

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 2nd April 2024 at 7.30pm 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
Cllr. L Smetham (Ward Councillor)
Mrs. E Worrall (Clerk)

Absent

Cllr. Paul Wain
Cllr. B. Carbutt

Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

1497 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Cllr. Paul Wain sent apologies in advance of the meeting. Cllr. Carbutt did not attend.

1498 To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interests.

1499 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting of 30th January 2024

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

1500 To receive a report from Cheshire East Ward Councillor, if present.

Cllr. Smetham confirmed that a decarbonisation system will take place for municipal buildings (offices and leisure centres) in Nantwich, Knutsford, Congleton, and Crewe.

The Police and Crime Commissioner Election will take place on the 2nd May.

There are ongoing issues around transport for SEN pupils and transport. It is proposed that parents will be assigned a budget to pay for their own transport.

The Chief Executive is looking to transform Cheshire East – the Head of Finance at Cheshire East has resigned. There are several proposed amalgamations of services between Cheshire East, Cheshire West and the wider North West area.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2nd April 2024

Signed

Dated

1501 To receive an update on the proposed boundary signs

Cllr. Peter Wain will arrange for the signs to be moved as discussed at the last meeting. Cllr. Furness has agreed to remove the damaged sign at the crossroads.

The boundary signs will then be tackled with the worst one to be addressed first.

The design of the sign will need to be agreed and approved. Cllr. Peter Wain will speak to John Denwood to begin this process. The Council are happy to fund the sign but would ideally like to use some funds from the Ward to pay for the infrastructure. Cllr. Smetham apologised for the confusion over the ward budget and said that the Parish Council were best placed to speak to John Denwood.

Councillors discussed possible designs and agreed that the design should include the Cheshire Crest and should be slightly 'shaped.'

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Peter Wain would speak to John Denwood about possible suppliers and the process for beginning this and that Councillor Meadowcroft would begin the process of gaining quotations.

1502 To further consider individual Councillor roles and responsibilities for 2024 – 2025, ahead of the AGM

It was agreed that the Chair and the Vice Chair would retain the role of HR management and finance.

The other areas to be tackled are Community Liaison, Highways, Planning, Police Liaison and Rural Matters (combined).

The Clerk will circulate a list of the roles and Councillors will reply with their preference for roles if they have one.

The Clerk and the Chair reminded all Councillors that there is a small budget for training should Councillors wish to access this.

1503 To receive updates on village maintenance projects (railings, bench), painting of the lake platform and the completed litter pick

Cllr. Paul Wain has spoken to a local provider regarding the repair of the railings. This will cost £100. Cllr. Peter Wain will speak to Cllr. Paul Wain on his return from annual leave to progress this.

A working party will be arranged to clear the greenery. The cleaning will need to be completed by early May. It was **RESOLVED** that the working party will take place on Thursday 16th May at 9am. Spades, shovels, strimmers and secateurs will be required.

A pressure washer will be hired shortly after to clean the railings and the platform.

The litter pick was completed – 9 attendees collected c. 30 bags of rubbish. Thanks were extended by all Councillors to those who volunteered.

1504 To receive updates on the arrangements for D-Day

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would arrange for the bell to be rung in the Church. The Council, after discussion, **RESOLVED** to not purchase a beacon or arrange for a bonfire.

1505 To receive an update on the implementation of a Council website

The website has now been created and is 'live.' The Clerk has uploaded the minutes and several financial documents. Thanks were extended to the Clerk and Councillor Meadowcroft for their work on the website.

The Clerk will speak to Shona Amies regarding payment.



1506 To confirm Parish Council meeting dates for the remainder of 2024 and the first half of 2025

It was **RESOLVED** that the below dates will be observed for meetings in 2024 and the first half of 2025. All meetings will be held at the Village Hall and will commence at 7.30pm.

28th May 2024 - APCM
24th September 2024
26th November 2024
28th January 2024
25th March 2025 – APM and regular meeting to follow (7pm start)
27th May 2025 – APCM

Councillor Meadowcroft will confirm these dates with the Village Hall and will let the Parish Council know of any issues. The Clerk will upload the dates to the website.

1507 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment:

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT = £61.15 (as of date of last bank reconciliation) plus £11,936.05 (reserve account)

PAYMENTS MADE

| | |
|---------|---|
| £22.50 | Village Hall Hire |
| £12.54 | 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) |

PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

| | |
|---------|---|
| £147.56 | Clerk Salary (April) |
| £89.40 | HMRC |
| £15.00 | Payment for Hall Hire (Extraordinary Meeting) |
| £22.50 | Payment for Hall Hire (2 nd April) |

RECEIPTS

| | |
|--------|----------|
| £29.34 | Interest |
|--------|----------|

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments.

[Bank reconciliation](#) to be reviewed and signed by the Chair

1508 To consider the following planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda:

None as of 13th March 2024

1509 If applicable, to ratify and approve any comments made on planning applications between meetings:

None made

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2nd April 2024

Signed

Dated



1510 Any other correspondence

It was **RESOLVED**, in line with the Clerk's contract, to increase the salary point from SCP 12 to SCP 13, as of the 1st April. The Clerk will inform Councillors of her new monthly salary amount before processing payment.

Councillor Meadowcroft had received a text message making the Parish Council aware of several issues at Redesmere including litter as well as injured and dead animals (specifically ducks).

The Council were unsure of the solution but did note the matter and will continue to monitor this.

1511 To note the date of the next parish council meeting to be held on 28th May 2024 (Annual Parish Council Meeting)



Action Points following meeting

- Councillor Peter Wain to liaise with John Denwood regarding boundary signage, including whether the Ward Budget could be used to assist with costs.
- Councillors Peter Wain and Furness to arrange for signs to be moved.
- Councillor Meadowcroft to gain quotations for new boundary signage.
- Clerk to circulate list of Councillor Roles.
- Councillor Peter Wain to liaise with Councillor Paul Wain regarding the repair of the railings.
- Councillors to arrange a working party on the 16th May.
- Councillors to confirm the ringing of the bell within the Church at 6.30pm on the 6th June for D-Day 80.
- Clerk to confirm website payments with Shona Amies.
- Clerk to update website with upcoming meeting dates.