

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 10th February 2021

(via video conference)

Chair: Cllr P Watson
Councillors: Cllr S Watson Cllr P Warburton Cllr H Patel
 Cllr J Hart Cllr S Pennington Cllr D Price
 Cllr T Williams Cllr P Jones Cllr R Knowles
 Cllr S Parish Cllr S Williamson

Also present: K Carter, Parish Clerk

1. To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

There were no apologies.

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2021

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.

PARISH/2021/09

RESOLVED: *To approve minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2021 as a true and accurate record*

3. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations.

4. Sankey Station building, community provision: to be updated on progress

Following the January Parish Council meeting, Rise Associates had provided a list of outcomes expected at the completion of the business plan which had been circulated to all members. Councillors were also informed that Northern Rail are pleased that the Parish Council is interested in taking on the building for community use and have indicated that it would be sensible to discuss merging the lease for both sides of the property with The Arch Co. Rise Associates will help with these negotiations. The business plan should be completed within the next couple of months; the viability of the project and further steps will then be considered.

5. Finance Committee: to be informed of the meeting held on 2.2.21

5.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting.

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and were noted with no comments.

5.2 to be informed of, and have the opportunity to question, items approved for payment.

Noted.

5.3 to consider recommendations made and decide whether to accept them.

Recommendation *FINANCE/2021/11* was discussed under agenda item 6; there were no comments on the remaining recommendations, and all were approved.



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PARISH/2021/10

RESOLVED: To provisionally book Little Superstars to run summer playschemes in 2021, subject to amendment or cancellation in accordance with any regulations in place at the time.

PARISH/2021/11

RESOLVED: To agree additional works to Lingley Green, including replacement plants, topsoil and relocation of the beech hedge subject to grounds tests for suitability. Estimated costs £3,000.

PARISH/2021/12

RESOLVED: To renew the phone and broadband contract with BT at each centre and the Parish Office for a further 24 months.

PARISH/2021/13

RESOLVED: To give a donation of £200 towards the 10th Warrington Scouts Big Build Project.

6. Renewable Energy project: to receive report on investigations to date and decide on further action

A report on progress to date had been circulated prior to the meeting along with a preconstruction schedule and costs and a verbal explanation of these was given. The Finance Committee had identified some queries on the schedule and a follow-up meeting is due to take place to clarify these before any decision is taken. Other members were asked to forward any additional questions to the Clerk prior to the meeting. The Finance Committee will reconsider the schedule once answers have been received and will propose a way forward at their next meeting.

7. Parish Playing Field drainage: to receive report on options and costs and decide on further action

Four drainage options had been received, two for the pitch areas only and two covering the full field. Costs for the latter two options are in the region of £250,000 with some clarification required on some of the itemized expenditure. It was proposed and agreed that the next steps are to

- Continue discussions with Mallinsons to clarify the itemized costs fully understand the different options suggested.
- Contact WBC for advice on the drainage options received.
- Explore a variety of possible funding sources, including the FA, Sport England, local support, e.g. businesses on Omega.
- Engage with local football teams for support and to identify the level of demand.

PARISH/2021/14

RESOLVED: To continue the project to address the drainage on the Parish Playing Field. To clarify and decide on the most appropriate solution; to explore a variety of funding sources; to engage with local football teams to ascertain demand and request support for the project.

It was also remarked that the entrance to the Playing Field is still boarded up preventing public access following the remedial works to the field. Given that these were only partially successful, and more works are required, it was suggested that the field should now be re-opened with an



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update for the public explaining the current situation. This was agreed.

PARISH/2021/15

RESOLVED: *To re-open the Parish Playing Field to members of public with notices to explain the current circumstances.*

8. To consider a policy on memorial plaques at Council premises and sites

A briefing note explaining the background to this agenda item and giving points for consideration was circulated prior to the meeting. A full discussion of the potential implications for allowing memorial plaques at Council premises took place including criteria for accepting a request for memorial plaques, consideration of numbers, size, style and placement, responsibilities both at the present time and in the future, impact on visual amenity and perception of council sites. After due consideration, it was agreed that the Parish Council will not, at this time, allow any public requests for memorial or commemorative plaques or similar at any council premise or site.

PARISH/2021/16

RESOLVED: *That public requests for memorial or commemorative plaques, or similar, will not be allowed at any Parish Council premise or site at the present time.*

9. Council van replacement: to receive initial information on options for consideration

It was agreed that the council's preference for the replacement vehicle would be for electric or hybrid options from a green energy perspective but costings for petrol and diesel vehicles should also be sought for comparison purposes. It was also agreed that there is no immediate need to replace the van and the council can investigate options fully over the next 6 months to inform future budgets.

10. To consider planning applications received by the Council and decide if any objections are to be raised.

There were no applications for consideration.

11. To consider correspondence received by the Council and decide if any action is required.

Two items had been circulated. The first was a response from WBC to the comments made by the Parish Council to the consultation on the Western Link road. The question raised about the vehicles included within the modelling process had been answered and the issue relating to the underpass for crossing Cromwell Avenue in the vicinity of St Gregory's High School will be investigated and a further update will be provided to the Parish Council.

The second item was the PCSO report for January which was noted. PCSO Potts had mentioned that she may be able to join the March Parish Council meeting; a reminder and invite will be forwarded.



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12. To receive verbal reports from Councillors and consider if any action is required.

Cllr Warburton informed members that the bench at Warrington West Station has now been repaired and reinstated. Drug use at the underpass for Whittle Avenue had been reported to the PCSO's and a police presence has been maintained at the site and there have been no further reports since. It was also noted that residents of Belmont Crescent are currently being consulted on the proposed upgrades to the footpath linking the Crescent to Bunny Hollow and it was requested that the information is posted on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

Cllr Williams mentioned that exploratory holes have been dug on Lingley Green to look at the viability of moving the purple beech hedging which is not thriving in its current location due to the poor soil. Once the hedge has been relocated, the current bed will be used for flowers which do not require the same depth of soil.

Cllr Parish informed members of a consultation on proposed changes to the rail timetables to alleviate issues in Manchester which may have an impact on Warrington West and Sankey-for-Penketh Stations. He asked to draw attention to the consultation by putting on the Parish Council's Facebook page to encourage residents to respond. The consultation deadline is 10th March 2021.

Cllr P Watson confirmed that the elections look set to go ahead in May and he will be emailing councillors individually to ask if they are considering re-standing for the Parish Council.

