

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM**

**AT WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL**

**Present:** Cllr.B Squirrell (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs. D. Houston, D.Lucas,, G.Roberts, D Millington, J Scott.

**In Attendance :** Kerri Wilcox (Clerk)

**70 APOLOGIES** Cllrs J Moore, M Simon

**71 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**73 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/POLICE MATTERS/CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS**

No Public participation

**74 PLANNING MATTERS**

**(i) New Planning Applications**

The following item was **RESOLVED**.

**Planning views following consultation with Planning Subcommittee.**

21/5676N Single Storey extension to rear / side of dwelling – 32 St Mary's Gate - **No Comments**

21/4631N Demolish existing garage and form back into Garden space, New detached Garage built in front of existing (Supersedes 20/4168N) – 340 Crewe Rd- **No Comments**

**(ii) The following planning decisions have been notified from Cheshire East Council**

21/3934N – Proposed two storey extension rear extension and single storey garage - 21 Broughton Lane, Wistaston – **approved with conditions**

21/3248N – Side of House extension – 20 Elm Close – **approved with conditions**

## **75 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman's report was received by the Council and accepted.

### **1. Northwest in Bloom**

It was agreed that the Clerk would send the Parish Council's thanks to the Wistaston in Bloom and Wistaston Conservation Group team and also Bill and Helen Heath for attending the prize giving ceremony.

### **2. Litter**

The Chairman's report reported the volume of litter collected for the January – November 2021 period.

### **3. SID Post**

The Chairman's report informed Councillors that the allocated position for the SID post has been used for fibre cabling so he is going to get in touch with Highways with regards to a new location.

The Chairman sent his thanks to all the Councillors and the Clerk for their contributions throughout the year and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## **76 CLERK'S REPORT**

### **i. Wistaston Memorial Hall**

The Council **COMMENTED** that a replacement Memorial Hall was a good idea as the old Building is costly to heat and has a Asbestos roof and other issues, they look forward to seeing plans and idea's that will be put forward in the future.

### **ii. Storm Alwen damage to a tree near Beech Tree car park.**

Our Park Ranger reported a dangerous and damaged tree after storm Alwen which needed prompt attention. Due to the urgency in getting the tree safe we asked Mercia Tree Care to quote for the work as they are local to us. They quoted £1200 & Vat (funded from line 29 Environmental General) which was agreed with the Cllr's Houston, Roberts, Squirrell and Moore.

The Council **ENDORSED** the payment.

### **iii. Further Storm Tree Damage**

Whilst work was taking place on the existing damaged Tree, Cllr Robert's and Mercia Tree Care investigated another tree which again has experienced Storm Damage (whilst they were in situ during Storm Barra) which again is in a Public Open Space so needs to be made safe as a matter of urgency. So a quote was obtained from Mercia whilst on site of £300.00 & Vat (funded from line 29 Environmental General)

The Council **APPROVED** the tree repair work.

#### **iv. Oak Tree at the rear of a properties on Field Lane**

Cheshire East requested that we investigate a tree located on a public footpath near to properties on Field Lane which is suffering with *Pseudoinonotus dyadeus* which is a relatively slow acting brown rot which decays the inner central column. It has been suggested that we dismantle the Oak Tree leaving a monolith 4 metres high “A Wildlife Pole” of which a quotation has been obtained from Mercia Tree Care of £850.00 & Vat (funded from line 29 Environmental General)

The Council **APPROVED** the tree work.

#### **v. Flag Flying at Wistaston Memorial Hall**

The raising and lowering of the Flag at Wistaston Memorial Hall has previously been undertaken by Rev Ken Sambrook whom has recently passed away. We need a volunteer to take over the Flag control when needed.

The Council **COMMENTED** that the Clerk contact to the Scouts to see if they would undertake the flag flying.

#### **vi. Neighbourhood CIL Annual Report Reminder - Wistaston Parish Council**

It is a regulatory requirement that an annual report is returned to the council by 31st December with an update of CIL monies received, allocated for projects, and spent. As a total of £992.04 has now been paid to Wistaston Parish Council, the required report is now due. It is important to note that any CIL monies received by the Parish Council are spent within 5 years of receipt otherwise it will be clawed back by Cheshire East Council. The Clerk suggested that the money be used for the repairs to the Joey the Swan Playground flooring.

