

HASLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

7TH November 2022

Commenced: 7.00 pm

Terminated: 9.25 pm

Present: Councillor G Sawyer (Deputy Chair in the Chair)
Councillors L Allen, H Blake, Y Bushill, C Davis, S Edgar, M Edwards, J Griffith,
A Heler, R Hovey, R McCarthy and M Mews

Also in attendance, Mrs M Clough, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Apologies for Absence: Councillors S Green, M Deakin and A Peake

1. WELCOME TO NEW CLERK

The Chair introduced Mrs Muna Clough, the newly appointed Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Members of the Parish Council, and welcomed her to her new role.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C Davis declared her interest in the Orchard, Gazette and Deep Freeze.
Councillors Allen, Blake and Edgar declared their interests in the Orchard.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(i) PCSOs L Jolley and M Oliver updated the Parish Council on several community matters and particularly highlighted:-

- The Residents Voice which was an initiative encouraging residents of the local community to submit any ideas for improvement, or raise any concerns;
- Lights on Bikes initiative.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

(ii) Emma Hartley (accompanied by her mother) representing young people in the community requested the erection of a shelter near Gutterscroft Park in which young people could meet and chat, even in bad weather. Miss Hartley agreed that she would ask her friends to help raise funds for the project.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Edgar to investigate feasibility and costs and report back to a future meeting.

(iii) In response to a query regarding Remembrance Sunday (referred to in Item 15 on the agenda), from the Vicar of St Matthew's Church, Councillor Allen reported that all appropriate arrangements had been made.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd October 2022 (at 7.00 pm) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd October 2022 (at 7.15 pm) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6. PAYMENTS APPROVED DURING OCTOBER AND INVOICES TO PAY

Consideration was given to a report detailing the payments approved in October 2022, and those awaiting approval.

RESOLVED

(i) That the list of payments previously approved be noted.

(ii) That the Clerk be requested to look into streamlining the existing system when reporting on regular payments.

(iii) That the following payments be approved:-

- Ref: 126 Pink Ladies Cleaning - £80.00
- Ref: 127 JD Services - £2701.00

(iv) That the payment of the invoice for the investigation into the Haslington Hum (Ref. 122) by the Institute of Acoustics, in the sum of £681.00 be delayed until the report which was commissioned by the Parish Council is received and considered.

7. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES FROM 01/04/2022 TO 30/09/2022

(i) Summary of Receipts and Payments

Councillor Hovey presented the report summarising receipts and payments from all cost centres and codes between 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2022.

RESOLVED

The Parish Council noted that as at 30th September 2022, funds in the sum of £83,183 had not been spent due to variances in the budgeted cost and the actual cost, in favour of the Parish Council.

(ii) Bank Reconciliation at 30th September 2022

Councillor Hovey presented the report.

RESOLVED

That the report be approved.

(iii) Reserves Balance to 30th September 2022

Councillor Hovey presented the report and highlighted the reserves that were earmarked for expenditure as soon as the projects had been finalised.

RESOLVED

(i) That the funding for projects listed in the report as “Earmarked”, in the sum of £107,736.51, be approved.

Councillor Edgar declared an interest and abstained from voting on the following matter:

(ii) That funding in the sum of £11,000 for streetlighting from the “General Fund” (with a balance at 30th September 2022 of £139,349.49) be approved.

8. PROPOSED PROJECTS - 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR

Members submitted the following proposals:-

- (i) A shelter for youngsters
- (ii) The replacement/rebuilding of the Gutterscroft Centre
- (iii) The provision of a new Parish Council website

RESOLVED

That suggestions for proposed projects for the 2023/2024 Financial Year be emailed to the Clerk for consideration at the Finance and Budget Working Group to be held on 28th November 2022.

9. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS TO WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED

That the appointments detailed on the Appendix to these Minutes be approved.

10. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council received grant applications from the Parish Church of St. Matthews and the Cricket Club.

RESOLVED

(i) That the sum of £250.00 be awarded to the Parish Church of St Matthew, Haslington for a Christmas Tree Festival, which was a whole community event involving the public and local organisations.

RESOLVED

It was noted that Councillor Blake abstained from the discussion and voting on the following grant application:

(ii) That the sum of £8,000.00 be paid to the Haslington Cricket Club towards the refurbishment of the ride on mower (cricket roller).

11. COMMUNITY ORCHARD AND JUBILEE TREE PLANTING

Councillor Edgar updated the Parish Council on the purchase and sponsorship of the picnic tables and trees (Minute 6 – 3rd October 2022 7.15pm refers).

