

## Gawsworth Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green BSc FSLCC

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### Minutes

*of the council meeting held*

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in the Gawsworth Village Hall**

#### **23/043 PRESENT**

Cllrs Shepherd (*presiding*), Clarke, Kinsey, Richards, Woods and Wright.

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

#### **23/044 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dempsey, Hardy and Mitchell.

#### **23/045 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No member declared an interest in any item under discussion.

#### **23/046 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A representative of the Village Hall Committee stated they were in attendance with respect to the request to consider approval of works to the village hall.

#### **23/047 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June subject to a typographical correction to 22/031.

#### **23/048 DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

It was noted that all members had now given their declaration of acceptance of office.

#### **23/049 PARISH MATTERS**

It was reported that the gullies near the Gawsorth Hall car park and the dip on Congleon Road were blocked.

Cllr Woods reported that Cllr Smetham had been following up resident concerns regarding the condition of the Old Post Office and render falling onto the highway.

Cllr Clarke arrived.

It was noted that the Village Hall Committee had submitted a request for approval of works to the toilets to create additional storage, but that this had been received too late for inclusion as an agenda item. The request was briefly discussed, and it was agreed that formal permission from the council would be required, a structural engineer should be engaged to ensure that the proposed opening for a new door would not compromise the structure, the proposal and sketch plan should be circulated with the agenda at the decision meeting, consultation with users regarding the proposals should take place and the council would like to understand what alternatives to these proposals were considered/discounted.

Cllr Richards left the meeting.

#### **23/050 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Puddicombe and Wilson.

Cllr Smetham reported that the council was progressing the implementation of a number of budget cuts as identified in the medium term financial strategy, including reductions in library opening hours and the introduction of green bin charges. It was reported that additional funding under the Shared Prosperity Fund had been received for rural areas and that the Chief Executive would be leaving the council to take up a post at a new council.

#### **23/051 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND SWITCH ON**

It was agreed to explore permissions for a power supply at Penningtons Lane with Cheshire East Highways noting a preference to plant a replacement Christmas tree, and alternatively look at column lighting along Congleton Road.

It was **RESOLVED** to hold a switch on event on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 4pm with a brass band, mulled wine and mince pies and inviting organisations to take part as they so choose.

#### **23/052 WOODHOUSE LANE WILDFLOWER MEADOW**

The concerns of two residents to the proposed scheme were noted. Subject to leaving a mowing strip by the edge of the highway as requested by Cheshire East Highways, it was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the proposed wildflower meadow as previously agreed.

**23/053 STREET LIGHTING**

It was agreed that further quotations should be obtained before this matter is reconsidered.

Cllr Woods left the meeting.

**23/054 FINANCE**

The financial position year to date was noted.

Cllr Woods rejoined the meeting.

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

Payee	Detail	Amount
NPower	June Street Lighting Costs	23.28
Gort and March	Q1 Payroll	45.36
GreenBarnes	Noticeboard	2,223.62
HMRC	Q1 PAYE	467.36
Northwich Town Council	June Maintenance Works	750.90
Cheshire Community Action	Annual Membership	50.00
A Keppel-Green	July Salary and Reimbursements	764.18
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,324.70</b>

**23/055 BANK SIGNATORIES**

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Hardy, Kinsey, Shepherd and Woods as signatories.

**23/056 PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS**

The logs were noted. It was noted the peeling signs were still in a poor condition and that the farm gate adjacent to the stile at the footpath from Church Lane to Woodhouse Lane had fallen on users who couldn't take dogs over the stile.

Cllr Wright left the meeting.

**23/057 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK**

The Clerk responded to questions advising that the Park and Woodland group had discussed bringing forward a plan for the former depot on Maggotty Lane, that he would attempt to get the PCSO to attend the next meeting and that he would chase the nursery regarding plants for Penningtons Lane.

**23/058 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

**23/059      DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

It was noted the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August.