

## Parish Council of The Yealands

### Minutes

12 November 2024, 7.45pm, Yealand Village Hall

Present: Cllr Phillippa Williamson, Cllr Alan Greenwell, Cllr Roger Dent, Cllr Dawn Hancock (Chair) Cllr Gerry Moore, Cllr Sue Tyldesley, Anne Prescott, Joanne Wheeler, Clerk Rebecca Oaks.

48. To accept apologies

Cllr Arthurs, (attending a funeral).

49. To confirm minutes of previous meeting and sign them

**Confirmed** and signed

50. To receive reports of the County Councillor and City Councillors

**Cllr Williamson** – All is well, busy as usual, good finances, but the cost of meeting the rise in employer’s contributions to National Insurance will be £16 million, this will be funded through increased efficiency including the use of AI. Creation of the Combined County Authority - The statutory documents will be published shortly and the new authority will be in place before the end of March (maybe sooner). The Combined Authority will draw down an extra £20 million from central government, and there will be no increased cost to residents. The CA has no tax raising powers in itself, so no precept. The recent Govt budget spoke of a possible local government reorganization. The history of Lancashire with its unique geography will make agreement on further changes, difficult to achieve. District councils to remain the same. The district leaders have agreed who will sit on the Combined Authority.

## **Report by Cllr. Alan Greenwell to Yealands Parish Council 12/11/24**

### **1) The Budget & Council Funding**

a) According to the Budget Red Book, the government's impending devolution white paper will include working with councils to simplify their structures. The District Councils' Network has warned that this reorganisation poses a threat to district councils, as they could eventually be swallowed up into larger unitary councils. We watch this space.

b) The Budget offers 3.2% real-terms increase for the whole sector in 2025-26 much of which will be directed to social care. This does not offer substantial relief but does draw back those councils near the cliff edge of bankruptcy.

### **2) Lancaster District Council Leadership Change**

As you know, the Council is run by a coalition of Labour, Greens and LibDems. After the recent by-election, the Greens now have the largest number of councillors. Caroline Jackson is the leader of the Greens. Because the current Council Leader (Philip Black) is ill, Caroline, as Deputy, has been filling his role but is now likely to become Leader of the Council in her own right.

### **3) Lancaster Area Energy Plan (LAEP)**

This has been published and approved by the Cabinet.

Lancaster Council plans to be net zero by 2030 for its own resources (such as Salt Ayre). The Laep plan outlines scenarios for the whole

district for net zero by 2050 (the current Govt aim), by 2040 & by 2035. The funding for these plans will be some balance between individual investment and central grants, yet to be revealed.

Communal buildings, like this Village Hall, can act as exemplars as we move into a greener future. The solar panels are great -- there could be a lot more -- heat pumps need to be considered at some stage. Various funding sources can be explored.

#### **4) Meadows Close**

I was called out to a report of rubbish on the Meadows Close. Turned out it was to do with a local building project and not a problem.

Approach hedges need attention.

#### **Discussion**

Gaskell Hall spends £4500 a year on oil heating and has no solar panels. YVH can lead by example but we are not considering an upgrade of the heating at the moment.

Not enough capacity in production to provide Heat pumps for all the new housing proposed. But they can at least be up to spec with insulation.

Recycling of plastic? None of the companies recycling waste will take the hard plastic as there is no money in it for them. Paper and cardboard prices have plummeted this might have subsidised plastic in the past.

Reuse and use less the only answer

**Cllr Tyldesley** – National Landscape Executive meeting was a positive event, with a lot of interesting projects being reported on. Including their

Farming in Protected Landscapes (FIPL) funding – Coppice Co-op have been involved in bringing women from Accrington out for free on the train to do wood crafts.

They are about to write the Management Plan and some consultation has been going on. It would seem that the Government is strengthening protection of NL.

Arnside has a scheme to build 100% affordable housing, interesting project. Arnside PC bought the land.

Silverdale had a meeting Lune Valley Trust Passive housing (Halton) scheme. Unfortunately, no one was available from PC to attend. With this model, land is usually gifted to the Trust, so requires a generous benefactor.

