

## **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at The Pendle Room, St Nicholas Church at 7pm**

**Members Present** Councillor A Haworth in the chair  
 Councillor C Eaves  
 Councillor C Guirdham  
 Councillor I Jackson  
 Councillor K Marks  
 Councillor M Pilkington  
 Councillor A Rickard  
 Councillor R Vickers

**Also present** 3 members of public,

1. **Apologies** for Absence – Councillor S Clarke and Borough Councillor R Newmark
2. **Declarations of Members Interest of items on the Agenda** - None
3. **Public Participation** : Thanks were expressed to Mrs F Haworth for her work on the Rose Garden. Traffic issues raised – access onto St Nicholas Avenue, Alston Close is being used as a car park by nearby residents, speed of traffic through the village, parking on a regular basis on Double Yellow Lines on Padiham Road and access for emergency vehicles onto St Nicholas Avenue.  
 Old printworks- The following issues were reported – Building materials in some instances are not the same as the original application. The original 106 agreement stated 1 in 5 of the properties will be 15% below market value, there is a potential change for 1 to be 40% below market value.  
 Councillors agreed to invite a representative from RVBC to the next meeting in order that they may explain the process of change/deviation from original plans and why in some instances these changes take place without discharge or further consent.  
 Victoria Mill – complaints of noise from site and concerns over raised levels to original plans
4. **Minutes of meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019**  
**RESOLVED** Minutes approved & signed
5. **Accounts for payment**  
**RESOLVED** the accounts for payment be approved as per schedule
6. **Internal Auditors Report**  
 The Internal Auditor had completed his report which was duly presented to the meeting showing no non compliances  
**RESOLVED** the report accepted
7. **Annual Governance Statement 2018-19**  
 The Accounting statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 were read and Councillors confirmed the responses to these which will now be published via the website.  
**RESOLVED** confirmed and accepted
8. **Accounting Statements 2018/19**  
 The figures were reviewed and approved and will now be published via the website  
**RESOLVED** approved

**9. Planning Applications -****Application 3/2019/0444- Victoria Mill, Watt St.**

Full application for amendments to the levels of plots 7 to 21 and 25 to 30 of residential development (pursuant to planning permission 3/2018/0361 (for the demolition of existing structures and removal of culvert to Sabden Brook; development of 30 dwellings including reconstruction of former Marbil office building as new dwellings; reconstruction of base of mill chimney as an ecology tower and associated access and landscaping.

Councillors had met on site to review the proposals and

**RESOLVED** No Objections

**9b. Update on previous applications – Old Printworks – Stubbins Lane**

As per comments raised in public participation, there are deviations from original approval in terms of building materials and 106 agreement

**10. Consideration was given to improvements to promote the website & communications**

Councillors were keen to promote the website and its content and were keen to direct people to the contact form and the parish council email address. It was agreed notices will be put in the notice boards to direct residents. There was also discussion about communication and social media and councillors were made aware of the national association position.

The NALC is currently working on a policy which covers social media usage for local councils. In the meantime we are advised that social media should be used with caution. Councillors should be careful of becoming involved in forums and if commenting should always ensure it is very clear whom they are commenting on behalf of – i.e. as an individual or as a councillor.

Good practice is to refer the person commenting, to the council (via its email or other contact details), the council can then formally respond.

Councillors were advised not to make comment in their official capacity unless the issue has been discussed at a parish council meeting and only if they have been given authority by the council to do so.

A social media forum is a useful tool to share information but a tool which can result in comments being mis-construed unless used correctly.

It was of concern to the council that sometimes comments were being put on social media under the banner of Sabden Parish Council when in fact the parish council had neither discussed nor made comment on the issue. All posts have been useful/helpful information but sometimes councillors have been unaware of the issue.

It was agreed that Cllr R Vickers will take on the responsibility of updating the website and he will also monitor social media and refer individuals to the parish council using the following standard wording.

‘Sabden Parish Council value your input and would be obliged if you could direct any comments you have to [info@sabdenparish.org.uk](mailto:info@sabdenparish.org.uk) in order that we may officially acknowledge and respond.’

The parish councillors are aware of a couple of well used pages on facebook – Sabden Past & Present and Sabden Community pages and for a trial period have decided to archive the parish council page.

Any notices or information will be posted on the community pages so we will still have a presence

**11. Consideration was given to the recent vandalism to the brook banking**

It was very disappointing to find young people destroying the willow weaving along the banking. The Pendle Hill partnership and Lengthsman will be asked if they can assist with remedial works

**12. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**Playground Report** – Little change. Some work on the safety surface under the swings.

Swingers and the activity centre still to be cleaned

Lanes marked out for the school sports day on the Lower Holme

**Borough Councillors Report** –Clr R Newmark sent a report via email

Refuse and recycle bins on the car park ..the decision has now been taken to remove all the old bottle recycle dome bottle banks ..RV have been having problems with the company who were instructed to change ours , so it has been decided to have them removed and instead supply us with one large recycle skip (with lift up lid ) RV would empty the bin regularly which would be easier to arrange additional emptying during peak months it would have mixed coloured glass bottles and jars .. We should be getting them imminently. We will still retain the grey bin for tins and plastic bottles ...

- 13. Date & Time of Next meeting** –Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 at 7pm in the Pendle Room at St Nicholas Church .