

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 30th January 2024 at 7.30pm at Siddington Village Hall.

Part 1 Public and press present.

Present

Cllr. P Wain (Chairman)
Cllr. A Meadowcroft (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. D. Furness
Cllr. B Smart
Cllr. D. Billington
Cllr. B. Carbutt
Cllr. S. Forster
Cllr. L Smetham (Ward Councillor)
Mrs. E Worrall (Clerk)

Absent

Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

1479 To receive and approve apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

1480 To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

1481 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting of 21st November 2023

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from the 21st November.

1482 To receive a report from Cheshire East Ward Councillor, if present.

Councillor Smetham shared an update.

A brief overview of the Ward Boundary Consultation was shared; none of the proposed changes will affect Siddington.

Councillors discussed their wishes for Parish boundary signs and confirmed their plans for these to be included in Councillor Smetham's Ward budget.

It was **RESOLVED** to reposition the boundary sign from Salter's Lane on the road leading to Marton. Councillors will visit the site and seek to ask a local handyman to do this.

Councillor Peter Wain will commence the process for arranging a new sign on Salter's Lane.

1483 To discuss, and resolve to adopt, the co-option of one individual to become a Councillor

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Signed

Dated



It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Paul Wain to join as a Councillor. Cllr. Paul Wain signed the declaration of acceptance of office and will return the Register of Interest Form to the Monitoring Officer.

1484 To discuss, and consider the adoption of, the General Power of Competence

The Chair proposed that the Council adopt the General Power of Competence as they now meet both criteria, having two thirds elected members (six of eight members are elected) and have a suitably qualified Parish Clerk (the Clerk having passed the CilCA in late December 2023). It was **RESOLVED** for the Council to adopt the General Power of Competence from here forwards.

1485 To review, and resolve to adopt, Standing Orders

It was **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the Standing Orders.

1486 To review, and resolve to adopt, Financial Regulations

It was **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the Financial Regulations.

1487 To review, and resolve to adopt, a financial Risk Assessment

It was **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the financial risk assessment, with the amendment that 'three quotations gained where practicable, and a minimum of two'.

1488 To compile a list of Council assets, for the clerk to produce an asset register

Councillors confirmed with the Clerk that the Council owned the following assets with installation or replacement value included if known:

- 1 x noticeboard - £600 replacement value
- 1 x set railings at Redesmere - estimated replacement value £3,000 per length of railings
- 1 x set railings at the Village Hall (Redesmere Lane end) – estimated replacement value £3,000 per length of railings
- 6 x benches - £400 each replacement value
- Part ownership of the steps (1/3rd ownership) in the village – to be confirmed ahead of next meeting (£1,333 approximated spend in 2012)
- 1 x Siddington sign (with the swans/at the crossroads) – replacement value to be confirmed following conversations with Andy Simpson
- 1 x platform – value unknown
- 1 x pump - value unknown
- 1 x street light - value unknown
- 1 x sign adjacent to the pump - value unknown

1488 To discuss the Council's aims for 2024 – 2025, ahead of the APCM (including any arrangements for D-Day 80)

Councillor Peter Wain confirmed that the Council's three main aims were to improve the area around the railings, adjacent to Redesmere Lake, including the benches, and ensure that this area looked neat and tidy; installation of boundary signs; and the implementation of a Council website.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would arrange for the Church Bell to be rung at 6pm and would light a beacon at 9.15pm. Councillors Peter Wain and Paul Wain will speak to a local landowner regarding the lighting of a beacon on his land. Cllr. Forster will research the D-Day beacon.

1489 To consider individual Councillor roles and responsibilities for 2024 – 2025, ahead of the AGM

Councillor Peter Wain proposed that Councillors will pick up more formalised roles starting in May 2024. The Clerk will compile a list of suggested roles and will circulate these around Councillors.

1490 To receive updated on village maintenance projects (railings, bench), painting of the lake platform and plans for litter picking

Cllr. Smart has found one quotation for £100 materials and £300 - £400 labour to repair the railings. Cllr. Paul Wain will contact another local supplier to get a comparative quotation. If a second quotation cannot be gained, the Council will proceed with the first quotation to ensure the work is carried out before summer.

The Clerk will contact an individual known to Councillor Smetham asking regarding free power washing.

A quotation has been gathered for painting of the railings; this will be £2,350 estimated. There is good availability through spring but poor availability in summer.

Councillor Smart will gain a second quotation for a bench, or for a joiner, and will provide an update at the next meeting.

Councillors agreed that a litter pick will take place on Saturday 16th March, meeting at 10.00am at the Village Hall. The Clerk will contact Rural Daneside Parishes to have this included in the next magazine. The Clerk will contact Cheshire East to try and gain litter picking equipment.

1491 To receive an update of the implementation of a Council website

It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the quotation of Shona Amies at a cost of £400 approximated to build the website and then £295 estimated per annum for the website hosting and security certificate.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to purchase the domain www.siddingtonpccheshire.co.uk

1492 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment:

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT = £537.13 (as of date of last bank reconciliation)
plus £11,906.71 (reserve account)

PAYMENTS MADE

£22.50	Siddington Village Hall (hosting)
£48.00	PKF Littlejohn – late payment for AGAR submission 2022-23
£410.13	Clerk Salary (backdated payments from September – November)
£136.51	Clerk Salary (December)

PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

£240.00	Pete Davies for maintenance – paid in between meeting
£110.60	HMRC (PAYE) – paid in between meetings
£45.00	Safe Custody – paid automatically in between meetings
£39.60	TCS Management (payroll)
£145.37	Clerk Salary (January)
£145.37	Clerk Salary (February)
£145.37	Clerk Salary (March)
£22.50	Siddington Village Hall (hosting)

it was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments. Councillors will ask previous Councillors to see if they have any recollection of what may be stored by Safe Custody (the consensus is that

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this is the lease documentation for the hall, but this needs to be confirmed) and if the Parish Council need to continue to do this. Councillor Meadowcroft will liaise with the bank on Safe Custody to try and ascertain more details.

Councillor Meadowcroft is working on bringing the financial information fully up to date for the period 2020-23. He has liaised with the previous Clerk and a claim for expenditure in the region of £3000 is likely subject to the provision of appropriate receipts. He is expecting this work to be finalised in the current financial year.

1493 To consider the following planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda

No applications had been published since the agenda.

1494 If applicable, to ratify and approve any comments made on planning applications between meetings:

23/4244M – Demolition of existing double garage – Redes House, SALTERS LANE, SIDDINGTON, SK11 9LH – ‘no objections’ comment submitted

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above comment submitted by the Clerk.

1495 Any other correspondence

Cllr. Wain shared a brief report of the local Parish Council Network meeting that he attended, Cllr. Wain and Meadowcroft will attend these meetings ahead, with the next one scheduled for April 2024.

The Clerk shared that the Council had received some correspondence from HMRC registering them as an employer and confirmation from the Pension Regulator that the Clerk had not been enrolled in a pension.

Councillor Meadowcroft shared an update on the Budget Consultation Survey.

The Clerk will circulate relevant questions from the Highways Satisfaction Survey to allow Councillors to compile a joint Council response.

Councillor Carbutt will instruct Pete Davies to spray the footpaths earlier rather than later.

Councillors agreed to this.

1496 To note the date of the next parish council meeting to be held on 2nd April 2024

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.