

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER 2020

Present: Councillors D Hockenhill (Chair), R Bate, M Browne, Ms S Chisholm, Mrs L Fernyhough, R Fisher, Ms W Johnson, H Speed, P Warner and C Worsley

In attendance: Janet Richards, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Colette Fellows, Assistant Clerk to the Council

Action

124. Apologies for Absence

It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors J McQuillian, C Taylor, Mrs Elaine Welborn and G Welborn would be accepted.

125. Disclosure of Pecuniary & Personal Interests

No disclosures were made.

126. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 19th November and Planning Committee meeting on 3rd December be approved as a true record.

127. Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were received.

128. PCSO Report

Members had been emailed the PCSO report prior to the meeting.

129. Information for Noting

- a) The tipper van for the Warden would be delivered on 18th December. To note also, that until Covid is over, the van will only be used by Martin. Thereafter, it could be used by other parties.
- b) The Assistant Clerk had obtained 3 quotes for the Parish Council Office kitchen and funding =<£3200 had already been authorised.
- c) The Clerk had switched the Parish Council Office gas and electricity onto a new rate with British Gas.
- d) The Assistant Clerk would have finished her CiLCA by the end of wk/com 14th December. Well done Colette!!

130. Community Speed Watch Traffic Calming Proposals

Following on from discussions by members at the September Parish Council meeting, the Clerk had investigated further. To confirm that WBC would carry out the necessary consultation and that we could undertake improvement on a location by location basis (initially doing one location as a pilot exercise). The Parish Council had previously agreed to support this 5-year initiative at a cost of between £8,542 and £13,050 per year (depending on whether humps/tables or cushions were used). It was **resolved that** Broad Lane would be the first location for the pilot project, followed by Thelwall New Road.

JR

131. Covid-19 Update

Nothing to report.

132. South Warrington Parish Council Local Plan Working Group (SWP)

Councillor R Bate provided members with an update on the work of the SWP. Councillors D Hockenhill and R Bate also provided an update on the Inland Border Facility (IBF) site, following on from a Zoom meeting with Kevin Whitmore. The site would only be used for Holyhead sailings, and 250 lorries would be travelling to the site daily, instead of the original planned 800. Permission for the IBF was limited to two years. Investigations carried out after the meeting by Councillor Ms S Chisolm, revealed some inaccuracies

with the data provided and there was still some concern over volume and timings of vehicles (emailed out to all members). Councillor R Bate would ask questions about WBC £800k funding and cycle provision.

RB

133. External Audit

The Clerk was pleased to report that the External Audit, conducted by PKF Littlejohn had been concluded. Their comments were 'On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion, the information in Section 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met'. For noting.

134. Budget for 2021/2022

The Clerk presented budget information and presented members with draft budgets based on an increase of 2% and 5%. The Clerk also reported on increases by other South Warrington Parish Councils. It was **resolved that** the precept would be increased by 5%. The Clerk would inform WBC.

JR

135. Request for Funding

St Wilfrid's Church requested £15k to £20k funding towards their new car park (estimated total cost of £100k). It was **resolved that** the Assistant Clerk would contact the Treasurer to ask for a detailed breakdown of costs. Also to mention to him that such a large grant was not feasible, but a smaller amount would be reconsidered upon receipt of detailed information.

CF

136. Accounts for Payment

It was **resolved** that accounts for payment totalling £ 59,228.59 be approved.

137. Expenditure to date

- An 'on target' expenditure for December (month 9) was 75%.
- Parish Council expenditure was running at 59%
- Walled Garden expenditure was running at 78%.
- The overall figure was 64%.
- No concerns

138. Consideration of Planning Applications

One application was considered.