

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE ON THURSDAY 18th OCTOBER 2018

Present: Councillors Mrs E Welborn (Chair), R Bate, A Bennett, Ms S Chisolm, R Fisher, D Hockenhill, J McQuillan, C Taylor, P Warner, G Welborn and P Wenlock

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

Action

107. Apologies for Absence

It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors Ms W Johnson, H Kazi and Mrs L Fernyhough would be accepted.

108. Disclosure of Pecuniary & Personal Interests

No disclosures were made.

109. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 20th September and Planning Committee meeting on 4th October be approved as a true record.

110. Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were received.

111. Update on local policing issues by PCSO Sharon Perrie

PCSO Sharon Perrie was unable to attend the meeting, but emailed the monthly crime statistics, which had been forwarded to all members.

112. Correspondence Warrington Borough Council (WBC)

a) Letter from the Service Manager for Procurement at WBC, outlining contract/commercial legalities in relation to GDPR.

113. Correspondence Miscellaneous

- a) Email of thanks from Grappenhall & Thelwall Royal British Legion for the donation towards the Remembrance Sunday event.
- b) Letter from Rev'd Douglas Black at All Saints Church inviting members to the Patronal Festival on Sunday 28th October at 10am.

114. Information for Noting

- a) The Clerk had attended the Parish Council Liaison Meeting at the Town Hall on 1st October – which was extremely informative. Briefing presentations included: Elections Update, Network Warrington Update, Council Tax Support Update, Transport Update, Local Plan Update, GDPR and Monitoring Officer Update.
- b) The Best Kept Village Awards Evening will be held on 1st November. Councillor Fisher would be attending on behalf of G&TPC.
- c) At the September Parish Council meeting, with regards to the new lease for the Quays Community Centre, it was resolved that the Parish Council would prefer the new lease to be for no longer than 5 years. Warrington Housing Association had suggested a 10 year lease with a break clause every 3 years. The Clerk emailed this to all members, and this was deemed to be satisfactory.
- d) A Parks & Open Spaces Committee meeting would take place on the 8th November (arranged by the Assistant Clerk)
- e) A Grappenhall Heys Estate Committee meeting would be scheduled for late November.
- f) Ron Berry (Caretaker for Jubilee Park) had handed in his notice after 43years service, and we are currently recruiting a replacement. It was **resolved that** this would be put on the November agenda for discussion on how to recognise this long and valued service.

JR

g) Lindsay Owen (Caretaker for Diamond Park) would be going on Maternity leave in December, and appropriate maternity cover had been organised.

115. Conclusion of External Audit

The External Auditor (PKF Littlejohn LLP) should have completed the G&TPC External Audit by 30th September, but we had received notification that it would be delayed until the end of October.

116. Review of the ‘Criteria for Minor Financial Assistance’

The Clerk had amended the Criteria for Minor Financial Assistance, in line with suggestions made at the September Parish Council meeting. It was **resolved that** this revised document would be adopted. Note also, that requests for minor financial assistance would be reviewed hereinafter on a quarterly basis (every January, April, July and October).

117. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

Councillor Bate provided an update for members and provided details of the next steps for the Working Group. Further consultation would take place at the end of November, by way of a leaflet/questionnaire posted to all households in the parish, and by way of a public consultation event on 29th November at GYCA.

For the purposes of clarity, it was **resolved that** the Parish Councillors involved in the NDP would be granted delegated powers to make decisions regarding the NDP and related matters.

This agenda item would continue to be on every G&TPC Parish Council agenda for the foreseeable future – whereby Councillors/Clerk would provide a monthly update on actions ‘taken’ and actions ‘to be taken’ on the NDP.

118. Update on the South Warrington Parish Councils Local Plan Liaison Group

Councillor Taylor provided an update for members on the work being carried out by this group and work carried out to date by the appointed Planning Consultant (John Groves from GT Planning). As well as carrying out preparatory work to enable a challenge on the Local Plan evidence base (and other associated work), John had prepared an objection for the PDO/Local Plan related Stobart application, and the group had requested that the application should be ‘Called In’ by the Secretary of State – should WBC be minded to approve it. The Langtree consultation was also discussed and Councillor Taylor explained that this proposed application had also been brought to the attention of the Secretary of State. A letter had also been sent to the WBC Chief Executive outlining our concern that both developments pre-determined the Local Plan. Discussion also took place on the consultation events run by Langtree in mid-October.

This agenda item would continue to be on every G&TPC Parish Council agenda for the foreseeable future – whereby Councillors/Clerk would provide a monthly update on actions ‘taken’ and actions ‘to be taken’ by the Liaison Group.

119. Delegated Powers of South Warrington Parish Council Local Plan Liaison Group

For the purposes of clarity, it was **resolved that** the Parish Councillors directly involved in this Working Group (currently Councillor Bate and Councillor Taylor), would be granted delegated powers to make decisions regarding the emerging Local Plan and related matters. This delegation would be in accordance with financial restrictions already agreed (maximum of £6118 spend for FY 2018/19 – as minuted in April 2018 – minute ref. 2018/251).

120. Budget for the Financial Year 2019/2020

The Clerk explained that the 2019/2020 budget would need to be discussed and resolved at the November Parish Council meeting. The Clerk would prepare a draft agenda for discussion, however she requested that members should notify her of any suggested budget changes/additions, so that these can be taken into

consideration. The Clerk also outlined the change in precept calculation from 2019/2020 onwards relating to the removal of Council Tax Support Allowance – which would reduce the precept.

121. Accounts for Payment

It was **resolved that** accounts for payment totalling £22,507.08 be approved.

122. Expenditure to Date

The Clerk presented ‘expenditure to date’ and no issues were reported.

123. Consideration of Planning Applications

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