

Gawsworth Parish Council

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Minutes

of a meeting of the council held

Wednesday 9th March 2022 in Gawsworth Scout Hall

21/084 PRESENT

Clrs Richards (presiding), Clarke, Hardy, Mitchell, Parry, Shepherd and Wright.

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

21/085 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

Cllr Woods was in attendance virtually.

21/086 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any item.

21/087 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident expressed concern that the mast installed at the Congleton Road Playing Fields appeared not to be in accordance with the illustrations provided in the applications and was much more visually intrusive than expected. The Clerk undertook to report it to Cheshire East Council planning enforcement to check against the plans but noted that the installation may be in accordance with the planning drawings.

21/088 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th February subject to the addition of reference to PCSO Short's retirement.

21/089 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Smetham reported that the Integrated Care Bill going through parliament which would replace the existing Clinical Commissioning Groups from July; that the Cheshire East Council tax would increase 2.99% with an £8m reserve set aside for risk (separate to reserves). Cllr Smetham further reported that the revised Community Governance Review proposals would be going through the committee to Full Council in April. Cllr Smetham reported she had received correspondence, copied to the parish council, concerning the overgrown hedge at Marton Lane.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Puddicombe and Jeuda.

21/090 PARISH MATTERS

Cllr Shepherd reported a pothole on Congleton Road near Moss View Road and signage which has fallen into a hedge and undertook to report to Cheshire East Council. Noting their comments on the South Macclesfield Development Area application, Cllr Shepherd further suggested that the council highlight to Cheshire Wildlife Trust the large areas of peat at the LPS15 site.

Cllr Mitchell reported that the hedge around Maggoty Wood required cutting back, that a tree had fallen on the tennis court and that Lowes Lane required attention following its flooding.

Cllr Parry highlighted a certificate of lawful existing use application which had drawn objection from neighbours, it was agreed the council should review and comment.

Cllr Clarke raised the continual water run off on the corner of Lowes Lane; Cllr Woods advised that speaking to workers clearing the blockage on Lowes Lane he understood there was an outflow from the S-bend which feeds into a drain which ultimately leads to Woodhouse Lane. Cllr Richards advised he understood Cheshire East Highways was in discussion with landowners but the Clerk undertook to obtain an update.

Cllr Hardy expressed concern of loose branches and fallen trees in Nancy's Wood and that advised the stepping stones had now completely washed away.

Cllr Woods raised the outstanding parish maintenance tasks required under the contract which have not been undertaken in the past 12 months; the Clerk advised he had raised these with the contractor and asked they be undertaken in the coming months. Cllr Woods further reported that the Gawsorth WI had celebrated its 90th Birthday by planting a weeping willow tree in the park; that he was speaking with the BBC concerning the community governance review and asked if the comments on the SMDA application and Jodrell Bank SPD response could be circulated to members.

Cllr Richards reported the chevron sign past the Harrington Arms has fallen and been down for some time and enquired as to the status of the Conservation Area Review; the Clerk advised the contractor would be in contact with Cllr Richards to arrange viewing the grounds of the halls.

21/091 INSURANCE

It was **RESOLVED** to enter into a five-year agreement with Zurich Municipal.

21/092 FINANCE

The council's financial position year to date was noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Payee	Detail	Amount
Northwich Town Council	January Parish Maintenance	1,191.00
Chew Valley Trees	Trees for Nancy's Wood	335.10
HMRC	Q4 PAYE	352.60
A Keppel-Green	March Salary and Reimbursements	621.23
RBS Business Solutions	Finance Software Licence 2022/23	148.80
Royal Mail	Response Plus Responses	2.05
Zurich Insurance	Insurance 2022/23	597.00
GG Signs	Moss Terrace Sign	73.80
	Total	3,321.58

21/093 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the revised corporate risk register subject to the implementation of a system of access to ensure access to council data in the event the Clerk is incapacitated.

21/094 PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

The logs were noted and it was noted that the church had resurfaced the tarmac outside the Lych Gate with support from the John Upton Charity, that there was standing water in the dip on the road near the Rising Sun.

A brief discussion on councillor surgeries was held and it was agreed that members arrange them as desired.

21/095 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

No questions were raised.

21/096 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

21/097 NEXT MEETING DATE

It was agreed to meet on Wednesday 6th April.