

**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD VIA ZOOM PLATFORM ON THURSDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Cllr. J. Moore (Chairman)
Cllrs. D. Houston, D. Lucas, D. Millington, R. Moore, G. Roberts, J. Revell & R. Squirrell.

In Attendance: Mrs. A. Cross (Clerk) Kerri Condliffe (Clerk) & 1 resident.

175 APOLOGIES Cllr. J. Scott, Borough Cllr. Mrs. Simon, PCSO Sophie Bowman, PC Clark

176 A minutes silence was observed to pay respects to the recent passing of Roger Woodward who was Wistonian of the year and big member of the community.

177 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2021, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

178 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

179 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / POLICE MATTERS / CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

No Public participation, Police or Cheshire East Councillor matters

180 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Planning Subcommittee Meeting held on 1st February 2021

The following item was **RESOLVED:**

21/0094N Essential requirement for an additional agricultural workers dwelling at Red Hall Farm, Middlewich Road

Wistaston Parish Council fully support the above application, the applicant has demonstrated the essential need for an additional agricultural worker to live permanently at their place of work to fulfil the high welfare standards required for Dairy Farming.

The Wistaston Neighbourhood Plan Policy H4 Wistaston Settlement Boundary c) states that proposals for housing development outside the Settlement Boundary will only be granted where they comply with criteria set out in the Housing Policy H1.2 (Rural Exception Sites), **or in exceptional circumstances, such as any new dwelling required for the essential need of an agricultural worker to live permanently at or near their place of work in the countryside.**

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

20/4565N Re-plan of the existing planning permission – Outline 14/0365N and reserved matters 18/1193N. The re-plan focuses on plots 123-139 (17 plots) to now show 32 plots, an increase of 15 plots. Plots to be 2, 3 and 4 bedroom mews and semi-detached units. Roads remain unchanged – Land north of Moorfields. **REFUSED**

20/5125N Single & double storey rear & side ext. & flat roof porch–5 Sandringham Dr **PERMIT**

20/5172N 1 st floor rear ext. – 29 Sandringham Drive.	PERMIT
20/4971N Loft Conversion – 6 Park Drive	PERMIT
20/0145N Outline planning permission for 1 dwelling – 490 Crewe Road	PERMIT
20/4557N Re-design of approved dwelling to achieve ownership boundaries to land at the rear of - 22 Westfield Drive	PERMIT

181 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman's Report was received by Council.

(i) Clerk to the Council

The interview process was completed in January with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Andrea Cross in attendance and the selected applicant was Kerri Condliffe who started on the 1st February 2021. Initial contact details have been sent to all Councillors and a fixed phone line has yet to be resolved. In view of the difficulties and constraints on handover and forthcoming preparation work for the Annual audit in March / April it is proposed to have an overlap with Andrea up to the end of April.

The Council **ENDORSED** this matter.

(ii) Council Projects

The Lamp column for Playground light is complete and operational. Cllr. Moore informed PCSO Bowman to help monitor any activities of anti social behaviour. The Speed Indicator Device (SID) unit post materials have now been delivered so should be installed shortly. The order has been placed to return the SID for conversion to solar power at a cost of £664 & Vat.

(iii) Connect2 Cycle/Foot Way

Enclosed in your paper's is Cllr Robert's report on the joint inspection of the Cycleway. The shared Proposal for high costs of floor painted seems excessive and a request has been made to Minshull Vernon Council for specifications details. As a suggestion we could consider a trial spray application using our own designed mask. The cost would be minimal. Spray paint is preferred as a non slip coating.

Council in agreement regarding the excessive costs.

(iii) Zoom Meeting

I requested to join in with Goostrey's Parish Council meeting via zoom to view how they operate and see if there are lessons to be learnt.

The main points I took away from the meeting was :

- a) Going paperless – everything is done via laptops and the councillors download the information, the meeting is hosted by the Clerk with the agenda being shared on screen and in normal times the councillors take their laptops to the meeting.
- b) The Councillors say if they want something including in the agenda for the next meeting.
- c) They have a amenities committee who run everything.

This is something for the councillors to consider for discussion at a future meeting.

The Chairman's Report was accepted.

182 CLERK'S REPORT

The Council considered the Clerks Report.

(i) Membership of Community Voluntary Service

Renewal of Membership for CVSCE is due on 13th February 2021 at a cost of £100. The Council have been members of CVSCE for the past 4 years. (Funded from line 4 association fees and publications)

Council **APPROVED** the renewal.

(ii) Removal of Dead Dog

A resident reported to Cheshire East Council that there was a dead dog in Bluebell woods at Joey the Swan Recreation land on 2nd February 2021. Arrangements were made for ANSA to remove the dog and recharge Wistaston Parish Council at a cost of £92.20 & Vat (total 110.64) (Which did turn out to be a Dead Fox which had been there for quite a while). (Funded from line 28 Environmental General)

Council **ENDORSED** the decision.

