

**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD VIA ZOOM PLATFORM ON THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Cllr. J. Moore (Chairman)

Cllrs. Ms. D. Houston, T. Kilkenny, D. Lucas, D. Millington, R. Moore, J. Revell, G. Roberts. J. Scott & R. Squirrell.

In Attendance: Mrs. Cross (Clerk) & Cllr. Williams of Minshull Vernon and District Parish Council

152 APOLOGIES

Borough Cllr. Mrs. M. Simon.

153 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2020, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

154 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in respect of any items on the Agenda.

155 CLLR. WILLIAMS OF MINSHULL VERNON AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL – THE CONDITION OF THE CONNECT 2, SECTION 451 FOOT / CYCLEPATH

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Williams to the meeting, who explained the dangerous condition of the Connect2 foot / cycle path which runs through 3 parishes – Wistaston, Crewe and Minshull Vernon. The path is dangerous with many blind bends, leading to serious accidents requiring the air ambulance to attend twice. The whole area is poorly maintained, the brook is eroding the pathway and drainage ditches have never been cleaned. He is frustrated with the lack of support received from Cheshire East Council. Quotations for signage to be installed have been received and he is requesting a joint venture between the 3 parishes for voluntary manpower to maintain the pathway and financial support.

Cllr. Roberts replied that Ansa are responsible for the woodland areas and Cheshire East Highways are responsible for the hard surface. Cllr. Houston said that Cheshire East Council are promoting cycling, she agreed to ascertain contact details.

RESOLVED: That

1. A site visit of the area be arranged with a Wistaston Parish Councillor and Cllr. Williams. A report be brought to a future Council meeting.
2. A joint letter from Wistaston and Minshull Vernon Parish Councils be sent to Cheshire East Council Highways Department, regarding the dangerous condition of the Connect2 foot / cycle path.
3. A letter be sent to the Cheshire East Council Department responsible for promoting cycle lanes regarding the dangerous condition of the Connect2 cycle path.

156 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/POLICE MATTERS/CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Roberts requested contact details for the Wistaston PCSO which the Clerk agreed to provide.

157 PLANNING MATTERS

- (i) **The following planning applications have been notified from Cheshire East Council for this Council's VIEWS at the December Meeting**

The following items were **RESOLVED**:

20/5003N Installation of external water tank for internal automation sprinkler system – Whitegates House, Mulberry Rd
 20/5248N Demolition of existing kitchen and erection of new kitchen dining room – 4 Nessina Grove
 20/5249N Single storey rear extension forming family room and utility – 35 Woodside Ave.
NO OBJECTIONS be made on the above 3 planning applications.

- (ii) **The following planning DECISIONS have been notified**

20/3251N Siting of a welfare unit - portacabin. This will provide facilities for Allotment tenants for meetings, community use, youth and special needs projects, also storage. Supporting the active allotment tenants. Allotments being a statutory CEC service – Wistaston Green Allotments **PERMIT**
 20/3937N Construct 2 storey left hand side ext. – 26 Wistaston Green Road **PERMIT**
 20/4108N Garage conversion and ext. over garage – 3 Marlborough Close. **PERMIT**
 20/4394N Grd floor ext to side/rear to provide sitting room with pitched roof–33 Millrace Dr. **PERMIT**

158 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Council considered the Chairman's Report.

- (i) **Connect2 Foot / Cycle way (Coppenhall Lane)**

Cllr. Williams of Minshull Vernon and District Parish Council attended the meeting to discuss the condition of the Connect 2 Foot / Cycle Path (min. no. 155).

- (ii) **Clerk Recruitment**

Selected interviews have been held for the Clerk's position, these will continue in the new year. Interviews are being conducted by Cllr. Moore (Chairman) and Cllr. Millington (Vice Chairman) with the Clerk in attendance.

- (iii) **Christmas Tree and Lights**

A Christmas tree and lights were installed in the Bowling Green flower bed by the Secretary of Wistaston Memorial Hall, these were stolen. Tesco of Crewe kindly donated a replacement tree and lights which have been vandalised and will not be replaced. A Christmas feature for the Memorial Hall is being considered and further details will be brought to a future meeting. The Police were informed and a thank you letter sent to Tesco.

- (iv) **Zoom Seminar**

The Chairman attended a seminar on how to obtain the most out of virtual meetings. More seminars are planned for the new year. Councillors interested in attending should notify the Clerk.

The Chairman's Report was accepted by Council.

159 CLERKS REPORT

The Council considered the Clerks Report.

(i) Speeding Heavy Goods Vehicles – Crewe Road

Members received a copy email from a resident, regarding heavy goods vehicles travelling at excessive speeds along Crewe Road, requesting assistance to raise the issue with Cheshire East Council. The Clerk had advised the resident to contact his Cheshire East Councillors.

RESOLVED: That

- a) The resident be informed the Community Speed Watch Group will be requested to give priority to Crewe Road.
- b) A letter be sent to the Police Crime Commissioner David Keane, regarding this matter.

(ii) Cheshire East Council Planning Policy Documents Consultation

Members were notified that Cheshire East Council are consulting on three planning policy-related documents. No comments be made.

(iii) Cheshire East Council Consultation on Transport and Parking

Members were notified of a press release from Cheshire East Council, regarding local transport and parking plans. No comments be made.

(iv) Training – Getting the Most out of Virtual Meetings

The Council **ENDORSED** Cllr. Moore attending the CALC training session – Getting the most out of virtual meetings on 8th December 2020 at a cost of £25. (Funded from Line 17 – Admin / Room Hire)

(v) Christmas Decorations

The Council **ENDORSED** payment for the Christmas decorations within the budget provision of £600. (Funded from Line 8 - Christmas Trees and Illuminations).

(vi) Replacement Perspex Notice Boards

The Council **ENDORSED** the Park Ranger replacing the Perspex on the noticeboards at Broughton Lane and Wistaston Green Road at a cost of £92.81. (Funded from Line 28 – Environmental General)

(vii) Planting of Hawthorn Whips by Wistaston Conservation Group

The Council **ENDORSED** the purchase of 25 Hawthorn whips at a cost of £37.50, planted by Wistaston Conservation Group, to replace the hedge near to the Children’s Playground at Joey the Swan. (Funded from line 28 – Environmental General)

The Clerks Report was accepted by Council.

160 FINANCE**(i) Schedule of Accounts and Receipts and Payments Statement**

RESOLVED: That the Accounts be accepted and the Schedule of Accounts for payment December 2020 (as per attached totalling £2,892.82) be approved.

(ii) 2021/22 Budget and Precept Recommendation of the Finance Committee for Decision

RESOLVED: That the following be agreed **provisionally** for the purpose of public consultation:-

- a) The recommendations set out in the Finance Report be approved.
- b) The detailed service budgets as amended and set out on Appendix A.
- c) The Capital Projects Programme 2020 - 24 as set out on Appendix B.
- d) That the sum of £11,729 be applied from Balances to reduce the Precept requirement for 2021/22.
- e) That the Precept for 2021/22 be set at £61,811.

161 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**(i) WSLA Report**

Cllr. Kilkenny stated the second lockdown has impacted the use of the Pavilion, however, the Multi Use Games Area has provided a steady income. A second Government grant of £1,300 has been received. Bookings are now being taken for the Pavilion.

162 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environmental Report from Cllr. Scott was received by Council. He confirmed that no rope swings were present at the time of the inspection on 6th December 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

