Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 11th May 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

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**Chair:** P Watson

Councillors: N Catlow N Cotter M Hussain

D Price H Patel S Parish
S Pennington B Sutcliffe R Knowles
D Clark A Morley P Jones

P Warburton

Also present: K. Carter, Parish Clerk

L. Brereton, Deputy Clerk

#### 1. Election of Chair.

Cllr Peter Watson elected as Chair of the Parish Council.

PARISH/2022/40: Cllr Watson elected as Chair of Great Sankey Parish Council

# 2. To hear Declaration of Acceptance of Office from Chair.

Cllr Watson formally accepted the office of Chair of the Parish Council and signed the declaration in the presence of the Clerk to the Council.

## 3. Election of Vice-Chair

PARISH/2022/41: Cllr Price elected as Vice Chair of Great Sankey Parish Council

## Agenda items 4 to 6: election of Chair and members to Council committee

Clerk's note: these were taken as one item. The list of current committees and membership had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillors were asked if anyone wished to either step down from a committee or be elected to one. There were no requests for this, and it was resolved to retain the current membership.

PARISH/2022/42: to retain the current membership of Council committees for a further year. <u>Finance Committee</u>: Cllr Price (Chair), plus Cllrs Watson, Clark, Jones, Morley and Hussain. <u>Employment Committee</u>: Cllr Watson (Chair), plus Cllrs Jones, King, Clark, Patel, Pennington. <u>Community Projects Group</u>: Cllr Jones (Chair), plus Cllrs King, Morley, Sutcliffe, Catlow, Warburton, Watson, Cotter.

## 7. To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr King.

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## 8. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th April 2022.

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that apologies from Cllr Pennington had been missed. This will be altered and with this amendment, the minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

**PARISH/2022/43:** To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April, subject to the inclusion of Cllr Pennington on the list of apologies for the meeting.

## 9. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations.

## 10. PCSO reports.

The monthly report for April had been circulated with papers for the meeting and was noted. It was suggested that the council should review the SLA and consider if the specified purpose of the role, youth engagement and diversionary activities, is appropriate for the PCSO role or whether spending on youth activities within the parish would be more appropriate. It was suggested a working group could be set up to review both PCSO and youth provision; this to be an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting. It was recognised that the Police should be part of this review process.

**PARISH/2022/44:** To consider a review of the parish funded PCSO role and youth provision within the parish; to set up a working group to achieve this at the June Parish Council meeting with full terms of reference and timeframes.

- 11. To review:
- 11.1 Standing Orders
- 11.2 Code of Conduct
- 11.3 Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee
- 11.4 Terms of Reference for the Employment Committee
- 11.5 Terms of Reference for the Community Projects Group

There were no comments or amendments noted and documents were approved with no changes necessary.

**PARISH/2022/45:** To approve the current versions of Council's Standing Orders and Code of Conduct as well as the Terms of Reference for the Finance and Employment Committees and Community Projects Group.

- 12. Finance Committee: to be informed of the meeting held on 3.5.22
- 12.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting. Noted.
- **12.2 to be informed of, and have the opportunity to question, items approved for payment.** The items approved for payment were accepted with no questions.

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## 12.3 to consider recommendations made and decide whether to accept them.

There were no recommendations for consideration.

# 13. To consider information from Grounds Review Working Group on possible in-house provision and costs.

The Grounds Review Working Group had estimated costs for bringing the maintenance for some of the council's sites in-house rather than outsourcing the work. The group concluded that a small cost saving could be made and that there were additional benefits for the council with greater control and flexibility for ad hoc work that may be required. It was recognised that there would be additional responsibilities for health & safety, admin, and training with an inhouse team which also needs consideration. It was therefore proposed that the council continues the process through the Employment Committee.

**PARISH/2022/46:** The council supports the plan to bring grounds maintenance services inhouse against the scope identified by the working group and in line with the budget proposed. This decision will enable further works to take place via the employment committee.

In conjunction, the chair, vice chair, and clerk of the council will meet with current suppliers to discuss this matter, any recent correspondence with us, as well as the tender process we envisage for grounds that are out of scope for in sourcing and report back at the next full council meeting.

## 14. Sankey Station project: to consider membership of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee for the Sankey Station project will help with the project to convert the station building into a community hub. Cllr Price is the council's lead on the project and Rise Associates have been engaged to project manage. Cllr Morley offered to be a member of the committee and the remaining members will be sought from the community. Councillors were asked for any suggestions they might have for interested members of public and it was agreed to post an advert on the council's Facebook page with a deadline for responses. The timeframe for the project was queried; this is specified in the business proposal agreed with Rise Associates. The steering committee, along with Rise Associates, will be expected to report to the Parish Council on progress and the Parish Council will have oversight of the project.

**PARISH/2022/47:** Councillors Price and Morley to be members of the Sankey Station Steering Committee; additional members to be sought from non-councillor residents by advertising on the councils Facebook page.

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

## Cllr Hussain

Residents of Sankey Bridges will receive an update from relevant agencies on the flood mitigation works on Saturday.

Work should begin on replacing/repairing the play equipment at Brentnall Park shortly.

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## Cllr Parish (notes read by Cllr Warburton)

Mentioned that he will be presenting an award on behalf of the Mayor to Warrington West Station for best-kept station in Halton & Warrington. An extra train will be timetabled in December, Liverpool to Warrington Central only with a connection to a fast train to Manchester.

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

Concerns were raised again about the size of development in Omega West and the impact on traffic levels.

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

One item of correspondence had been received from Burtonwood and Westbrook Parish Council asking Great Sankey Parish Council to reconsider its position in relation to Westbrook library. A full discussion had taken place on this item in January based on information from Livewire and WBC, and the council resolved at that meeting to defer a decision on a financial contribution to the library service until an alternative business model is proposed (*PARISH/2022/5*). Standing Order 14.1 states that a decision shall not be reversed within six months except by special resolution or on the recommendation of a committee. As no additional or new information is available in relation to this topic, it was agreed that there are no grounds to reverse the original decision.

### 18. To receive verbal reports from Councillors.

#### Cllr Watson

Gave an update on the project to address the drainage on the Parish Playing Field. Slow progress is being made with the next step to obtain the services of a Sports Turf Consultant for independent advice.

### Cllr Cotter

The GN WA5 foodbank is still very much in demand with 25-30 people receiving regular food parcels plus additional one-off deliveries.

The partnership with GSHS is in negotiations to provide theatre performances for residents. A full report will be submitted to the Community Projects Group when completed.

# **Cllr Morley**

Mentioned the huge community effort underway to provide bunting to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Over 1000 separate pieces have been knitted/crocheted; these will be installed on the front railings of Vicarage Community Park on 29<sup>th</sup> May starting at 1pm. All are welcome to join and help with the installation.

#### Cllr Patel

Requested that the parish council consider virtual/hybrid meetings. He will provide details on a possible option for use.

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# Cllr Warburton

Mentioned that Chapelford Community Group is investigating the purchase of a defibrillator; they have the funding and are looking at sites – possibly outside the health centre or pharmacy.

RAF Burtonwood Association are hosting a reunion at Gullivers World on 25-28 May. Families from the US will attend; this will include the opening of the road which leads to Airlift Hill on the Omega site.

PC/2022/23 8.6.22