

Gawsworth Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green BSc FSLCC
33 Manor Crescent, Knutsford, WA16 8DL
clerk@gawsworthpc.org.uk 07584 057 228
www.gawsworthpc.org.uk



Minutes

of the council meeting held

Tuesday 9th March 2021 (via Zoom)

20/145 Present

Cllrs Richards (*presiding*), Briercliffe, Briggs, Clarke, Mitchell, Parry, Shepherd and Woods.

A Keppel-Green (*Parish Clerk*)

20/146 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Tyrrell.

20/147 To note the declaration of members' interests

No member declared an interest in any item.

20/148 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

20/149 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held 9th February

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes subject to a correction to 20/134 to refer to Hillcrest Road in place of Surrey Road and an addition to 20/143 to state that the clerk would pass details of the offer to the clerk to the John Upton Charity.

20/150¹ To receive a report from Cheshire East Councillor(s)

Cllr Lesley Smetham joined the meeting and reported that the council has adopted its new corporate plan, that the Congleton household waste recycling centre was still earmarked for closure, that the council was moving to a committee system in May and highlighted that the Community Governance Review sub-committee has issued recommendations to the Constitution Committee in respect of changes to parish arrangements. Cllr Smetham further highlighted that the Tidy Britain Day had been moved to May.

Cllr Smetham responded to questions from members stating she had no

¹ Cllr Clarke joined the meeting during this item.

information on Hollands Nursery and that the lack of progress on enforcement of at the Chain and Gate and the Dark Lane stones was due to delays within the legal department.

Cllr Brian Puddicombe joined the meeting and advised that the closure of the Congleton household waste recycling centre would be discussed at the scrutiny meeting the next week and highlighted that cabinet had approved improvements to the Flowerpot junction at the in Macclesfield.

A review of the existing walking within of the SDMA had been undertaken and these would be factored into the emerging masterplan for its development, Cllr Puddicombe stated he would advise the council of these in due course; it was reported that the planning decision on the link road would be made at the Strategic Planning Board in April.

It was highlighted that the last plans for the SMDA completely separated the playing fields from the rest of the development and Cllr Puddicombe undertook to look into the matter.

The recent excessive queues at the Macclesfield household waste recycling centre were noted and Cllr Puddicombe reported that capital funds had been allocated for the centre for spending before any other centre closes.

20/151 To receive reports of Parish Matters

Cllr Briercliffe stated that he had reported a pothole to Cheshire East Council on the railway bridge and that whilst he had received notification that it had been resolved upon inspection it has not.

Cllr Briercliffe further highlighted that the stile on FP8 at the corner of Lowes Lane and Woodhouse Lane was too high and required a stepping-stone to use it; it was suggested that a gate be installed instead.

Cllr Woods highlighted that the Gawsorth Hub had acquired litter picking equipment to support parish litter picks and highlighted the quality of the repairs to stiles on footpaths near Danes Moss. Cllr Woods requested a future agenda item to discuss establishing a footpath group to survey and investigate improvements to footpaths and the establishment of permissive paths.

Cllr Woods further reported a problem along FP5 and FP6 becoming difficult to pass in wet weather due to cyclists and horses using the route and churning the surface. Cllr Woods recorded thanks to Charlotte Percy for organising the fairy doors initiative in Nancy's Wood; Cllr Woods noted that parking on Church Lane could be a problem.

Cllr Woods reported on an email from a resident requesting a rail be installed at the steps down from Benbrook Way to Woodhouse Lane and requested it be considered at a future meeting.

Cllr Shepherd reported patching had been undertaken on Penningtons Lane but that there had been no works to the verges. Cllr Shepherd further reported the byway section of the lane was further degrading.

Cllr Briggs noted a resident has been undertaking litter picks and thanked them for doing so. Cllr Briggs reported that some of the fairy doors in Nancy's Wood had been placed too high resulting in erosion of the banks where they were being climbed upon; it was noted these had since been removed.

Cllr Parry reported the Dark Lane sign at Pexhill Road was now completely illegible and that a significant amount of rubbish earth has been deposited at the nearby bungalow which required removing or levelling.

Cllr Clarke highlighted the success of the community orchard planting day, reported that the Gawsorth Hall sign on the A536 near the Methodist Church has faded and suggested that the steps to the path at Benbrook Way be reviewed as the first step is quite high.

Cllr Mitchell reported that the lamppost at the crossroads requires a repair to the electricity cover, noted the amount of litter on the A536, reported he had seen that surveying work had been undertaken on the A536 and noted the number of people taking dogs into the park recently.

20/152 To consider the forthcoming consultation on parish boundary changes

The forthcoming consultation was noted and it was noted that there were errors in the draft proposals report. It was noted that the council was uncertain of the Macclesfield South Cheshire East Ward Members' view on the proposals.

It was **RESOLVED** to establish a committee comprising all members to lead the council's work on responding to proposals under the community governance review and that Cllr Shepherd be appointed chairman and Cllr Woods deputy chairman.

20/153 To consider planning applications

a) To consider application 21/0663M - Land adjacent to 43 Hillcrest Road

b) To consider application 21/0597M – 19 Wardle Crescent

a) It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objections.

b) It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objections but requests that the planning officer be satisfied that the proposed change to the front of the property would not be detrimental to the character of the established street scene.

20/154 To consider an event to mark the end of lockdown measures

It was noted that Cllr Clarke would have further discussions with community representatives and a proposal for funding would be taken to the John Upton

Charity.

- 20/155 To consider reinstatement of the stepping-stones at Nancy's Wood**
It was **RESOLVED** to commission Northwich Town Council to reinstate the stepping-stones.
- 20/156 To consider a submission in respect of the Cheshire East Council Local Transport Delivery Plans consultation**
It was agreed that members would submit comments to the clerk who would submit a response to the consultations for Macclesfield and Congleton.
- 20/157 To consider financial matters**
- a) To note the council's financial position year to date**
 - b) To note and approve payments**
- a) The council's financial position was noted.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments detailed below.
- 20/158 To review the council's corporate risk register**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the risk register subject to the addition of a risk related to the viability of the village hall following the pandemic and the removal of part of the parish through the community governance review affecting the household precept requirement. It was agreed that with respect to the risk to the ability to hold meetings the clerk write to David Rutley.
- 20/159² To consider the Parish Maintenance and Actions Logs**
The logs were noted and it was agreed that any updates would be submitted to the clerk.
- 20/160 Member questions to the clerk**
No questions were raised.
- 20/161 Public Participation**
The clerk highlighted comments had been made on the livestream as follows: it was suggested that there was space for a queuing lane to the household waste recycling centre, there was praise that the footpath map was being worked on, a resident highlighted the obstacle course encountered travelling from Woodhouse Lane to the crossroads, a comment that a railing at the footpath down to Woodhouse Lane was a good idea, a request for a sign to indicate that the fields past Pigeon House are not a dog park and a number of comments supporting the council's actions in combating the proposals under the community governance review.
- 20/162 To note the dates of forthcoming meetings**
The dates were noted.

² Cllr Briggs left the meeting during this item.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payee	Detail	Amount
A Keppel-Green	Salary and reimbursements	652.25
P Woods	Reimbursements	34.34
SLCC	Practitioners Conference	90.00
Northwich TC	January and February Contract Works	736.20
Morreys Nursery	Orchard Trees	308.25
E Clarke	Reimbursement – Christmas Trail	47.98
Eon	January streetlighting	16.63
Eon	December streetlighting	16.63
Rialtas Software	Finance Software Licence 2021/22	148.80
Zurich Insurance	Insurance 2021/22	585.79
	Total	2636.87