

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT GRAPPENHALL LIBRARY, VICTORIA ROAD, GRAPPENHALL ON THE 21ST
OCTOBER 2021**

Present: Councillors D Hockenhull (Chair), M Browne, Ms S Chisholm, B Davies,
Mrs L Fernyhough, R Fisher, Ms W Johnson, J McQuillan, Mrs H Speed, C Taylor, C Worsley.

In attendance: Colette Fellows Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Also in attendance John Groves (Groves Town Planning)

Action

98. Apologies for Absence

It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors R Bate, M Biggin, S Brookes, R Hignett and P Warner would be accepted.

99. Disclosure of Pecuniary & Personal Interests

No disclosures were made.

100. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 16th September 2021 and The Planning Committee meeting on 7th October be approved as a true record.

101. Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were received.

102. Information for Noting

a) The Bench on the TPT is now fully installed.

b) The Litter Picking event on the 2nd October was very well received with over 30 residents attending (including the Brownies). The Parish Warden will look to hold the event from Thelwall Village Hall next year.

c) Grappenhall Library has been secured for Parish Council Meetings for the next 6 months at a cost of £25.00 ph.

d) The Assistant Clerk and Cllr M Browne attended a planning update with ChALC at a cost of £80.00.

e) The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended the SLCC Cheshire Conference.

f) The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended a Meetings and Procedures training session with ChALC at a cost of £80.00.

g) There is a hard copy of the Local Plan in the office for perusal.

h) Business Outlook 365 has now been installed and all members have been given a new email address.

i) Two Wreaths have been ordered for Remembrance Sunday at a cost of £20.00 each.

103. PCSO Report

No report was received from the Local PCSO before the meeting. The Clerk had contacted the local police before the meeting to try and engage with Sharon Perrie PCSO, but no response was forthcoming.

104. South Warrington Parish Council Local Plan Working Group

Councillor Taylor updated members on the current 'Local Plan' consultation. Public sessions were now live, going well, and will continue until the end of October. There may be more drop-in sessions arranged as the leaflet has been well received and sparking interest. The leaflet drop has gone out to all Parishes in SWP area.

The next stage following the consultations will be for John Groves to review the response to WBC before the 15th November 2021 deadline.

JG

105. Communications Working Group

Cllr Worsley updated members that the Working Group is currently looking into the Parish Councils website. They have been investigating how user-friendly it is, with a view to re-organising the site if necessary. Cllr Worsley has compared the GTPC website with other local PC sites and found that the current website albeit very professional can be improved upon. Cllr Worsley and The Clerk will work closely to achieve the optimum result over the coming weeks.

CW/CF

Working Group Members:-

Councillors Bate, Brookes, Hignett and Worsley.

106. Office and Meeting Room Equipment

The Clerk has had Microsoft Office 365 installed in the office. All members were issued with a new email address with access to shared drives online, which is cloud-based.

Following on from this, further equipment is needed to proceed with working ecologically and more effectively. This will enable home working, teams meetings/training online and paperless meetings for all committees. IT was **resolved that** the following equipment be purchased and installed.

CF

Costings as follows:-

- A Laptop with no less than 512 Gb, 8g memory and i5 speed would cost £635+vat for 8 Gb or £715+vat for 16 Gb. (Vostro 3510,5510 respectively).
- Docking Station for use in office and meeting room £400+vat (for two)
- Screen Monitor for the meeting room, wall-mounted (monitor better due to resolutions) £1200+vat
- All-in-one conferenceCam with ultra-wide lens for virtual meetings, public participation/training and paperless meetings £1000+vat
- Labour for installation and set up £250
- Total cost = £3565+vat

107. The Queens Green Canopy

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree-planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee."

Everyone from individuals to scout and girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates are to be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees during the official planting season between October to March. Tree planting will commence again in October 2022, through to the end of the Jubilee year.

With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage the planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

As well as inviting the planting of new trees, *The Queen's Green Canopy* will dedicate a network of 70 Ancient Woodlands across the United Kingdom and identify 70 Ancient Trees to celebrate Her Majesty's 70 years of service.

The Woodland Trust is heading up the initiative and have free trees to give away and trees at reduced rates. It was **resolved that** more information is needed to make an informed decision about where to plant and what species. The Clerk would contact the Garden Manager at the Walled Gardens for guidance.

CF/GR

108. Accounts for Payment

It was **resolved** that accounts for payment totalling £20,081.48 be approved.

109. Expenditure to date

- An 'on target' expenditure for Sept (month 6) was 58%

- Parish Council expenditure was running at 47%
- Walled Garden expenditure was running at 61%
- The overall figure was 51%
- No concerns

110. Consideration of Planning Applications

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