

Ince Blundell Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held 18th January 2016

53. **Present:** Cllrs K Sharpe (In the Chair), R Jenkins, R Waugh, M Ashton, M Mansour. Mr I Cowell(Clerk).

54: **Apologies:** Sefton Cllr C Page.

55: **Others Attending:** Mr Ashton, Mr Billington, Mrs Brown.

56: **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Sharpe declared he was Chairman of H-Alt Group.

56: **Open Forum:** a) *War Memorial:* Mrs Catherine Brown said that since 1991 she had personally maintained the War Memorial and thought it was time for someone else to take over the task of looking after it. She pointed out that Hightown had maintained their War Memorial. The Clerk pointed out that the Hightown War Memorial was regularly maintained by volunteers from Hightown Village and that before Remembrance Day contractors, he thought, were employed by Sefton MBC tidied up, cut the grass and generally made it tidy. There was also a need to ensure that there was a means of preventing the wreaths being blown away by the wind. The Chairman thanked Mrs Brown for her unstinting dedication over the years in maintaining the War Memorial. The members then discussed the options: To contact the War Memorials Trust to see if they could get funding; to approach one of the Garden Centres to make a regular inspection of

the War Memorial and if necessary plant flowers in the containers; to discuss with Sefton MBC a Maintenance programme for the War Memorial. All these options will be explored. b) ***Footpath opposite the Garden Centres Overgrown***. Mrs Brown complained that the hedging of the footpath had been overgrown for three years. The Chairman said he had spoken to John Tyrer in the past who had agreed to cut back the hedging and also reduce the undergrowth invading the path. John had then asked Sefton MBC could they put up barriers/warning signs in Lady Green Lane so that he could carry out the work but they had refused. The Clerk said he had e-mailed Catie Page about the situation and as far as he was aware it had been done last year. Mr Brown disputed this and maintained that it was only when she contacted Cllr Tim Hale that any action had been taken.

c) ***Village Planter***: Mrs Brown then raised the issue of having a planter in the Village on the grass verge just before Carr House Lane. She pointed out that Hightown had such planters. The Clerk pointed out that Hightown Parish Council had not paid for the Planters in the Village as they had been donated to Hightown by Formby Parish Council when they had invested in alternative street furniture in Formby Village. Moreover, the planters were maintained by volunteers from the Village Gardening Club. Cllr Jenkins pointed out the limited funds available to the Ince Blundell

Parish Council and the difficulty in getting volunteers from the Village to maintain planters. The Chairman said the Parish Council would explore obtaining a suitable planer and seeks fund to assist in doing so. d)

Damaged Electric Lamp Standard in The Close: Mrs Brown drew attention to the damaged lamp standard in the Close which, in her opinion, could be dangerous and urgent need of repair. The Clerk will inspect and initiate action on this matter.

57: Minutes of Previous Meeting: Resolved
“Approved”

58: Matters Arising: a) Local Plan: The Clerk said that according to the Revised Programme for January 2016 the Hearing Sessions had finished on Friday 15th January 2016. The Inspector would now report on Sefton’s Local Plan which could take some months. His initial report was expected February. The Chairman said he understood that the Inspector had been surprised by the amount of low lying ground in Sefton which could be subject to flooding. b) Wind Farm: The Chairman said that based on the work carried out by Alan Cunningham and others he was drafting a submission on behalf of the Village and the Parish Council which he would circulate to each member for comment. He also understood 100 letters of objection had already been submitted to West Lancs Borough Council and that there were an additional 46 letter in the Village to be forwarded to West Lancs Council. The

Chairman also said because of the interest in the Scheme West Lancashire Borough Council had extended the final submission date into the first two weeks of February.

59: Correspondence: a) *Sefton MBC re Tax Base and Top up Grant*: The estimate of Current Band “D”

Properties in Ince Blundell is 157.28. The top up grant (£363.00) will apply this year but next year Sefton MBC are working on the assumption it may not be paid next year and should, therefore, be taken account of when setting the Parish Precept next year. b) ***Autella Payroll Services - Pension Responsibility of Parish*** Council

regarding its employees’: As an employer, the Parish Council has new duties to anyone working for the Council: who is aged between 16 and 74; who works in the UK; for whom you deduct income tax and National Insurance Contributions from their wages. The Council is obliged to enrol those earning over £10,000 or more. Records have to be kept for 6years. *Comment: As the Clerk is over the age of 74 and is not eligible to Pay National Insurance but eligible to pay tax on his income, there is no other obligation on the Parish Council. The Council has already registered with the Pension Regulator which it is obliged to do.* c) ***North End Lane Request for 30mph Speed Limit***: Due to an accident that took place outside Cleaver Cottages when a lady driving her car into her property was hit in the back by a car coming from the A565. Sefton MBC

have indicated that a 30mph restriction cannot be imposed on the road, however, the hedging on the bend would be cut back the number of chevrons indicating the bend would be increased and the road surface would be included in next years' programme and Slow signs painted on the approach to the bend.

d) ***Sefton Rights of Way Meeting: 28th January 2016*** at Ainsdale Discovery Centre. Chairman unavailable to attend this date .e) ***Ten Parishes Meeting – 28th***

January 2016 7.30pm Maghull Town Hall. f) ***Note of Thanks from Mrs Esterson:*** Expressing appreciation for the friendly reception she and her Husband received at the Christmas Tree Lighting.

60: **Planning: *Lady Green Fisheries, Orrell Hill Lane, Ince Blundell: Conversion of an agricultural building to a dwelling DC/2015/00138:*** The Members agreed to submit an objection to this application.

61: **Finances:** a) ***Precept:*** Resolved: "The Precept for 2016/2017 be set at £1,900.00". b) ***Current Account:*** £1717.99 (27 Nov 2015). ***Accounts for Payment:*** Cllr Ashton £57.55 Village Web Site 1&1 cheque 100166; SLCC Membership £48.00 cheque 100167; I R Cowell Stationery £45.99 cheque 100168; Cllr K Sharpe – Christmas Tree Lighting Expenses £50.95 cheque 100169; Autela Payroll Services £37.50 cheque 100170; I R Cowell Salary £132.00 cheque 100171; HMRC Tax on Salary £30.00 cheque 100172; Mr S Caffrey – Repair of Notice Board; £175.00 cheque 100174; I. R. Cowell,

£60.00: Cartridges & Stationery down loading Wind Farm material cheque 100175; Ince Blundell Village Hall Committee £25.00 cheque 100177.

62: Any Other Business: Members discussed whether to plant a permanent Christmas Tree in front of the Village Hall: Inquiry to be made at Lady Green re the cost of a tree, etc.

63: Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd March 2016.

Draft Minutes subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

Chairman