

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE ON THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2019

Present: Councillors P Wenlock (Chair), R Bate, M Biggin, Ms S Chisholm, D Hockenhull, Mrs L Fernyhough, R Fisher, Ms W Johnson, H Kazi, P Warner, Mrs E Welborn and G Welborn

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

Action

98. Apologies for Absence

It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors A Bennett, J McQuillan, C Taylor and C Worsley be accepted.

99. Disclosure of Pecuniary & Personal Interests

Councillor R Fisher declared an interest in minute ref. 108.

100. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 17th October and Planning meeting on 7th November be approved as a true record.

101. Update from the Local Speedwatch Group

David Skelton from the local Speedwatch Group presented a very informative update on progress and reported speeding statistics, as follows:

Location	Percentage Speeding
Knutsford Road	75%
Weaste Lane	28%
Broad Lane	93%
Hilltop Road	39%

The group had spoken with WBC Highways who unfortunately had reported that traffic calming could only be installed in areas where there had been a fatality. The group therefore would be looking into options for alternative funding and the Clerk would also seek grant opportunities. In the near future, the group had planned to continue to develop the SID database, continue to monitor areas with the speed gun, liaise with the local police, continue to work with WBC and continue to look into funding. The Chair thanked the group for their invaluable efforts with this volunteer project.

JR

102. Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were received.

103. Correspondence Warrington Borough Council/Miscellaneous

a) Letter of thanks from Grappenhall & Thelwall Royal British Legion for the Parish Council donation of £300 towards their Remembrance Sunday event.

104. Information for Noting

- a) The re-scheduled Parks & Open Spaces meeting would take place on 25th November.
- b) The issues with the collapsed wall on Halfacre Lane and issues with potential land encroachment on Elizabeth Park were both ongoing. The Clerk was still trying to resolve both.
- c) WBC had finally agreed to take action with the bank erosion at Morris Brook Park. The area had been fenced off, pending works to rectify.
- d) The Assistant Clerk had attended the Cheshire Pension Fund Employer Valuation Meeting on 31st October.
- e) Uniforms had been ordered for Walled Garden staff and the Parish Warden.
- f) The Christmas lights (new and existing) would be switched on by WBC on 1st December.

- 105. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**
This project was reported to be now on hold until the outcome of the Local Plan had been determined.
An email would be sent out to all volunteers involved. **SC/JR**
- 106. Local Plan & Associated Issues**
Councillor Bate provided an update for members. In brief, the Local Plan had been delayed due to the large volume of consultee responses that WBC has had to review. In terms of the Stobart Appeal, this had taken place on 15th-17th October at Warrington Town Hall – the outcome of which is still awaiting determination by the Secretary of State. It is likely that we would not hear anything until after the 12th of December (election).
- 107. Precept/Budget for 2020/2021**
The 2020/21 precept would be required by WBC on or before 10th January 2020. This would therefore have to be resolved at the December Parish Council meeting. The Clerk had requested the members inform her of any budgetary requirements for 2020/21 to enable a draft budget to be put together and presented in December. **ALL**
- 108. Requests for Financial Assistance**
a) All Saints Church had requested a sum of £25,000 towards the resurfacing of the car park. It was initially discussed at the July Parish Council meeting. Councillor Mrs L Fernyhough had met with Rev'd Douglas Black to discuss this further. A meeting would be set up during December with representatives from both the Church/Parish Hall and the Parish Council. **LF**
- 109. Accounts for Payment**
It was **resolved** that accounts for payment totalling £24,835.37 be approved.
- 110. Expenditure to date**
The Clerk reported that expenditure at month 8 (November) was slightly under budget. The 'on target' budget was 67%, however the overall actual expenditure was running at 58%.
- 111. Authorisation of Petty Cash Expenditure**
The Chair authorised the petty cash expenditure from the Parish Council and Walled Garden for the period 16th July to 20th November.
- 112. Consideration of Planning Applications**
The recent planning applications were considered (see attached report).