hall issues, including: - 83.5.1. Any update from the contractor on the flooring issues reported. 83.5.2. Progress with the lighting issues in the Car Park. 83.5.3. To discuss getting alternative quotes for metal guttering.	
	It was <b>resolved</b> that: - 83.5.1. The contractor will be asked to chase again for an update from their supplier. The clerk has expressed concerns about the delay in the response as this was reported months ago. 83.5.2. That an electrical contractor be requested to quote for the work that needs carrying out in the car park to replace the faulty contact. 83.5.3. The contractor has advised that they will quote for this work but nothing has been received yet.	<b>Clerk/ Councillor J Hall</b>
25/83.6	To continue the discussion to agree the revised plans for Phase 2 of the hall renovation.	
	An amendment to the plan was agreed in principle. It was <b>resolved</b> that the clerk contact the original architect to ask him to redraw that area to see what the revised ideas look like in practice.	<b>Clerk</b>
25/83.7	To provide an update on the unplugged Speed Activated Sign, to discuss the Community Speed watch events and to request an update from Ward Councillors on any other speed reduction initiatives planned.	
	The clerk notified that the Neighbourhood team have organised for an engineer to visit to fix the sign. Information noted by Council.	
25/83.8	To notify Council that the grant for the bench has been submitted to the Neighbourhoods team.	
	The clerk confirmed that the grant has been submitted. It was <b>resolved</b> that if the grant is successful bench A will be selected from the two options provided by RMBC as it is recycled plastic and has arms.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>25/84</b>	<b>Matters requested by Councillors/Clerk.</b>	
25/84.1	To discuss any requests for financial assistance.	
	There were no requests for financial assistance.	
25/84.2	To discuss any Allotment issues.	
	The clerk advised that the two skips previously agreed are to be ordered shortly. The cost has increased this year to £245.00. Council <b>resolved</b> that the skips still be ordered despite the cost increase.	

25/84.3	To receive a notice from Laughton All Saints Church, in relation to St John's Church, Throapham. This is a notice of intention to apply to transfer maintenance responsibility for the churchyard to the Parish Council in accordance with the provisions of section 215 of the Local Government Act 1972.	
	Following receipt of the formal request under Section 215 of the Local Government Act 1972 for Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council to assume responsibility for the maintenance of the closed churchyard at St John's Church, Throapham, it was <b>resolved</b> that the clerk contact the electoral office to check whether this Church is in Laughton Parish as Councillors believe it to be in Dinnington. Applications under Section 215 should be addressed to the Parish Council area in which the Church is situated. The clerk is to write to Laughton All Saints to advise them that their request needs to be directed to Dinnington Town Council if the electoral office confirm this fact.	Clerk
25/85	To consider relevant planning applications as published on RMBC's weekly Lists 24 to 27 (2025). In particular, to discuss: -  None	
	Council <b>resolved</b> that no further action is required at this time.	
25/86	<b>To receive information on any previous planning applications/issues and discuss further action.</b> Correspondence relating to Whitestone Solar Farm development and a meeting invite.	
	Council <b>resolved</b> that Councillor K Downing will attend the meeting.	Cllr Downing.
25/87	<b>Staffing Matters</b>	
25/87.1	To receive an update on volunteers for the village beds and agree whether to advertise the grounds maintenance work again or contract it out.	
	It was <b>resolved</b> that following no response to the advert an advert for the ground's maintenance operative, the original contract should be advertised with the inclusion of 2 hours per week for litter picking, village signage and car park maintenance. A quote to be obtained to bring the beds back to an acceptable standard before winter.	Clerk
25/88	<b>Financial Matters</b>	
25/88.1	To receive the RFO'S report.	
	a) After 3 months of the financial year 47% of annual anticipated income has been received, as expected. 6% of planned expenditure has been spent. b) The account balance on 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 is £98,131.62. c) The first stage of the 2025/2026 Precept (£24,700) has been received from RMBC. d) Donations of £562.00 have been received for the village hall build and £968.00 for hanging basket project, as well as a VAT refund of £207.52. Information noted by Council	
25/88.2	To approve accounts for payment and note contractual payments made under clerk delegation. Please see Appendix 1.	
	Council <b>resolved</b> to note the contractual payments made and that the accounts due are agreed and can be paid. See Appendix 1 in the minutes.	
25/88.3	To receive bank reconciliation to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2025.	

	The bank reconciliation was verified and signed by two Councillors.	
25/88.4	To agree transfers to reserves.	
	It was <b>resolved</b> to make the following transfers to reserves: None	
25/88.5	To receive the Councillors quarterly report of receipts and payments.	
	It was <b>resolved</b> that this matter be deferred until next meeting as the check is due to be carried out on 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025.	Clerk
25/89	<b>To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</b>	
	It was <b>resolved</b> that the following items be added to September agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome of Whitestone meeting.</li> <li>• Outcome of Grant applications and Barrier issues.</li> </ul>	Clerk
25/90	<b>To fix the date and time of the next Ordinary Council Meeting (suggested 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025).</b>	
	It was <b>resolved</b> that the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7.15pm. In view of the fact that there is no meeting in August it was <b>resolved</b> to delegate decisions on any urgent matters to the clerk following discussion with the Chairman.	Clerk
	The meeting closed at 9.33 pm.	

**Chairman**

**Date 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Appendix 1 – Accounts paid or for payment

PAYMENT LIST - JULY 2025						
Date	Supplier	Item	Cheque No	Cost	VAT	Total
9th July 2025	Salaries	Payroll Employees	IB	£ 922.33		
				£ 26.00		
				£ 948.33		£ 948.33
16th July 2025	Spectrum Futures Payroll	Fees	IB	£ 19.65		£ 19.65
16th July 2025	Re-imburse Clerk	Expenses - Mileage	IB	£ 39.60		£ 39.60
16th July 2025	LVH CIO	Village Hall Hire for meeting	IB	£ 36.00		£ 36.00
16th July 2025	John Brailsfords Printers	Plaques	IB	£ 144.00	£ 28.80	£ 172.80
16th July 2025	John Brailsfords Printers	Newsletters	IB	£ 295.00		£ 295.00
16th July 2025	Lloyds Bank	Account Fee for rent and current account	DDR	£ 8.50		£ 8.50
30th July 2025	NEST	Pension payment	DDR	£ 47.78		£ 47.78
MAY 2025				£ 1,538.86	£ 28.80	£ 1,567.66
C/F				£ 5,455.08	£ 21.00	£ 5,476.08
YEAR TOTAL 2025/2026				£ 6,993.94	£ 49.80	£ 7,043.74