Councillor Davis reported that two residents had raised concerns over the installation of the picnic tables and it was agreed that the matter be further investigated.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

12. MEMORIAL TO QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

Further to Minute 7 of the last meeting (7.15pm) Councillor Edgar updated the Parish Council on the supply and installation of a bench and four planters to commemorate the Queen and the Coronation of King Charles.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Edgar asks Broxap (the providers of the existing furniture, with which the new furniture will be matched) to provide a pro forma invoice to supply and install the bench and four planters, the details of which will be further considered by the Parish Council.

13. PARISH GAZETTE

Further to Minute 8 of the last meeting (7.15 pm) Councillor Davis reported that the first issue of the Parish Gazette was proposed to be released at the end of January. The format would be 16 pages of A5. The Gazette would be circulated 4 times a year. The printing of the magazine was covered by sponsorship. There would be 2500 – 3000 copies printed and circulated every quarter.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

14. CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

Councillor Griffith confirmed that all arrangements were in hand.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

15. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Chair referred Members to the discussion earlier in the meeting. (Refer to Minute 3 (iii) for details).

16. GUTTERSCROFT

The Parish Council considered matters relating to radiator covers, the freezer, signage, and a request from a neighbour for tree pruning. The Members felt that matters relating to the Gutterscroft should be considered by the Gutterscroft Management Committee, but noted that the signage did contain some outdated information.

RESOLVED

That the cost of updating the outdated information on the signage, be investigated.

17. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL UPDATE

Councillor Edgar reported on the following:-

- (i) He had written to Bovis/Vistry to encourage a discussion with the Parish Council regarding the site for the Medical Centre;
- (ii) The lights on the Gutterscroft and Mount Pleasant were now temporarily repaired. The lead time for the permanent upgrade was an additional 26 weeks.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

18. MATTERS RELATING TO WINTERLEY WARD

Councillor Blake reported on flooding outside the fishing pool in the parking areas, and added that Cheshire East Council is aware of this matter.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

19. MATTERS RELATING TO OAKHANGER WARD

Councillor Bushill reported that the Notice Board on Nursery Road was in a poor condition and would be removed, if possible, when the boundary changes were confirmed.

Councillor Bushill added that additional ditch markers were required, and she would be submitting photos to the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

20. MATTERS RELATING TO HASLINGTON VILLAGE WARD

Councillor Edgar reported that he was awaiting a second report from Cheshire Wildlife.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

21. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair considered that the following item of business should be considered urgently due to budgeting requirements for the Parish.

22. FINANCE WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED

That the Finance Working Group convenes on Monday, 28th November 2022 at 7.00 pm at Winterley Methodist Church.

23. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

24. APPOINTMENT OF NEW PARISH CLERK

RESOLVED

That the appointment of Mrs Muna Clough to the position of Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer be approved.

That thanks be extended to Ms Gill Ayres for her valuable contribution to the Parish Council over the last month.

APPENDIX

APPOINTMENTS TO PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Planning Working Group

Councillor Howard Blake (Chair)

Councillors Yvonne Bushill, Alison Heler, Richard Hovey and Richard McCarthy

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Councillor Steve Edgar (Chair)

Councillors Yvonne Bushill, Richard McCarthy, Tony Peake, Samantha Green, Alison Heler, Howard Blake, Lee Allen and Graham Sawyer

Mr Steve Welch (Co-opted Member of the Public)

Personnel Working Group

Councillor Janet Griffith (Chair)

Councillor Martin Deakin (Vice Chair)

Councillors Tony Peake, Alison Heler, Lee Allen, Richard Hovey, Melissa Mews and Graham Sawyer

Finance Working Group

Councillors Lee Allen, Yvonne Bushill, Martin Deakin, Richard Hovey and Graham Sawyer

The Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Gutterscroft Working Group

Councillor Janet Griffith (Chair)

Councillors Connie Davis, Samantha Green and Graham Sawyer

Mr Steve Welch (Co-opted Member of the Public)

Jubilee Trees and Orchard Working Group

Councillors Connie Davis, Janet Griffith and Steve Edgar

Ms Bev Moon, Mr Andy Stubbs and Mr Dave Woolmer (Co-opted Members of the Public)

Events and Publicity Working Group

Councillors Lee Allen, Connie Davies, Martin Edwards, Samantha Green, Janet Griffith

Sandbach Connected Communities

Councillor Connie Davis