

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 8th September 2021

Tim Parry Community Centre

Chair: Cllr P Watson
Councillors: Cllr D Price Cllr P Jones Cllr M Hussain Cllr R Knowles
 Cllr A King Cllr D Clark Cllr H Patel Cllr B Sutcliffe
 Cllr N Catlow Cllr L Butler Cllr S Parish Cllr A Morley

1. To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Warburton.

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2021.

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Sutcliffe was added to the list of attendees. With this amendment, the minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

PARISH/2021/83

RESOLVED: To amend the minutes to include Cllr Sutcliffe on the list of attendees. Subject to this amendment, to approve minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 as a true and accurate record.

3. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations.

4. PCSO reports

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. It was commented that the police had been able to engage with youths on a Friday night at the activity bus which has been parked on the car park at Whittle Hall Community Centre over the summer. The number of incidents of anti-social behaviour has reduced from the previous month, both around Whittle Hall and over the Parish as a whole.

5. Finance Committee: to be informed of the meeting held on 3.8.21

5.1 to receive the approved minutes of the meeting, including expenditure approved.

Received and noted with no questions.

5.2 to be informed of recommendations and decide whether to accept them.

Accepted with no questions or comments.

PARISH/2021/84

RESOLVED: To recommend acceptance of the proposed changes to the Financial Regulations.

PARISH/2021/85

RESOLVED: To continue to allow free use of the Parish Playing Field until the drainage issues have been resolved (LG (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19).



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PARISH/2021/86

RESOLVED: To refuse a request for a reduction in hire charge for Sankey Stars (LGA 1972 s145).

6. Finance Committee: to be informed of the meeting held on 31.8.21

6.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting

Received and noted.

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

The items approved for payment were accepted.

6.3 to consider recommendations and decide whether to accept them

FINANCE/2021/80 was explained in more detail and discussed by members before the recommendation was accepted. It was suggested that GSPC could propose to WBC that all parish councils be involved with a possible partnership scheme for solar farms or other options for investment into reducing Warrington's carbon footprint. Cllr Patel, who is also a Borough Councillor and is the portfolio holder on the environment for WBC, will take this suggestion forward to WBC.

PARISH/2021/87

RESOLVED: To recommend the following actions as an initial step towards reducing the Parish Council's carbon footprint

- install solar PV at Bewsey Barn Community Centre (obtain 2 further quotes prior to decision-making).
- obtain quotes for a false ceiling at Whittle Hall Community Centre and for new double-glazed windows at Bewsey Barn Community Centre.
- obtain quotes to renew energy contracts with energy from 100% renewable sources.
- market Whittle Hall Community Centre as meeting space once false ceiling has been installed to increase daytime use.
- consider installation of solar PV at Whittle Hall Community Centre if daytime use increases.

(Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s19 & LGA 1972 s133)

There were no questions or comments on the remaining recommendations, and these were accepted.

PARISH/2021/88

RESOLVED: To recommend acceptance of the additional change to the Financial Regulations for para 11.1b relating to public contracts.

PARISH/2021/89

RESOLVED: To accept the election costs and repay over a four-year period (LGA 1972 s16)

PARISH/2021/90

RESOLVED: To authorise the payment to Brookmeade Building Ltd for work at Bewsey Barn Community Centre subject to the work being checked by the Maintenance Officer and the invoice scrutinised by the Clerk (LGA 1972 s133).

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PARISH/2021/91

RESOLVED: To install a 25' Christmas tree and lights in Chapelford. To install additional lighting subject to quote being received and approved (LGA 1972 s145).

PARISH/2021/92

RESOLVED: To install a 25' Christmas tree and lights at Hood Lane Community Centre for 2021 only subject costs for the installation of an outdoor socket (LGA 1972 s145).

PARISH/2021/93

RESOLVED: To purchase a SID Gen5 Smart from Traffic Technology Ltd (£2809) for deployment by the Great Sankey PCSO's and to provide a list of preferred locations (LGRA 1997 s31).

PARISH/2021/94

RESOLVED: To set a budget of £400 to purchase blinds for Bewsey Barn Community Centre to be deferred to the Clerk (LGA 1972 s133).

PARISH/2021/95

RESOLVED: To obtain quotes to trim the undergrowth adjacent to Lingley Green Avenue on the Parish Playing Field (Open Spaces Act 1906 s10).

PARISH/2021/96

RESOLVED: To allow internet access for the preschool in the storeroom at the back of Bewsey Barn Community Centre. The type of equipment required and costs to be investigated further (LGA 1972 s133).

7. To review the Parish Council's Standing Orders and consider proposed amendments.

Three amendments were proposed. Para 6.1 refers to the Youth Project Group; this is now the Community Projects Group. Paras 31.15-31.16 are mandatory orders relating to public contracts where the financial limit for procurement are increased every two years; para 31.17 is also mandatory and describes the threshold (£25,000) above which contracts must be advertised on the Governments Contract Finder website.

PARISH/2021/97

RESOLVED: To amend Standing Orders as per the agenda paper circulated.

8. Cllr proposal: Developing a Strategy for Community Engagement (Cllrs Watson & Jones)

This proposal has been made through the Community Projects Group and sets out a way forward to develop and improve community engagement which will also change the way the Parish Council operates in the future. The full strategy will be a considerable amount of work to undertake and therefore the committee was seeking outline agreement for the proposal prior to starting. The draft strategy will be presented to full Council for comment and amendment before adoption.

