

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 14th December 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

Chair: P Watson
Councillors: D Price N Catlow N Cotter
 D Clark A King P Warburton
 S Parish

Also present: K. Carter, Clerk
 Sgt Alan Boyle
 2 members of public

Public Question Time

One question was asked regarding the PCSO reports and whether these could be included in the minutes. The council will check with the police if the report can be made public and consider whether to publish in addition to the minutes.

1. To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Knowles, Pennington, Jones, Morley, Hussain, Sutcliffe and Patel.

2. To approve minutes of meeting held on 9th November 2022

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved as an accurate record.

PARISH/2022/82: To approve minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th November 2022 as a true and accurate record.

3. To receive any declarations of interest.

None.

4. Presentation on Warrington Armed Forces Day (Sgt Boyle).

A very informative and interesting presentation on the Armed Forces Day Games was provided to members. It is the largest Armed Forces Day in the North West and is a fixed event within the forces rugby calendar. It has always been a community event with 3 organised rugby league games as well as stands, stalls, activities and displays from both local groups, charities and the military. Entry is free to keep the day accessible to all, particularly families. The event is now in its 12th year and has grown year-on-year with highly competitive, friendly rivalry between the teams involved.

Unfortunately, the event no longer receives funding from the Army Sport Control Board and therefore now needs to be funded entirely through the team of volunteer organisers. The main costs are for travel and subsistence to support army personnel attending and taking part, insurance, stewarding and first aid. Crosfields ARLFC provide services such as waste removal and staffing for the bar; the remaining costs are met through sponsorship and donations. Total costs for the event are £12k. The Parish Council will discuss a donation at the January Council meeting.

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 14th December 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

5. PCSO reports and update on meeting with Police.

The PCSO report for November had been circulated prior to the meeting; there were no questions, and the report was noted.

The Chair and Clerk had met with Inspector Keefe and Sergeant Bradley to discuss the role of the parish funded PCSO and understand whether the focus is still relevant. The role is currently aimed at youth engagement and diversionary activities, in addition to the standard PCSO duties. It was recognised that this had been difficult to continue during the pandemic but contact between schools and the PCSO is now possible again. These relationships provide valuable information through both formal and informal conversations and help to build trust between students and the police.

It was suggested that a quarterly report on this focussed work may be useful for councillors to receive along with regular updates on the deployment of the SID.

The Youth Zone was also discussed in terms of reducing anti-social behaviour. GSPC is interested in trying to work with both the police and the youth zone to encourage use of the centre by children from the parish. Sgt Bradley had arranged a site visit to the Youth Zone for councillors. It is hoped that information will be obtained on the numbers of attendees and whether there are any reasons given for the facility not being used, e.g. transport, knowledge of activities, which the Parish Council may be able to help address. The date and time of the visit will be forwarded to members to register interest in attending.

6. Community Projects Committee: to be informed of the meeting held on 17.11.22

6.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting

The draft minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting; there were no questions.

6.2 to be informed of any expenditure under delegated authority

None.

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

There were two recommendations:

- To increase the 2023/24 budget for Sankey Fun Day from £10k to £15k to allow extra rides, performers and crowd control barriers
- To increase the 2023/24 budget for the Christmas Tree from £5k to £6k to explore alternative options and locations

These were approved with no questions.

PARISH/2022/83: To increase the 2023/24 budget for Sankey Fun Day to £15k and for Christmas Trees to £6k (LGA 1972 s144 & s145)

7. Finance Committee business: to be informed of the meeting held on 6.12.22

7.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting

The draft minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting; there were no questions.

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 14th December 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

7.2 to be informed of, and have the opportunity to question, items approved for payment under delegated authority

The list of delegated expenditure was tabled at the meeting and no queries were raised. All items are listed within the Finance Committee minutes.

7.3 to consider recommendations and decide whether to accept them

There were 5 recommendations for discussion and council approval.

Two of these (replacement of the diesel van and solar PV) fall under the council's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint as much as possible when appropriate. Installing solar PV on two centres, Whittle Hall and Bewsey Barn, received approval. The final decision on contractor was discussed in part 2 of the meeting due to confidentiality but is noted here for clarity.

