

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 8th November 2023
Tim Parry Community Centre

Chair: P Watson
Councillors: D Price A King S Pennington
 A Morley N Cotter N Catlow
 S Parish B Sutcliffe P Warburton

Also present: K Carter, Parish Clerk

1. To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Jones.

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th October 2023.

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

PARISH/2023/77: To approve minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 as a true and accurate record.

3. To receive any declarations of interest.

None.

4. Finance Committee

4.1 to receive the draft minutes of the meeting on 31.10.23, including payments and decisions made under delegated authority.

Noted.

4.2 to consider recommendations and decide whether to accept them.

The recommendations from the Finance Committee were explained; all were accepted.

PARISH/2023/78: To continue with TTTC for website support and maintenance as well as to undertake the refresh of the website (LGA 1972 s142).

PARISH/2023/79: To accept that the Parish Council can no longer accept payments in cash and to inform customers accordingly (LGA 1972 s111).

PARISH/2023/80: To approve additional livery on the Parish Council vans (£525 +VAT per van) (LGA 1972 s111).

PARISH/2023/81: To give a donation of £200 to Sankey Seniors towards their Christmas meal (LGA 1972 s137).

5. Community Projects Committee

5.1 to receive and note draft minutes from the meeting held on 2.11.23.

A verbal report on the meeting was given.

Sankey Fun Day: Cllr Morley is to be the named person for the event which leaves a vacancy on the marshalling team. Cllr Pennington volunteered to fill the place. Updating the event management plan is underway and the activities are being planned and engaged. It was emphasized that it is important for all Councillors to pledge support for the day, regardless of the outcome of the elections in May 2024.

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 8th November 2023
Tim Parry Community Centre

Christmas 2024: ideas have been put forward for small-scale events and the committee is looking into the feasibility of these. Events that other organizations run at Christmas were mentioned and it was agreed that the Parish Council would not want to duplicate these but may look at joining in with other groups.

5.2 to be informed of decisions made and consider any recommendations requiring further approval.

All decisions related to Sankey Fun Day 2024 for which the Community Projects Committee has delegated authority and are noted below.

PARISH/2023/82: Cllr Morley to be the 'named person' for Sankey Fun Day 2024

PARISH/2023/83: To note the engagement of Radio Warrington, Sharlands Fairground and Wild Tribe Face Painting for Sankey Fun Day 2024.

6. To be informed of Councillor resignation and consider membership of the Finance and Employment Committees, and the Parish Playing Field and Police & Youth Advisory Groups.

Cllr Clark (North ward) has resigned for personal reasons. The Elections Office at Warrington Borough Council has been notified and vacancy notices have been posted on noticeboards and on the parish council website. There are also now vacancies on several committees and Advisory Groups. It was agreed that the Clerk would email Councillors with these vacancies and receive nominations for decision.

7. To receive a report on residents meeting to discuss Marina Avenue Park.

Cllrs Hussain and Cotter have been liaising with residents and WBC to address concerns and make improvements for the park which is owned and managed by WBC. Great Sankey Parish Council has agreed to fund the purchase and installation of 2 new benches as the park is situated in the South Ward of the parish. Residents would also like some paths to improve accessibility and the grass cutting more frequently. Residents were encouraged to gain as much support as possible within the community with a view to setting up a Friends Group for the park. The advantage of this is that it shows firm commitment and a desire for change from residents; Friends Groups are also able to access funding that is not available to councils to bring about improvements. The meeting was well-supported; a further meeting is planned for the New Year.

8. To receive information on horticultural apprenticeships.

An initial paper on horticultural apprenticeships was discussed along with information from Myerscough College. For the council to achieve its ambition to make the most of its green spaces and undertake more community initiatives, additional staffing is required, which the council would like to achieve through apprenticeship. Various aspects were discussed including the impact on the Head Gardener's time, potential salary, set-up costs and long-term prospects with the council. It was suggested that a detailed paper is produced for further consideration.

9. Sankey Station Project update.

The lease negotiations with Arch Co. for the house adjacent to the main ticket building have been continuing. The Parish Council had reviewed the draft Heads of Terms document in May 2023 and raised various points; these have all been addressed and a solicitor has been

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 8th November 2023
Tim Parry Community Centre

engaged to check the lease. It was proposed and agreed that the council will sign the lease with Arch Co. with the amended terms, subject to examination and approval by the solicitor.

Once the lease has been signed, the CIC can move forwards with funding applications to support the necessary renovations. It is also hoped that this will provide some reassurance to the rail companies to grant a lease on the main building.

PARISH/2023/84: *To sign the lease agreement with Arch Co. for the station house building subject to the agreed amendments being made and examination and approval by the solicitor.*

10. To receive an update from the Police and Youth Advisory Group.

The results of the public survey have been collated, with 32 responses from members of the public, although unfortunately there have been no replies to the youth survey. The majority view is that Great Sankey is a very safe place to live, and most people have not directly experienced anti-social behaviour. The answers to the open questions will be reviewed in greater detail and reported on at a future meeting.

It was questioned whether anti-social behaviour is being measured in comparison to other areas which do not fund an additional PCSO. This, as well as reviewing the objectives for the funded PCSO is the next stage in the discussions of the advisory group.

11. To receive an update from the Parish Playing Field Advisory Group.

The draft business plan has been submitted to Liverpool County FA for review before the council finalizes the application to the Football Foundation for funding. The tenders for the drainage work were evaluated with the assistance of the Grounds Management Association. The contract was awarded to Talbot Farm Landscapes subject to a successful funding outcome with work provisionally planned for summer 2024.

PARISH/2023/85: *To approve the engagement of Talbot Farm Landscapes for the drainage scheme on the Parish Playing Field (£198,222 +VAT) subject to a successful funding application to the Football Foundation.*

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

There were no questions or objections.

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

Item 1: details on the Act of Remembrance and Parade

Item 2: Notification of the Warrington Local Plan Independent Examination.

Both items were noted; Cllr Price to lay the wreath on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Parish Council.

14. To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors and from Borough Councillors on items of note within the Parish.

Cllr Watson

Unauthorised firework display. This had originally been planned for Vicarage Community Park, without permission being requested or granted but was moved last minute to Tim Parry Recreation Ground. Councillors had been in contact with PCOS's over the potential event

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting: Wednesday 8th November 2023
Tim Parry Community Centre

and were disappointed in the response from the Police. This is to be followed up in a separate meeting with the Police.

Cllr Morley

Informed members that Great Sankey Market may be considering alternative locations for the monthly event.

Cllr Warburton

There have been reports of several near misses on the zebra crossings outside Chapelford Primary School. The Police are aware and will be on site to educate drivers on proper use of the crossings.

Pump track, Dakota Park: the contract has been awarded and planning permission is being submitted shortly. It is hoped the track could be completed by spring 2024.

Thanks were extended to everyone involved in the knitted post box tops for Remembrance Day.

Cllr Catlow

Noted that WBC is looking at a possible pedestrian crossing across Whittle Avenue to access the new retail park on Omega South. The traffic is particularly heavy at this junction and near misses have been reported.

Cllr King

Invited members to a Christmas event at Sankey Bridges on 25th November where funds are being raised for a local family.