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PARISH/2021/98

RESOLVED: For the Community Projects Group to produce a draft strategy for community engagement.

9. To review the Parish newsletter, including design, format and distribution.

It was proposed that this review should be included within the community engagement strategy (item 8) and that the council keep the same format and distribution for the 2021-22 newsletter until then. It was noted that there had been distribution issues with the last newsletter. The company that has been used for some years had closed because of staffing and the pandemic and a new distributor had to be found at short notice and not all households received a copy of the newsletter. Alternative distributors will be sourced for this year.

PARISH/2021/99

RESOLVED: To continue with current format and distribution of hard copies to every household in the parish for 2021-22. To review future newsletter production within the strategy for community engagement (LGA 1972 s142).

10. To be updated on current projects;

10.1 Parish Playing Field drainage.

A meeting with Liverpool FA to discuss the possibility of funding from the Football Foundation towards the installation of a piped drainage system on the Parish Playing Field had been very positive, and information will be forwarded to the Clerk on next steps for the council. Liverpool FA also mentioned possible funding for ongoing pitch maintenance, although this would need to be accessed by a football club using the pitches with the Parish Council's permission. To facilitate this, it has been discussed in previous meetings that the Parish Council should negotiate a long-term agreement with Whittle Hall Junior Football Club for pitch use. They have been the only football club that has continued to hire the pitches even with the drainage issues; an agreement would be for priority use, but not exclusive use. This was agreed.

PARISH/2021/100

RESOLVED: To negotiate a long-term agreement with Whittle Hall Junior Football Club for priority use of the Parish Playing Field (LG (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19).

10.2 Sankey Station – to be advised on new information relating to the land bordering the station car park and decide if further action is necessary.

The business plan adopted at the July Parish Council meeting proposed a working team should be set up to develop the project. This has been postponed during August because of holidays but will now be progressed. The four plots of land under private ownership alongside the car park were considered. It was agreed to obtain valuations for these plots to inform a discussion about possible purchase at a future council meeting.

PARISH/2021/101

RESOLVED: To obtain valuations for 4 privately owned plots of land alongside Sankey Station (Open Spaces Act 1906 s9).

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11. Report from Borough Councillors on items of note within the Parish of Great Sankey.

Cllr Parish (Chapelford & Old Hall ward)

Highlighted the possibility of further reductions in the train service from Warrington West Station resulting from a timetable review of the wider service in the north of England. The service is already reduced from that promised by the rail companies when WBC agreed to build the station to improve the service for residents. WBC is continuing to raise the issue to prevent reductions.

Cllr Butler (Chapelford & Old Hall ward)

Ongoing problems with Chapelford Medical Centre and access to doctors; she is working with the CCG for a solution. Other members noted that this problem is not confined to Chapelford Medical Centre but is an issue for residents throughout Warrington West. Cllr King, who is also on the Health Scrutiny Committee at WBC, offered to take this forward and invite representatives of the CCG and NHS England to the Parish Council for discussion of the problems.

Cllr Patel (Great Sankey North and Whittle Hall ward)

- i) WBC have reviewed the Local Plan for Warrington after taking on board resident's comments. If approved by WBC, there will be a consultation period on the proposals.
- ii) WBC are considering a Public Protection Order to tackle dog fouling, as well as considering dogs on leads, particularly around children's play areas.

Cllr King (Great Sankey South ward)

- i) Noted that a new residents committee has been set up in the Hood Manor area.
- ii) Informed members about an upcoming meeting with Your Housing to discuss issues with Brentnall Park (the 'Boat Park') with a view to reopening it for the benefit of residents. An update will be given at the next Parish Council meeting.

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

Planning application 2021/39987 was discussed. This is for land on Lingley Mere Business Park for flexible employment purposes (offices, general industrial use, storage and distribution) and associated car parks. Concerns were raised about the additional traffic this will generate and whether it is appropriate to continue adding warehousing to an already saturated area. An objection was approved on these grounds.

PARISH/2021/102

RESOLVED: To object to planning application 2021/39987 on the basis of increased traffic and unnecessary additional development.

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

13.1 Penketh and Sankey RBL invite to be involved with organizing and funding the Service of Remembrance along with Penketh Parish Council, the RBL and clergy. A positive response has been sent, a date for an initial meeting is awaited.

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13.2 Letter of thanks from resident praising the work on Vicarage Park and the dedication of the council's grounds contractors, EDR Landscapes.

13.3 Notification from EDR Landscapes that they have been awarded an International Green Apple Environment Award for a second year and have been invited to accept Green World Ambassador status. The award recognizes the company's commitment to environmental sustainability and best practice.

13.4 WBC consultation on Gambling Policy – deadline for comments is 13 October.

14. To receive verbal reports from Councillors.

Cllr Catlow mentioned the mess around the duck pond on Kingsdale Road. This is being followed through the Parish Office and Borough Cllr Janet Henshaw with WBC and the Land Trust for street cleaning and other possible solutions to the issue.

Cllr Clark informed members that he had visited Bewsey Barn Community Centre to assess the WIFI issue raised by the preschool. A plug-in adaptor will work well in the back office and is not too expensive (approx. £118). It was noted that the routers were installed in the main halls of the community centres in 2014 for the benefit of all customers, but that this request is to assist the preschool only in their daily operation. They have offered to purchase the adaptor which the council agreed is appropriate; Cllr Clark will forward details of the adaptor required.