PARISH/2022/84: *to enter into a lease agreement with Vans North West Ltd for a Maxus Deliver 3 electric van for use by the Centre Maintenance Officer. Livery, roof rack and tow bar to be included (LGA 1972 s11).*

PARISH/2022/85: *to engage Nightingale Solar to install solar PV at Whittle Hall and Bewsey Barn Community Centres as per the quote received (LGA 1972 s133).*

Hire rates for the community centres had been reviewed. The increase due in April 2020 (approx. 5%) had been deferred as the centres closed because of the pandemic. It was therefore recommended that this increase is now imposed from April 2023 to counteract increasing running costs. Approved.

PARISH/2022/86: *to implement a small increase on the hire rates for community centres from April 2023 (deferred from 2020) (LG (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976, s19(2)).*

Rise Associates had proposed that a marketing video is produced for the Sankey Station project, to help with funding applications and for promoting the idea to residents and potential customers. The finance Committee recommended the budget of £1-2k subject to 3 quotes being obtained. Approved.

PARISH/2022/87: *to agree budget of £1000-2000 to produce a promotional video for the Sankey Station project, subject to 3 quotes being obtained by Rise Associates (LGA 1972 s133).*

Donation to Warrington Foodbank: GSPC currently donate £1350 to Warrington Foodbank annually in 3 separate amounts prior to each school holiday. The recommendation was to increase this to £1650 each year recognising the increasing demand for the service. Approved.

PARISH/2022/88: *to increase the level of donation to Warrington Foodbank to £550 prior to each school holiday (LGA 1972 s137).*

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 14th December 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

7. Sankey Station project update.

Disappointing news had been received from the Architectural Heritage Fund; after working with them for some months, Rise Associates have been informed that there is only a small amount of funding left for the final round of bids and they were advised not to bid at this time. Discussions about possible future funding will take place in the New Year.

On a positive note, Northern Rail has confirmed their intention to let the building for the project on a peppercorn long lease and will provide this in writing to help with funding applications.

A presentation for the Northern Seedcorn Fund was well received and an answer is anticipated shortly. The £12k applied for will help towards the next stages of the project for engaging a quantity surveyor, architect etc.

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

No relevant applications were listed.

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

There was one item of correspondence which was an update on the Manchester Airport Future Airspace project which was noted. Documentation can be found on the CAA Manchester Airspace Change Portal.

11. To receive verbal reports from Councillors.

Cllr Parish updated members on the new train timetable which does not offer any improvements for Warrington West.

Cllr Warburton said that WBC have allocated funds to parks across Warrington, including Dakota Park and Old Hall Park. Some funding has also been set aside for the proposed pump track; WBC is currently looking at the planning permission and site suitability for installation on Dakota Park. It was noted that GSPC has previously indicated support for this project and would consider a donation to the project at the appropriate time.

Cllr King added that funding has also been allocated to Briarswood Park by WBC. She praised WBC for their gritting response during the extreme weather.

Residents of Mapplewell Crescent have met with police to discuss Bunny Hollow where drug activity has been taking place. The bushes are to be cut back and Sankey North & South Councillors are to get together with residents to identify projects which the community can get involved with to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Finally, Cllr King thanked the volunteers of GNWA5 for helping to bring a little Christmas cheer to residents. 40 children's presents have been handed out and 100 adult presents are due to be given to elderly residents.

Cllr Cotter asked members if they were happy for her to bring a bag to the next Parish Council meeting to collect any donations to Warrington Foodbank. This was agreed; members will be reminded ahead of the meeting.

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 14th December 2022

Tim Parry Community Centre

- 12. Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and Press leave the meeting during consideration of the following agenda items. The two members of public present left before discussion of the following item.**

Part 2

- 13. Employment Committee business: to be informed of the meeting held on 6.12.22**
13.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting
13.2 to consider recommendations and decide whether to accept them
13.3 to review and finalise recruitment advert

Papers from the Employment Committee had been circulated prior to the meeting. An amendment to the job description for the Sole/Head Gardener was suggested and agreed, and a few typos noted. Members then voted on whether to accept the recommendations with the amendments; these were approved by majority with one abstention (Cllr Catlow).

PARISH/2022/89: to approve the recommendations from the Employment Committee meeting of 6 December 2022 (LGA 1972 s112).