(iii) Drainage Repairs at Joey the Swan

Wistaston Conservation Group have been working closely with Cllr Roberts to resolve the wet area on the top field at Joey the Swan. They are deepening the existing drains and adding a further new drain across the pathway on the exit from Rookery Covert. They require a section of perforated pipe (sold in rolls only) and pea gravel to backfill the trenches, the cost of the materials is £182.00. Following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman approval has been given for the materials to be purchased. (Funded from Line 28 Environmental General)

Council **ENDORSED** the decision.

(iv) Renewal of Microsoft Office

The subscription for the Microsoft Office expires on the 23rd February 2021 which needs to be renewed for another year at a cost of £59.99 (Funded from Line 2 Printing Stationery and Advertising).

Council **APPROVED** the renewal.

(v) Broughton Lane to Woodside Lane Footpath

Following on from Cllr Simon's report at the January Meeting it has now been established that the footpath from Broughton Lane to Woodside Lane is the responsibility of Cheshire East Highways (CEH). Cllr Simon is looking into what work needs doing. Cllr Simon will be pursued to ascertain if CEH have any more information.

(vi) Cheshire East Cycleways and Walkways Consultation

It was mentioned that the Cycle lane markings on the A534 through Wistaston is very faded and it is difficult to see. Cllr Robert's did report this the Cheshire East a few years ago but nothing has been done.

Cllr Robert's will again report this as an individual and the council will also report this.

(vii) Litter Collection

Members were notified of the amount of litter collected in January.

Peter Baskerville collected a total of 107 bags of Discarded dog waste over the weekend of 13th and 14th February on the short distance of the playpark to the Wistaston green road car park at Joey the Swan.

The council **APPROVED** to re-run a modified leaflet campaign to be delivered with the Roundabout publication, up to a cost of £200 for printing (Funded from Line 2 – Printing / Stationery and Advertising). Also to write to Cheshire East Council about more patrols from the Dog Wardens.

The Clerks Report was accepted by Council.

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

RESOLVED: That the Accounts be accepted and the Schedule of Accounts for payment February 2021 (as per attached totalling £2482.84) be approved.

184 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**Connect2 Cllr Robert's Report**

As per point (iii) in the Chairman's report the council agrees that the costs of employing a contractor to put floor markings into 3 points on the Connect2 Crewe to Nantwich Greenway at a cost of £1500.00 between Wistaston Parish Council and Minshull Vernon Parish Council seems excessive. We shall first liaise with Minshull Vernon Parish council regarding the possibility of Cheshire East completing the work or discuss completing the signage ourselves with the appropriate spray / templates and masks.

185 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environmental Report from Cllr. Squirrell was received by Council.

186 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the Press Public be excluded during consideration of Item 12 on the Agenda. Pursuant of Section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 7 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

187 TENDERS – GRASS / HEDGE CUTTING

Three quotations have been requested for grass and hedge cutting, from Ansa Environmental Services Ltd. G. Prince and Countrywide Grounds Maintenance. Only one quotation has been received from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance, a copy is included in your papers as detailed below:-

QUOTE RECEIVED FROM	GRASS CUTTING JOEY THE SWAN MAIN FIELD/ GANG MOW FOOTBALL PITCHES/BOX MOW SENSORY GARDEN AREA/MOW COLLEGE FIELDS	HEDGE CUTTING AT JOEY THE SWAN	STRIM SHRUBBERY ROADSIDE EDGE ALONG VALLEY WOOD	TOTAL COST FOR ALL WORKS
	15 OCCASIONS	2 OCCASIONS	2 OCCASIONS	
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	£251.00+VAT per cut £3765.00+VAT	£85.00+VAT £170.00+VAT	£51.00 +VAT £102.00 +VAT	£4037 +VAT

Strimming work where mowing is not possible due to the topography of the land e.g. alongside the brook edge, the embankment at the side of the children's playground and the rear of the hedge to the roadside will be strimmed three times per year – April, June and the week prior to our Annual Duck Race being held in September 2021, by our Park Ranger, for additional hours pay.

The Budget provision for 2021/22 Recreational Grounds (Line 26) is £4,500. If the Council approve the recommendation below the cost would be £4037 which is within the Budget provision.

RESOLVED: That

- The quotation from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance in the sum of £4037.00+VAT, be accepted to mow Joey the Swan, gang mow the football pitches, box mow the Sensory Garden area and mow college fields, fortnightly from end mid March to mid October 2021. To cut the hedge at Joey the Swan and strim back shrubbery on the roadside edge of Valley Wood, in July and September 2021, being the only quotation received from three requested. One cut to be carried out in the week prior to the Duck Race in September 2021. (Funded from Line 26 – Recreational Grounds)
- Strimming work where mowing is not possible due to the topography of the land e.g. alongside the brook edge, the embankment at the side of the children's playground and the rear of the hedge to the roadside, be carried out by the Park Ranger for additional hours pay. These areas be strimmed 3 times per year–April, June and the week prior to the Duck Race in September 2021. (Funded from Line 1 – Salaries)

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

