

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE ON THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2017

Present: Councillors Mrs E Welborn (Chair), R Bate, A Bennett, M Biggin, L Fernyhough, R Fisher, I Fountain, D Hockenhull, W Johnson, H Kazi, J McQuillian, C Taylor, G Welborn, P Wenlock and C Worsley.

In Attendance: Janet Richards, Clerk to the Council/RFO

Action

154. Apologies for Absence

It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillor P Warner would be accepted.

155. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Fisher declared an interest in agenda item 15 (Request for financial assistance from All Saints Church).

156. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 16th November, Resources Committee meeting on 23rd October, Resources Committee meeting on 28th November and Planning Committee on 2nd November be approved as a correct record.

157. Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were made.

158. Update on Local Policing Issues by PCSO Sharon Perrie

PCSO Sharon Perrie attended the meeting and reported the following crime statistics:

- Anti Social Behaviour 4 (minor)
- Burglaries 2 (both cars)
- Criminal Damage 2
- Road Traffic Collisions 3 (due to weather/black ice)
- Shoplifting 1 (Tesco)
- Theft 1 (minor)

Concern was also raised regarding the problematic bus route on All Saints Drive, there had been a further instance of a bus getting stuck.

159. Correspondence Warrington Borough Council

- a) Andrea Turner from Warrington & Co had confirmed that they would be initiating the process of developing a planning brief for the Grappenhall Hall School site in January 2018 and would be contacting the Parish Council in due course.
- b) Letter from Lynton Green explaining future proposed changes in parish tax base which would affect the 2019/20 precept. The predicted reduction would be £5614. (Councillor Bate would raise this issue at the WBC Executive meeting in January).

160. Correspondence Miscellaneous

- a) Consultation on the Draft Admissions Policy for Lymm High School.
- b) Notification from Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments to confirm that the External Auditors for financial years 2018/19 through to 2021/22 for Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council would be PKF Littlejohn LLP.

161. Information for Noting

- a) A new Data Protection General Regulation would come into force in May 2018 and the Parish Council would need to comply. The SLCC would be running 90 minute webinars (cost £25) and the Clerk/RFO would attend this or another appropriate training course.
- b) The Clerk attended a Fire Training Course at GYCA on 5th December.
- c) All the works required in relation to the GYCA Fire Risk Assessment had been completed and approved in line with the Fire Inspectors' recommendations.
- d) The deeds to GYCA had been returned to FDR Solicitors for safe keeping.
- e) The Chair and the Clerk would be attending a meeting with Faisal Rashid MP on Friday 26th January, along with representatives from other South Warrington Parish Councils.
- f) ChALC would be running 2 training sessions on 19th February and 19th March (6pm to 9pm) in Crewe.

162. South Warrington Parishes Revised PDO

A meeting had taken place at Appleton Parish Hall on 27th November, with representatives from South Warrington Parish Councils, to discuss how all parties could work together on the revised PDO/Local Plan (due to be published sometime between Spring and Autumn 2018). It had been agreed that Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council would lead the project, and a proposal had been put together by Councillor Taylor that had been issued to all South Warrington parishes. The proposal outlined plans for employing the services of a Planning Consultant to represent all South Warrington Parish Councils. The Clerk would set up a meeting in early February and the representatives from Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council would be Councillor C Taylor and Councillor R Bate (as deputy).

163. Budget for the Financial Year 2018/19

Members considered the re-allocation of the PCSO budget provision for 2018/19. Consideration was given to allocating some funds to environmental issues, and following a discussion it was **resolved that** the majority of the £17,000 would be ringfenced for 'professional fees'. It was anticipated that significant funds would be required for Planning Consultants' fees in relation to the revised PDO (as outlined above). It was also **resolved that** an ipad would be purchased for the Parish Council Office.

JR

164. Change in Roles

The Resources Committee had met on 28th November and agreed that Janet Richards would be appointed as Clerk to the Council/RFO for a period of 12 months and Susan Brooks would become Deputy Clerk, from 4th December 2017.

165. Standing Orders

The Deputy Clerk had revised the 2004 Standing Orders in line with the NALC Model Standing Orders and emailed a draft copy to all members prior to the meeting. It was **resolved that** the Clerk would send all members an electronic copy of the 2004 Standing Orders, to enable a thorough review/comparison. This item would be put back on the January 2018 agenda. It was also noted that the Financial Regulations may need to be amended following the adoption of the revised Standing Orders.

SB/JR

166. WREN Grants

The Clerk provided members with financial information regarding the successful WREN grants awarded in November 2017. The grant for Jubilee Park was £49,710 and the grant for Diamond Park was £43,131. As part of the funding application, the Parish Council agreed to contribute to each project, as follows:

	WREN Grant	PC Contribution	PC Third Party Funding
Jubilee Park	£49,710	£5,000	£5,343.83
Diamond Park	£43,131	£5,000	£4,636.58
Total	£92,841	£10,000	£9,980.41

The combined Parish Council funding totalled £19,980.41, which would mainly be funded by the sale of the land on Thelwall New Road (£17,340) plus existing ringfenced monies. The chosen supplier and installer of the equipment would produce final plans for endorsement. A Parks & Open Spaces Committee meeting would take place in January 2018. A publicity plan had been prepared by the Clerk, and a press release would also be issued in January/February 2018.

167 Chains of Office

The Chains of Office require additional links and advice/quotes had been sought from Fattorini. It was **resolved that** an additional inner chain would be added to the existing chain, which would provide 11 additional links. The cost would be £1542+VAT.

JR/SC

168. Request for Financial Assistance

All Saints Church, Thelwall, had requested financial assistance towards emergency works on the east elevation for urgent re-pointing and repairs. It was **resolved that** a donation of £2500 would be granted, on the basis that the works would assist in preserving the heritage of the parish.

JR

169. Accounts for Payment & Expenditure to Date

Resolved that accounts for payment totalling £52,902.42 be approved. The RFO outlined expenditure to date and confirmed that expenditure was 'on target'.

JR

170. Consideration of Planning Applications

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