

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.45pm at Siddington Village Hall.

Part 1 Public and press present.

Present

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

Absent

Cllr. B. Carbutt

Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

1448 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Cllr. Carbutt was absent from the meeting and had not sent apologies.

1449 To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

1450 To formally appoint the new clerk

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Elizabeth Worrall as the new Parish Clerk.

1451 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting of 2nd August 2023 (if available)

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of 2nd August.

1452 To receive a report from Cheshire East Ward Councillor, if present, as well as any other Cheshire East representatives.

Cllr. Smetham was present to provide an update. Cllr. Smetham shared on Cheshire East's Levelling Up Strategy and several consultations that are in progress. Councillors discussed the new green bin charge which will be implemented in 2025. FlexiLink (Bus) and Sustainable Drainage will have consultations coming up imminently which the Council will aim to respond to. ChALC are having their annual meeting in October 2023. The local PCSO (Chloe Shore) has moved on and has been replaced by PCSO David O'Connor. The Clerk and Cllr. Smetham will

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Signed

Dated



seek to make contact for updates to be passed on to the Parish Council. Cllr. Smetham shared on the Highways budget which is available. Cllr. Meadowcroft shared an update on the boundary signs. There are currently four boundaries; boundary signs are missing (one missing, one on temporary fixings) or in poor quality. Cllr. Smetham will provide an update once the form submission has been completed.

1453 To receive an update on financial matters, including the Bank Mandate, and the resubmission of the AGAR form

Cllr. Meadowcroft updated that the bank mandate is in place with Cllr. Wain and himself as signatories. Online banking is likely to be authorised imminently and will have Cllr. Wain and Cllr. Meadowcroft as users.

The bank account is currently sat at £13,546.00 and the reserve account is £855.00. The only outgoing payments of the last few years have been to CHALC, Safe Custody and PKF Littlejohn.

Cllr. Wain and Cllr. Meadowcroft will continue to provide updates as this continues to progress. There is no record of payment for insurance although it had been advised previously that this had been settled. Cllr. Wain is seeking to ascertain whether insurance is in place. It was **RESOLVED** to add the clerk to the bank account to authorise her to make payments ahead.

Urgent payments to be made for Ceramic Designs, Meller Speakman and PKF Littlejohn (for end of year payments 2020 and 2022). It was **RESOLVED** to process these payments.

The AGAR is still in progress – Cllr. Wain will work with the clerk to get this submitted imminently now expenditure has been confirmed.

It was **RESOLVED** that the council will rejoin ChALC at a cost of £107.67.

It was **RESOLVED** to transfer £11,000 to the reserve account.

1454 To consider the council's objectives for the budget for the remainder of year 2023/2024 and for year 2024/2025

The "large ticket" items for this year and next financial year are to improve the railings at Redesmere, create a website for the Parish Council and install new road signs. Cllr. Smart will investigate the website creation process. A new bench may also need to be purchased – Councillors believe there may be a purchased bench 'in stock' and Cllr. Smart will investigate.

The clerk will send a set of model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to the Chair and Vice Chair. It is unknown whether the council has these in place already but, if they do not, they will seek to adopt at the next meeting. The clerk will also share a list of council powers.

The clerk encouraged Councillors to seek to adopt a budget for 2024/25 at the next meeting.

1455 To receive an update on known Highways issues, within the Parish

Cllr. Wain will get is aiming to get the gully cleared on Conney Greave. Cllr. Meadowcroft has requested assistance through 'Fixmystreet', and it is confirmed that a tanker will attend and try and clear the gully. Cllr. Wain will arrange a meeting with John Denwood to discuss Highways issues further.

Councillors raised concerns regarding speeding through the Siddington end of Pexhill Road. The clerk and Cllr. Smetham will raise with the PCSO if they can get an introduction.

1456 To consider the following planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda:

None as of 29th August 2023

1457 If applicable, to ratify and approve any comments made on planning applications between meetings:

[23/2858M](#) – Forest Yard, Salter’s Lane – proposal for approval for a business to operate on site
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Council’s comments.

1458 To consider the arrangements for the First Aid Evening

The Parish Council has planned to hold a First Aid Evening in the autumn for 20 – 30 people. Councillors are struggling to get hold of the individual who will offer this. Cllr. Sherratt will seek to get hold of the contact. Cllr. Smetham offered another contact who may be able to assist.

1459 To adopt the new Cheshire East Code of Conduct for Councillors

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Cheshire East Code of Conduct for Councillors.

1460 Any other correspondence (including CHALC correspondence)

Cllr. Wain will complete the ChALC election survey on behalf of the council.

The 80th anniversary of D-Day will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr. Wain will circulate details of the NALC Democracy in Action event and Cllr. Fletcher’s (Mayor of Cheshire) civic service.

The clerk will connect Cllr. Wain to Cllr. Brown in Hulme Walfield Somerford Booths to discuss cross-council collaboration.

Cllr. Wain confirmed that the council will seek to co-opt a candidate for the vacant Councillor position. The process of advertising the vacancy has been started by Cllr. Wain and the Clerk.

1461 To note the date of the next parish council meeting to be held on 21st November 2023

Cllr. Meadowcroft shared his apologies for the next meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm