

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE, ON THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER 2023

Present Councillors McQuillian (chair), Browne, Chisholm, Davies, Fernyhough (19:40), Fisher, Dolan, Hignett, Hockenhull, Johnson, Marsh, and Worsley.

In Attendance Colette Fellows, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Action

143. It was **resolved that** apologies for absence from Councillor Speed, Warner, and Williams be accepted.

144. Dispensation Requests

A special dispensation request was received for Cllr Taylor and **resolved to accept**.

145. Disclosures of Pecuniary and Personal Interests

Councillor Marsh disclosed a pecuniary and personal interest in item 14. Cllr Marsh did not participate in any discussion of the matter or participate in any vote. (Localism Act s.31).

146. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Council Meeting on the 16th November 2023 were approved as a true record and received the minutes of the Planning Committee on the 7th December 2023, the Extraordinary meeting of the Estates Committee on the 11th December 2023, and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Resources Committee on the 11th December 2023.

147. Correspondence Miscellaneous

a) At a meeting of the Full Council on Monday 4th December 2023, the Council formally adopted the Warrington Local Plan 2021/22 – 2038/39.

The six-week consultation period on a number of draft SPDs will commence on 13th December 2023 and end on 24th January 2024 at 5.00 pm.

Full details of the consultation and the draft SPDs are available to view on Warrington Borough Council's website from 13th December 2023. Cllr Davies will complete an overview and circulate.

b) Warrington OpenDoor has emailed to thank members for their generous donation of £400.

c) The Manager at the GYCA has emailed to thank members for the £3000.00 donation for damp proof work in the Olde Barn.

d) Grappenhall Cricket Club has expressed their gratitude for the donation towards the renewal of the nets in 2024.

148. Information for Noting

a) Website renewed for both sites at a cost of £456+vat.

b) The Parish Warden vehicle has been repaired and MOT'd. The only cost to the Council was £150 excess on the insurance.

c) The NJC pay awards have been processed and backpay paid in December to all colleagues in the SCP scheme.

d) Councillor Contact information update was emailed to all Councillors before the meeting.

149. Update on Actions from Previous Meetings

Minute Item	Action Point	Lead	Status	Update
2023-16	Parish Council Website	CW/Clerk	ongoing	A Prototype has been shared with Cllr Worsley and the Clerk. Adjustments have been made and returned to the Website Company. To present to members in January 2024.
2023/107	Vehicle Repairs	Clerk	Complete	An insurance Claim has been made for the accident repairs to the Parish Vehicle.
2023/108	Electrical Repairs to Parish Council Offices	Clerk	Complete	The Clerk obtained 2 further quotes and has commissioned the work with Beechwood Electrical at a more competitive price.
2023/132	GYCA Signage	Cllr Worsley	Ongoing	Liaison meeting to take place W/C 18 th December with recommendations presented to Council 21st December

Cllr Fernyhough arrived at 19:40

150. Update on Local Policing Issues by PCSO Sharon Perrie

The PCSO Sharon Perrie was unable to attend but emailed the report prior to the meeting with the most recent crime statistics:

Anti-Social Behavior Incident s	= 3
Suspicious Activity	= 2
Burglary	= 0
Criminal Damage	= 3
Road Traffic Collisions	= 0
Shoplifting	= 0
Theft	= 2

Any Other Business

Tru Cam – Chester Rd: 3. Thelwall New Road: 0 – Due to operation Jingles, speed enforcement has not been completed as often. (Operation 'Jingles' is where the PCSO visits shopping areas making a presence)

Community Speed Watch – Denis Ward has now joined the group.

GOOD NEWS/PRO-ACTIVE POLICING – Stop searches around G&T – people walking around in the early hours are being proactively stopped and searched.

151. Expenditure to Date

The 'on target' expenditure for December (month 9) was 75%.

- Parish Council expenditure was running at 65%
- Walled Garden expenditure was running at 65%
- The overall figure was 65%

152. Accounts for Payment

It was **resolved that** the accounts for payment totalling £32,068.43 be approved.

153. Budget/Precept Review for 2024/2025

153.1 To note that an overview of the Financial Position was presented to members.

153.2 The budget for 2024/2025 was discussed with recommendations from the Resource Committee to adopt for Precept setting purposes. It **was resolved** to accept the Proposal with a majority vote. The Clerk will inform WBC with budget details.

154. Requests for Financial Assistance

The Request for Financial Assistance from the Memory Lane Café was withdrawn at their request.

155. Governance

155.1 The amended Investment and Reserves Policy, (formally the Investment Strategy) has been reviewed by the Resources Committee. It **was resolved** to accept the changes and adopt. **CF**

155.2 A new Procurement Policy has been written and reviewed by the Resources Committee and presented for adoption. It **was resolved** to accept the new policy and adopt. **CF**

155.3 The Financial Regulations have been amended section 12.1a (ii) to ensure consistency with the Procurement Policy and presented for adoption. It **was resolved** to accept the changes and adopt. **CF**

156. GYCA - Signage

Cllr Worsley updated members on the history of the Liaison group with the GYCA. Cllr Worsley made recommendations on how the Liaison Group (L.G) can engage with the GYCA going forward and suggested committee members of the L.G attend meetings with the GYCA Trustees (on a rota basis) members of the L.G agreed this would be beneficial to all. **CW**

Cllr Worsley met with Trustees to clarify some queries Councillors had regarding signage on the outside of the building. It **was resolved** to accept the request for new signage. **CF**

157. Warrington Borough Council Matters Arising

Cllrs Browne and Johnson updated members that the Local Plan had been adopted in its 'present form'. Homes England has been inundated with developers. There is no update on the proposed new rail track. As noted in Correspondence Miscellaneous 147a, Cllr Davies to overview and circulate findings. **BD**

158. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Cllr Chisholm provided an update to members. The NPWG has engaged with Groves Town Planning to provide 3 reports about the development plans for Grappenhall Heys and Thelwall Heys, the plans can then be used to engage with Homes England and potential developers.

The NPWG has produced a leaflet to encourage members of the local community to form a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The meeting is to be held on the 17th of January in the GYCA 'Olde Barn' at 6.30 pm with another Zoom Meeting for those unable to attend. Leaflets will be delivered in the first week of January 2024. **CF**

159. Consideration of Planning Application

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