

Final Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd April 2024 at 7.00pm at Siddington Village Hall.

Part 1 Public and press present.

Present

Cllr. Peter Wain (Chairman)
Cllr. A Meadowcroft (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. D. Furness
Cllr. B Smart
Cllr. D. Billington
Cllr. S. Forster
Mrs. E Worrall (Clerk)

Absent

Cllr. Paul Wain
Cllr. B. Carbutt

Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

APM2401 Welcome and Introduction

The Chair extended a welcome to all attendees. Cllr. Paul Wain had sent his apologies in advance of the meeting. Cllr. Carbutt did not attend the meeting.

APM2402 Chairman's Report - Councillor Peter Wain

I start my report noting the appointment of Lizzie Worrall as our new Parish Council Clerk. Lizzie was appointed to the role in August and since then has brought a wealth of knowledge and support to the Council. I look forward to working further with Lizzie over the next 12 months.

Councillor Sharon Forster was co-opted onto the Council in September following the advertising of a vacancy. I again welcome Sharon to the Council. Councillor Paul Wain was also co-opted onto the Council in February following advertising of a vacancy. That vacancy arose following the resignation from Jimmy Sherratt as a Councillor in November. I welcome Paul's return to the Council.

During the year several Parish highways issues have been raised with the local authority (some repeatedly) - some have been fixed. The Fix My Street highways reporting portal has continued to be a useful tool for reporting issues. I have been advised by Cheshire East Council that the regular flooding on the A34 at Conneygreave is within their programme to be resolved, but as with many major repairs within the local authority area, it is being delayed due to budget constraints.

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Signed

Dated



Following two fatal accidents on Pexhill Road over the last 24 months, the Parish Council started a campaign to reduce the speed limit on the road from 60 to 40 mph, for safety reasons. I again raised this with a representative of Cheshire East in November, which resulted in a consultation taking place in December, conducted by Cheshire East Council. The consultation was in respect of a reduction in the speed limit from 60 to 50mph along the whole length of the road from Macclesfield to where the road meets the A34 in Siddington. The Parish Council, along with many residents who live along Pexhill Road, responded to the consultation supporting the proposal. The potential closure of the lay-by at Siddington Crossroads to improve visibility, which can be particularly poor during rush hour, was again raised with a Cheshire East representative in November, but there has been no further response from them. I will continue to pursue this.

The Parish Council has investigated the cost of replacing the four village signs as you enter the village. The cost for the replacement is considerable, the main cost being the infrastructure required to support the signs, which would need to be provided and erected by Cheshire East Council. Grant funding was applied for to help with the cost, but this has not been successful.

The subscription to ChALC has been resumed. ChALC helps support Councillors in their roles and is a great source of information. The Parish Council now has a website www.siddingtonpccheshire.co.uk. The website provides details of all Councillors, forthcoming meeting dates, agendas, minutes of previous meetings, policies and procedures together with insurance and financial information. All statutory notifications will also be added to the website as and when required. The website is being maintained by Shona Amies and the Parish Clerk.

John Henry has been appointed as auditor and the audit of the Parish Council's affairs will commence later this month.

A general litter picking day was organised for Saturday 16 March and was well attended. The litter pick mainly focused on the A34 from our boundary with Marton to Mill Lane. The length of the A34 between Mill Lane and Bagbrook will be picked by Jimmy Sherratt and his team shortly. I would like to thank all those that helped with the litter pick on 16 March and all those parishioners who litter pick various stretches of our roads throughout the year to keep our parish looking tidy.

The overdue repair and maintenance of the viewing platform at Redesmere has been high on the agenda throughout the year. Quotations for the repainting of the railings have been obtained and instructed and work will be carried out this spring/summer once the repair work and cleaning of the railings has been completed and the vegetation has been removed to enable the repainting to go ahead. Quotations for either the replacement or repair of the broken bench are also being obtained. For the year ahead, I am looking forward to working alongside fellow Councillors to pursue the previously mentioned highways safety issues, see the repair and maintenance of the Redesmere viewing platform through to completion and repair or replacement of some of the village signs, amongst other projects. The Parish Council is also looking forward to commemorating D-Day 80 on 6 June with church bell ringing.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support throughout the year, particularly my Vice Chair, Councillor Andy Meadowcroft.

This concludes my report for the year 2023/24.

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Signed

Dated