

**MINUTES OF CHOLMONDESTON & WETTENHALL PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT ST DAVIDS CHURCH ON 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs, John Woodward (**JW**) Heather Pope (**HP**), Philip Hollinshead (**PH**), and Keith Gilby (**KG**)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Dr M Bailey (Parish Clerk) (**MB**)  
Members of the public

**PART 1 – ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS**

**109. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The current Chair, Cllr Keith Gilby, took the chair and asked for nominations for Chair up to the Annual Parish Council meeting in May 2023.

Members nominated and appointed Cllr Keith Gilby as Chair for the 2022/23 Council Year.

**110. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

The Chair asked for nominations for Vice-Chair up to the Annual Parish Council meeting in May 2023.

Members nominated and appointed Cllr John Woodward as Vice-Chair for the 2022/23 Council Year.

**111. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies received from Cllr Helen Moss (**HM**), Patrick Brunt (**PB**) and Cheshire East Cllr Sarah Pochin (**SP**).

**112. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests were made by Members at the meeting.

**113. MINUTES – 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022 (PARISH COUNCIL MEETING)**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were presented to Members for approval.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

**114. MATTERS ARISING**

The following matters were raised at the meeting from the above minutes.

- Delphic Transport – no updates, except to report that a meeting took place at Church Minshull Parish Council (no knowledge of the outcome).
- Former Boot and Slipper site/Village Green – it was reported that this work is well behind schedule due to a range of factors and would not be finished until the end of August 2022. There have been discussions on the gift of land and KG/JW met the developer on site. They wanted to

gift a piece of land to the parish which was much larger than the Parish Council wanted (would be too big to manage). Therefore, an area of land is being examined which is owned by the builder with the plan to take it on and do something with it (e.g. place a bench on there) without encroaching onto the common land not owned by the Council. The intention is to adopt the land but have no legal costs to bear with the assumption that the land is maintained after that. A tree is located on the land to be gifted, but is not part of the gift. Members **RESOLVED** to accept all these points.

- Community Emergency Plans – HM/HP will develop a plan which is proportionate to the needs of the parish.
- Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – HP said that she had applied for £120 for a ‘Big Lunch’ on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in the church and got £100 in response. Two events will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 including a beacon lighted at 9.45pm. Anyone can attend these events, starting at 8.30pm, and refreshments will be provided. In addition, an event will take place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 from 12 noon onwards and will be held at the church. A suggested donation of £10 is being put forward for this event. A number of people have already registered for these events.
- Cheshire East Community Governance Review – the reported changes under the review are that the Council will have seven Members from May 2023 onwards.

#### **115. STANDING ORDERS**

Members **APPROVED** the Council’s Standing Orders for 2022/23.

#### **116. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **116.1 Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer**

Members **APPROVED** the appointment of the Parish Clerk as the RFO for the 2022/23 financial year.

##### **116.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor**

Members **APPROVED** the appointment of Experior Systems Ltd as the Internal Auditor for the 2022/23 financial year.

##### **116.3 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.21-31.3.22)**

The ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021-31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 was noted by Members.

##### **116.4 Budget Monitoring/Receipts and Payments Summary (April 201-March 2022 – Quarter Four 2021/22)**

The budget monitoring/receipts and payments summary for the fourth quarter of the 2021/22 financial year was noted by Members.

**116.5 Assets Register 2021-22**

Members **APPROVED** the Council's Assets Register for the 2021-22 financial year.

**116.6 Risk Assessment 2021-22**

Members **APPROVED** the Council's Risk Assessment for the 2021-22 financial year.

**116.7 External Audit 2021-22**

Members **APPROVED** the Council's AGAR for the 2021-22 financial year and also **APPROVED** the Council declaring itself exempt from the external audit for the 2021-22 financial year.

**116.8 Payments for Authorisation**

The following payments were presented to Members for approval.

ChALC	£124.20 (Membership 2022/23)
Shires Accountants	£109.80 (M1-M12 2022/23 Payroll)

**117. DATES OF MEETINGS 2022-23**

Members **APPROVED** the following list of dates of meetings for the 2022/23 Council Year.

21<sup>st</sup> September 2022  
14<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023  
24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (Annual Meeting)

**PART 2 – ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS**

**118. WAIVER OF SIX-MONTH COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE RULE (SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972)**

The Clerk report that, under Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, it is required that a member of a local authority attend at least one meeting of that authority within a six month consecutive period, in order to avoid being disqualified as a councillor. This requirement can be waived and the time limit extended if any failure to attend was due to a reason approved by the Authority, in advance of the six month period expiring.

Cllrs Moss and Brunt have been unable to attend a meeting since 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 due to personal/family matters.

A formal request was therefore made for an extension to the six month rule to be approved in these cases.

Members **RESOLVED** to waive the six month rule in the cases outlined above.

## **119. PUBLIC FORUM**

Members of the public were invited to ask questions or address Members on any matter of Parish Council business. Two residents made comments.

*Resident One* – raised issue of speeding in the parish. KG said that he had spoken to the Police and Crime Commissioner yesterday and raised this issue, together with other issues such as the use of mobiles by tractor drivers; the use of Long Lane by HGVs. The Police Commissioner offered to attend a meeting in the parish where members of the public can ask questions. This will be publicised. In addition, the Commissioner said that he would raise the issue of mobile use with the NFU and will ask about the lack of police activity with the Chief Constable. It was also asked whether cameras could be installed to combat fly tipping and other activities. KG said that there are three pilot schemes in Cheshire East to manage this issue and looking to change landfill tax arrangements. It was said that cameras are unlikely to be installed.

*Resident Two* – raised concerns about speeding and HGVs on the roads. JW said that work is ongoing to try and improve this situation and that funding is the key. The Council is in constant touch with Cheshire East Council and ChALC on this matter and the situation has been made worse by the removal of gritting on some roads.

## **120. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr Sarah Pochin was not present at the meeting. KG reported that he had asked about salt bins (if this was going to be raised, how many would be installed and where) and also whether there was anything left in the Members Top-Up Fund.

## **121. HIGHWAY MATTERS/SPEEDWATCH**

No issues were raised under this heading.

## **122. PLANNING MATTERS**

Members considered planning issues affecting the Parish.

### **122.1 Planning Applications**

Members considered the following planning application.

22/1967N     Smithy House, Winsford Road, Wettenhall CW7 4DL  
Extension and alterations.

Members had no comments, but some Members said they may comment further via email before the closing date of 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

## **123. COMMUNICATIONS/SHARED INFORMATION**

The following matters were raised under this agenda item.

- Cllr Gilby – asked that the issue of a ‘Chairman’s Fund’ in the budget be discussed at the next meeting.

**124. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm at St David's Church.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed 8.33pm.

**Chair**.....