

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 9th March 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

Chair: P Watson
Councillors: N Catlow S Pennington D Clark N Cotter
 D Price P Warburton H Patel A King
 A Morley M Hussain

Also present: D. McDonald, Warrington Foodbank
 2 members of public
 K. Carter, Parish Clerk
 L. Brereton, Deputy Clerk

1. To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jones, Sutcliffe and Knowles.

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th February 2022.

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

PARISH/2022/13: To approve minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th February 2022 as a true and accurate record.

3. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations.

4. To receive a presentation from Warrington Foodbank.

A comprehensive overview of the foodbank operation was described to councillors by David McDonald, the manager. The foodbank is run by 158 volunteers and just 1 paid part-time warehouse manager. It opened in 2012 with 3 tonnes of goods being distributed to those in need throughout the year; last year this figure had risen to 134 tonnes, all through donations by the people of Warrington, and through partnerships with local businesses and Warrington Council. The foodbank gives parcels to anyone in need, hardship, or crisis and these can be regular or one-off donations. There is now an increasing financial crisis with prices rising for food, energy and fuel. As well as supplying food, the foodbank helps direct people to other agencies for further help. An important part of this is the café area where people can sit and chat to volunteers whilst waiting for a food parcel to be made up. This had to close during the pandemic but has now reopened. With the increasing demands on the foodbank current premises are stretched, and additional sites are being sought. The foodbank is also now able to give some fresh and frozen foods and ready meals after the donation of some large fridge/freezers, as well as children's clothing including school uniforms.

Councillors had the opportunity to ask questions, and David was thanked, along with all volunteers for the foodbank. It was suggested that the Parish Council's annual contribution to the foodbank, currently £1350, is reviewed at a future meeting.

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5. PCSO reports.

A report from the SID deployment on Liverpool Road had been circulated prior to the meeting and noted. A query was raised about how often the device is deployed around the parish which will be passed on to the PCSO's.

6. Community Projects Group: to be informed of the meeting held on 24.2.22

6.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting

The draft minutes were not available in time for the meeting, so a verbal update was given. The meeting focused on planning for Sankey Fun Day and all recommendations related to this.

6.2 to be informed of recommendations and decide whether to accept them

The approved documents were noted with no questions; the relevant ones will be sent to WBC's event team for approval and comment by 12th March, 3 months before the event. All recommendations were accepted under LGA 1972 s145.

PARISH/2022/14: To approve the Event Management Plan and Risk Assessment subject to amendments noted by the Community Projects Group. To approve the stall application pack and Stall Safety Check list.

PARISH/2022/15: To confirm the Event Management Team – details in the Event Management Plan.

PARISH/2022/16: To set the minimum number of Marshalls for co-ordinating stallholder set up and closing of Sankey Fun Day at 7. Up to 10 would be preferable.

PARISH/2022/17: To invite Borough Councillors to help as Marshalls.

PARISH/2022/18: To require Councillors to confirm their attendance at the Fun Day at the April Parish Council meeting and sign up for specific roles to ensure the event runs smoothly.

PARISH/2022/19: To accept quote from Light n Soul to compere the Fun Day and provide associated equipment to facilitate this.

PARISH/2022/20: To set a limit on the maximum number of stalls (50).

PARISH/2022/21: To limit catering food stalls to 3.

PARISH/2022/22: To undertake the safety briefing meeting at the Parish Council meeting in June.

7. Finance Committee: to be informed of the meeting held on 1.3.22

7.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting.

Noted.

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

The items approved for payment were noted with no questions.

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

Recommendations were accepted with no questions or comments.

PARISH/2022/23: *To consider and decide on energy contracts via email (Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19).*

PARISH/2022/24: *To add Cllr Jones to the list of bank signatories and remove those no longer serving on the Council (Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015, reg 3).*

PARISH/2022/25: *To authorise payment for the replacement windows at Bewsey Barn Community Centre, subject to final approval by the CMO and providing the invoice received is per the quote approved (Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19).*

PARISH/2022/26: *To request further information on thermal value of the ceiling tiles from the two lowest quotes, before finalising a decision via email for the suspended ceiling at Whittle Hall Community Centre (Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19).*

PARISH/2022/27: *To approve the quote received from Paul Brookes & Sons to re-tarmac Bewsey Barn Community Centre at a cost of £12,400 +VAT (Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19).*

PARISH/2022/28: *To obtain a quote from the Council's IT provider to replace the current office computers. The Finance Committee to be kept informed of the quote, and authorisation given to the Clerk go ahead if it is within the allocated budget (LGA 1972 s111).*

PARISH/2022/29: *To request further information from Your Housing before discussing the proposed lease and financial contribution together at either the Parish Council meeting or the next Finance Committee meeting.*

PARISH/2022/30: *To approved continued free use of Hood Lane Community Centre until the end of 2022 for GNWA5 to facilitate the delivery of food parcels to residents in need (Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s19 (2)).*

PARISH/2022/31: *To vire allocated budget from the underspent categories (Wages, Centre maintenance and Utilities) to Long-term maintenance on the centres for the suspended ceiling at Whittle Hall (if approved) and the car park at Bewsey Barn (Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 reg 3).*

8. To consider a motion to amend Standing Orders, Section 5: Voting (Cllr Catlow).

After discussion, it was agreed that the current version of Standing Orders allow for any Councillor to request that the names of members who voted on any question be recorded and to show whether they voted for or against, as long as the request is made before the next

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order of business is conducted. It was therefore considered unnecessary to amend the Standing Orders at this time.

