

# Gawsworth Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green BSc FSLCC

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## Minutes

*of the council meeting held*

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in the Gawsworth Village Hall**

### **23/163 PRESENT**

Cllrs Shepherd (*presiding*), Hardy, Kinsey, Richards and Woods

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

### **23/164 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dempsey and Mitchell.

### **23/165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Hardy and Richards declared a personal interest in 23/169 as members of the PCC.

### **23/166 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident requested larger 'no dogs' signs be installed at the entrance to the park, the Clerk undertook to arrange this.

### **23/167 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> February subject to an addition to 23/154 to refer to the suggestion that the name of Gawsworth ward presents confusion between parish and borough wards.

### **23/168 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The Clerk relayed a report from Cllrs Puddicombe and Wilson advising that the council had agreed its 2024/25 budget but that its finances remain stretched due to a reduction in central government funding and that the council was seeking exceptional financial support

from the government in respect of the cancellation of HS2 and statutory social care costs. It was further reported that they were speaking with officers about the level of use at the Macclesfield Household Waste Recycling Centre following the closure of Congleton HWRC and proposals for the ones at Bollington and Poynton going forward, with assurances being provided that internal traffic circulation will be kept under review so that vehicles are not backing up onto Congleton Road.

#### **23/169          FUNDING OF SURVEY FOR CHURCHYARD EXTENSION**

The principle of funding the survey was supported, but it was noted that an incremental approach to providing support was not in the spirit of the council's resolved position and that a full proposal needed to be developed. It was noted that the survey was the first stage of enabling a more complete proposal to be developed.

It was **RESOLVED** to fund a survey at a cost of £375 and that the Clerk work with the PCC to develop an options paper for a future meeting.

Cllrs Hardy and Richards abstained from voting.

#### **23/170          PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

It was **RESOLVED** to allocate £20,000 of the CIL funds to the play area improvement project.

It was **RESOLVED** that the council would not consider borrowing to fund improvements, at this stage.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Clerk (in consultation with the park and woodland working group) to undertake a tendering process to develop costed schemes and undertake public consultation on options.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the reopening of the Church Lane entrance to the park, subject to it being mentioned in the Gawsorth Gazette to seek views and actioned deferred for a month to allow consideration of any feedback.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the purchase of two benches for the orchard area of the park.

The council discussed potential improvements and the following were agreed in addition to those mentioned in the report: filling in holes at the football pitch, relining the pitch, exploring a path surface suitable for running, creating woodland trails in the border and interim maintenance to the trim trail.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the outlined wider enhancement plans and for the park and woodland working group to update the management plan for council approval.

#### **23/171          NANCY'S WOOD PATHING WORKS**

It was reported that a local business had offered to provide free boulders for new stepping stones.

It was **RESOLVED** to commission repairs to the paths with recycled plastic edging.

**23/172 PLANNING**

24/0702M – Brookside Bungalow, Lowes Lane

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

It was noted that 24/0531M - 22 Sussex Avenue, had been determined.

**23/173 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the corporate risk register with the addition of a reputational risk of misinformation and misunderstanding with the council, impact 2, likelihood 2 with an action to review communications.

**23/174 PARISH MATTERS**

Cllr Richards reported water on Woodhouse End Road before the railway, due to a blocked drain.

Cllr Kinsey reported the flooding on Lowes Lane.

Cllr Woods raised the issue of the land slippage by the pools, it was noted CEC would undertake kerb realignment in the future and agreed to write to the landowner requesting they repair the fence. The Clerk was requested to follow up with planning enforcement in respect of the occupied garage on Lowes Lane.

Cllr Hardy reported the sign opposite the tip was hanging due to the pole having decayed.

Cllr Shepherd requested the pavements on Moss View Road receive attention.

**23/175 FINANCE**

The financial position year to date was noted.

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

Payee	Detail	Amount
Zurich	Insurance 2024/25	683.79
A Keppel-Green	March Salary and Reimbursements (9)	1,230.70
N Power	February Street Lighting	41.26
B Allen Tree Services	Removal of Christmas Tree	80.00

Northwich TC	Feb works, Mole removal and invoices correction	2,424.00
M Herring	February Ranger Contract inc Turf Cutter hire	673.80
Broxap	Replacement VH Car Park Bin	431.94
<b>Total</b>		<b>£5,565.49</b>

### **23/176 PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS**

The logs were noted, it was noted that the surface of Longbutts Lane was uneven and needed patch repairing, the pavement opposite the New Hall was uneven due to tree roots and that the pavement before Harrington Drive was mossy.

### **23/177 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK**

It was noted the Cheshire East Council had approved the new conservation area appraisal and boundary, the Clerk advised the park and woodland working group would be developing a proposal for the improvement of the depot site and undertook to send a follow up letter in respect of the fencing/screening request for the Klargester on Church Lane.

### **23/178 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

### **23/179 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April and that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 4pm.