Cllr Tyldesley has had an Air source heat pump fitted, only £4000 with the grant. Needed new pipes and radiators. Not been tested in the cold weather as yet.

Cllr Hancock is going to meet up with the MP Lizzie Collinge at Leighton Hall and will take local issues.

51. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation

Prospective Councillors – welcome

Election or co-option, request for a written submission

Waiting to hear from the elections office on Thursday re co-option

52. To receive declarations of interest; to include personal and personal and prejudicial interests.

None

53. To consider planning applications and consultations:

24/00951/FUL Brow Foot Farm, Erection of a roof over yard and concrete apron.

Permitted 22 Oct 2024

24/00987/FUL Holmere Hall Erection of a timber storage building including a carport

Awaiting decision

24/0195/TCA 37 Silverdale Road Ash tree fell and ivy remove

Awaiting decision

54. To approve payments and finance

Clerk Fee Nov, Dec 2024	£789.36 SO
Clerks Nest Pension Nov, Dec 2024	£60.06 DD
Gary Rowlinson (paid 24/9/24)	£360
LCC Boardwalk repairs (paid 22/10/24)	£347.23
ICO (paid 24/10/24)	£35
SLCC membership renewal	£120
Cllr Hancock plants for pump	£5

**Approved**

Income: Interest £24.18

Bank balance: 4 November 2024 Business account £ 12,955.54

Treasurers account £99.51

NI for Clerk will we have to pay Statutory pay rise,

**Action** Clerk to find out the rates and circulate.

55. To consider road issues. Speeding brought up by the School.

There had been a couple of very scary incidents on Footeran Lane and where it joins Silverdale Road, the children walk this stretch to get to the forest school site.

**Action** Clerk to report to the Road Safety Partnership and suggest that the school does too. [Speed Concern Submission – Lancashire Road Safety Partnership](#)

**Action** Clerk to obtain signs and get permission to put up on the existing infrastructure.

Suggestion to ask landowners if it was possible to make a path from the school to the forest schools.

**Action** Clerk to speak to the school and perhaps write to the landowner asking for a meeting.

**Action** To convene a subgroup to look at speeding issues specifically and see if there is any possibility of reducing the speed on this stretch.

56. To consider the trampoline on the Meadows

**Action** Clerk to ask Simon Lewis to refix the tiles also second quote from Cllr Tyldesley's contact.

57. To receive reports from the outside groups-

**National Landscape** as above

**Trowbarrow Trust** Cllr Dent Went to meeting with Dougie, managing the safety of the rock face. Inspection and signage and vegetation management to minimise risk. The climbing routes are managed by the BMC. Grazing regimes for nature.

**Mansergh Trust** Clerk. **Meeting on the 20 November**

**Village Hall Committee**, Cllr Moore, Cllr Hancock AGM next Tuesday 20, cheese and wine. 8pm. New recycling bin. Upgrade of the EV point imminent. Light up Yealand and Tractor Trundle on 7<sup>th</sup>December.

**Allotment Group.** Clerk **Magazine sent from Allotment Soc.**

**The Archbishop Hutton Sole Trustee Company Ltd** Cllr Hancock.

Under the new constitution Cllr Hancock needs to stand down next year so we need a new representative for the PC.

**Dr Sherlock's Charity** Cllr Arthurs/John Smith

**Canal** - Check the buoyancy aid - Cllr Moore – There is a leak from the canal and Clerk did try to contact the Canal Trust (without success) but the responsibility lies with the landowner.

58. To consider the MUGA refurbishment – meeting with Sharon Phillips

**Action** Clerk to set up the meeting with Sharon Phillips.

59. To consider items for the newsletter

Cllr Greenwell to write something on the digital divide.

**Action** Cllr Moore to organise a tech session at Coffee Stop on a Monday morning, in the New Year.

**Action** Joanne Wheeler to write something about reporting speeding to [Speed Concern Submission – Lancashire Road Safety Partnership](#)

Plus a further request for people to report road issues on Love Clean Streets.

Alan Tyldesley would like to step down as newsletter editor, he has done almost 100 editions. Amanda Bingley has offered to take this over.

60. To note the date and time of next meeting.

First Wed of the month - Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup> Village Hall

Prior apologies from Joanne Wheeler.