9. To consider suggestions to formally recognize the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend.

It was agreed to invite a representative from Stitch Station to the Community Projects Group meeting on 23rd March to explain their bunting project and to see if there is anything further the group wishes to do. The possibility of purchasing plaques from the Royal British Legion for the Queen's Green Canopy Scheme was mentioned as was the possibility of giving awards to members of the community at Sankey Fun Day (Clerk to forward a copy of GSPC's Recognition Scheme to all Councillors).

10. Sankey Station project: to consider proposal from Rise Associates.

Proposal expected for discussion at the April meeting.

11. To receive briefing paper on a proposed project to partner with Great Sankey High School to utilize Barrow Hall Theatre for the benefit of residents.

Discussions are ongoing with the High School about the possibility of putting on a programme of events in Barrow Hall Theatre. The suitability of the available equipment is being looked at, as well as the possibility of utilizing Culture Warrington's booking system.

12. To discuss the possible reduction in PCSO numbers in Cheshire (Cllr Catlow).

A report on Warrington Worldwide's website suggested the PCC is reviewing PCSO numbers throughout Cheshire and these may be reduced over time through natural wastage. Councillors noted the need to monitor the debate for any potential impact on Great Sankey; the Police will be contacted to request that GSPC is included within any future external consultation regarding PCSO's.

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

Cllr King

Reported that events held on International Women's Day had been successful and a mentoring program had been started as a result of this.

Cllr Hussain

1. Some residents in Sankey Bridges are still living in poor conditions following the floods in 2021 as a result of issues with insurance. Care UK is providing some funding to help.

2. The recent flood alert for the Liverpool Road area caused further concern. Road closure signs and sandbags are being stored locally for immediate deployment if necessary.

3. The alleyway behind Huntley Street has had an issue with fly tipping for some time. One of the problems is that the land is privately-owned, and WBC has no responsibility for it. As a

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gesture, WBC provided skips and removed the existing waste, and the area is currently clear. The challenge is to ensure it remains clean and tidy.

4. The new houses being built along Sycamore Lane are almost complete, and all have been sold. The houses have been built as affordable homes with an emphasis on being environmentally friendly with heat pumps and solar panels.

Cllr Warburton

1. Chapelford Health Centre is trying to address the access issues that patients have been experiencing.

2. Negotiations to replace the trees in Blue Lake Gardens are ongoing.

3. An area on Washington Drive has been identified as possibly being suitable for a pump track; investigations are ongoing and further updates will be provided at future meetings.

Cllr Patel

1. He is trying to get a PSPO for dog fouling introduced which will also include the requirement to keep dogs on leads in cemeteries and on public highways.

2. Costs for the Western Link have increased significantly, and the scheme is not now financially viable.

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

There were no comments on the applications listed. An update was given on a meeting held with Omega Warrington Ltd and WBC. The community facility that had been mentioned as a possibility for the area is not viable as it would cost in the region of 1-1.5 million. The elderly care facility and pub/restaurant are still on the outline plan, but these are not secured although options are still being explored. It was agreed to postpone the presentation from OWL to the Parish Council from April to later in the year.

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

Item 1: Consultation on WBC's proposed Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme.

Noted; consultation to be shared on the council's Facebook site for residents to respond if they wish.

Item 2: Correspondence from Andy Carter MP, offering to meet with Parish Councillors during Parliamentary recess. Dates of recess to be requested and an invite issued to meet the council prior to a council meeting.

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16. To receive verbal reports from Councillors.

Cllr Pennington

Informed members of a BT notice for a replacement pole at the corner of Belmont Crescent and Station Road. It is not clear what the replacement will be or whether there is to be any associated cabinets. Cllr Patel offered to follow this up.

Cllr Warburton

Noted that works are ongoing to upgrade the bridge and path in Bunny Hollow which links Belmont Crescent to Whittle Brook. This is part of the planned works from the development of Warrington West Station.

Cllr Hussain

Requested that the new Parish newsletter is put in community centres.

Cllr King

Informed members that the project for the 'Fairy Wood Trail' at Childs Wood is almost complete with 7 houses made. A final site visit will be necessary to identify the precise locations for the houses. A completion date has not been set, but it is hoped it will be in place by April/May.

Work is continuing on the Boat Park off Dorchester Road. Your Housing have completed the new fencing and hopes the repairs to the existing equipment and installation of new will begin soon.

GNWA5 are planning a large Easter donation of 200 food parcels on 9th/10th April. Any volunteers to help pack and distribute are welcome.