The Council **AGREED** to allocate the money to the playground flooring.

#### **vii. Mercia Tree Care Invoice**

The invoice has recently been paid £4810.00 & Vat for the Tree works carried out after our recent Tree inspection. This has been funded from line 29 Environmental General and a virement of £1000 from line 13 Contingency General.

The Council **APPROVED** the virement.

#### **viii. Inspection Report**

The last rota for the inspection report has come to an end this month, previously Cllrs Lucas, Roberts, Squirrel, Kilkenny, Scott and the Park Ranger completed the monthly report. If you are all happy to proceed with the inspection again for the first half of 2022 then I will draw up a new rota. It is suggested that you conduct the report in the safety of daylight and accompanied if possible.

Council **APPROVED** that the said Councillors would continue to volunteer for the inspection report and a new rota will be drawn up.

### **ix. Wistaston Memorial Hall Christmas Lights**

After the theft of the Christmas Tree last year the memorial hall has attached two smaller trees with lights to the hall. The Christmas lights costs of £200 was agreed at the April 2021 meeting but the total cost is £112.98 (inclusive of Vat funded from Line 8 Christmas trees and illuminations).

The Council **APPROVED** the reimbursement.

### **x Wistaston in Bloom Reimbursement**

Wistaston in Bloom have presented their receipts for costs incurred for 2021/22 planting and maintenance totalling £557.47 inclusive of Vat (funded from line 16 Wistaston in Bloom).

The Council **APPROVED** the reimbursement.

### **xi. Tree Safety signs**

The Clerk purchased 2 signs to warn about the dangerous Tree damaged during Storm Alwen. Permission was obtained from both the Chair of Finance and the Parish Council Vice Chairman for the cost of £19.12 & vat (funded from line 2 printing stationery and advertising)

The Council **ENDORSED** the reimbursement.

**The following items are for information only.**

### **xi. Cheshire East planning policy document consultation**

The council has published a planning policy document for consultation:

**Final Draft Housing Supplementary Planning Document ('Final Draft Housing SPD')**

The consultation will run from **12pm on Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 to 8pm on Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2021**. Further information is available on the council's Final Draft Housing SPD consultation webpage below:

<https://cheshireeast-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/planning/spd/>

### **xii. Cheshire East Council's balanced budget consultation**

Cheshire East Council is inviting opinions and views from residents, businesses, councillors, staff, town and parish councils, local community groups and other stakeholders on the council's budget for the next financial year.

For more information and to have your say on our budget consultation, please go to: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/BudgetEngagement](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/BudgetEngagement)

The budget consultation runs until **4 January 2022**.

### **xiii. Tree Branches at Wistaston Green on Power Lines**

The Clerk has been informed that after Storm Alwen some branches had fallen into some Scottish Power lines at Wistaston Green, they have their own tree surgeons who have undertaken the work to remove the branches to make the Power Lines safe.

### **ivx. Work on the Joey the Swan Brook**

United Utilities are conducting a Flood levitation scheme to monitor potential flooding around Crewe.

They must install a Solar powered CCTV Monitor faced directly in front of the outfall on the grass verge adjacent to it at Joey the Swan Brook which will then overlooked for potential flooding.

### **xv. 2022 Meeting Dates**

20<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 (Original Meeting date no change of date now needed)

17<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Parish Council Meeting and Annual Meeting)

19<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

17<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022

The Clerk's Report was **accepted** by the Council.

### **77 FINANCE**

**RESOLVED:** That the Schedule of Accounts totalling £6858.89 and Receipts & Payments Statement for November 2021 have been approved.

### **78 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

#### **REPORT FROM CLLR ROBERTS.**

Cllr Roberts reported about Up and Under Foundation Grants for projects for youngsters, it was agreed that the report would be forwarded to Cllr Kilkenny for consideration of youngsters using the Brittles facilities and would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **79 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

The Environmental Reports for December was received by the Council and comments were made that Clerk will send a further email to Guinness regarding the rubbish at the back of properties on Beech Drive and report it to Cheshire East.

**The meeting closed at 8.17pm.**