

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE ON THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

**Present:** Councillors Mrs E Welborn (Chair), R Bate, M Biggin, L Fernyhough, W Johnson, R Fisher, I Fountain, D Hockenhull, C Taylor, P Warner, G Welborn, P Wenlock and C Worsley.

**In Attendance:** Janet Richards, Responsible Financial Officer.

### 134. Apologies for Absence

It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors A Bennett, H Kazi and J McQuillian would be accepted.

### 135. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests

No disclosures were made.

### 136. Minutes

**Resolved that** the minutes of the Parish Council on 19<sup>th</sup> October and Planning Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> November be approved as a correct record.

**Action**

### 137. Update on Local Policing Issues by PCSO Sharon Perrie

PCSO Sharon Perrie provided an update on local issues and crime statistics was presented. Details were as follows:

- 6 Anti Social Behaviour (4 involving youths)
- 4 Burglaries
- 3 Criminal Damage
- 3 Road Traffic Collisions
- 1 Theft
- 0 Shoplifting

Sharon also reported that there had been a few problems at Jubilee Park with fireworks being set off and motorcross biking nuisance. Sharon was asked by members to increase her visibility at schools during school start and finish times.

### 138. Correspondence Miscellaneous

The following miscellaneous correspondence had been received and copies were available from the Clerk:

- a) A resident had emailed to report that a Network Warrington bus had got stuck and blocked All Saints Drive on Bonfire Night.

### 139. Information for Noting

- a) The Living Wage Foundation announced on 6<sup>th</sup> November that the UK Living Wage (adopted by this Council in June 2015) would increase from £8.40 per hour to £8.75 per hour. The Parish Council had agreed to adopt any UK Living Wage pay increases by April of the following year therefore the new rate would be implemented for this Council in April 2018.
- b) Councillor Mrs E Welborn had attended a Planning Consultation event for St Wilfrid's Church extension on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
- c) The RFO had received a response from Mark Tune (WBC) following on from his presentation to this Council in June 2017 regarding the Schools Programme. Mark had confirmed that Bradshaw Lane and Thelwall Junior Schools were on the list and Bradshaw Lane was currently being observed. Unfortunately due to lack of resources, no further progress would be made until the New Year. Mark had asked Parking Services to increase their presence at St Wilfrid's School and Church.
- d) Tom Cowie had agreed to put additional signage in Grappenhall Village to highlight the 8 tonne weight restriction and to allow the restriction to be enforced. The RFO would ask how this would be enforced.

**JR**

- e) The RFO was pleased to announce that the WREN grants for Jubilee Park and Diamond Park (totalling £93k) had been successful.
- f) Work had re-commenced on trying to secure the Village Green at Grappenhall Heys as having ‘Centenary Field Status’.

**140 Emergency Decision Procedure**

Following on from the PDO consultation, whereby a quick decision was required by Parish Councillors on employing a Planning Consultant, Councillor Mrs E Welborn had suggested that a procedure for such emergency situations should be put in place. It was proposed that if an urgent decision on a matter was required, the Chair (or Clerk – at the discretion of the Chair) would email information to members, requesting a Yes, No or Abstain response within 24 hours. Failing to respond would result in an abstention. A text would also be sent to all Councillors asking them to check their emails. It was **resolved that** this procedure would be accepted and would be incorporated into the Standing Orders when they were revised in the coming months.

**141. Budget for the Financial Year 2018/19**

The RFO presented a draft budget to members for 2018/19. It was **resolved that** the budget, which was based on a 1.95% increase on the tax base calculation provided by Warrington Borough Council (WBC), would be adopted. The RFO would inform WBC of the precept requirement, which was £155,347, and would send them a copy of the agreed budget. Further discussions would take place at the December Parish Council meeting on fine tuning some of the budget elements (i.e. Environmental).

**JR**

**142. GYCA Liaison Feedback**

The RFO had taken on board the role of liaison with GYCA, and had met with Hugh and Pauline on 15<sup>th</sup> November. The outstanding lease and other issues were discussed and a way forward was agreed. It was decided that a formal GYCA Liaison meeting would only be required if there were any big issues that arose in the future.

**143. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

Councillor P Wenlock provided an update to members on the NP/PDO meeting that took place on 26<sup>th</sup> October with Michael Bell and Joanne McGrath from the WBC Planning Policy team. It was agreed that the Parish Council would progress with the NP and complete the initial consultation. We would then not progress any further until the revised PDO had been issued (mid to late 2018).

**144. Preferred Development Option (PDO)/Planning Consultant**

In anticipation of the publication of the revised PDO, members were asked to consider employing a Planning Consultant a.s.a.p. so that the necessary review/background work could be carried out and work could commence as soon as the modified PDO was issued in 2018. It was **resolved that** the RFO would liaise with Parish Councillors to formulate a ‘brief’ for this work and then, in due course, obtain suitable quotes. It was also **resolved that** a PDO Liaison Group would be set up consisting of Councillors R Bate, C Taylor, P Warner, Mrs E Welborn and P Wenlock. This group would attend the joint Parishes PDO meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November at Appleton Parish Hall. The RFO would also attend. This meeting would discuss how the South Parish Councils could work collaboratively and other issues such as funding.

**JR**

**145. Accounts for Payment**

It was **resolved that** accounts for payment totalling £22,831.81 be approved.

**146. Expenditure to Date**

The RFO outlined expenditure to date against the budget, and confirmed that we were ‘on target’. No issues to report.

**147. Consideration of Planning Applications**

The recent planning applications were considered (see attached report).