

## MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Howard Hopwood (Vice-Chair)  
Glenys Harrison  
Peter Thomas  
Michael Smythe

In attendance Clerk Christine Davies  
Cllr Stuart Parker (CWaC) left at 8.00pm

### 1 Apologies

Cllr Paul Shannon (work commitment) and Cllr Bob Knight (holiday)

### 2 Declaration of Interest

None

### 3 To consider approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 22 July 2019

Minutes were signed as a true and correct record by Cllr Howard Hopwood (Vice-Chair)

### 4 Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on Agenda

None

### 5 Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance. Cllr Stuart Parker said that the Council had just returned after summer recess and first cabinet meeting was following week. Cllr Parker confirmed that planning approval has been given for the first phase of the Northgate Development. He also confirmed that the Parish Council could apply to his Member's Budget.

### 6 Highways

i) Surface of junction of Moor Lane/A41 – Clerk reported that Highways had raised works order on 25 July for outside contractor to do work – they have up to 60 days to complete job (end of September). Clerk to follow-up.

ii) Deterioration of pavement to left of junction of long Rowton Lane/A41 – Clerk reported that Highways had investigated issue and work scheduled to fix fault. The work entails the footway to be edged off so water drains off. Clerk to chase-up.

iii) Drain clearance at dip in long Rowton Lane. Job raised and work scheduled for this month – Clerk to chase up.

iv) A41 Pedestrian Crossing Action Group. Cllr Thomas said that the petition

had reached 500 signatures and that a 12-hour assessment would be carried out by Highways in September/October. The petition had also received the backing of Chris Matheson, MP for City of Chester. The success of the petition gives the Action Group the opportunity to meet with the Council later in the year to discuss further. One of the issues to be discussed is the fact that high school children are transported to Christleton by council funded taxis as the route has been deemed hazardous.

## 7 20mph Speed Limit Assessment

The Parish Council received the results and recommendations of CWaC's 20mph speed limit assessment which included Rowton Lane and Moor Lane. The average mean speed monitored for Rowton Lane was 26.7mph and for Moor Lane 34.2mph. With regard to the monitoring of Moor Lane the Parish Council would like to know why there has been no recommendation made. Action: Clerk to contact Dave Reeves, Road Safety Engineer - Highways

## 8 Village Green Volunteer Group

It has been noted that there is a dead tree located at the top end of the Green which appears to have been deliberately killed by ring barking. It was agreed that the tree needs to be removed and stump grinding.

Resolved: 2 quotes to be obtained for next meeting

Action: Cllr Thomas and Clerk to obtain quotes

## 9 Finance

The following expenditure was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No
ChALC – Councillor Training – Michael Smythe	£35.00	000736
A Cartwright t/a ACS re website hosting	£72.00	000737
CM Davies – July Sal 200.93 + 24.73 Expenses	£233.70	000738
CM Davies – Aug Sal 194.65 + 19.19 Expenses	£213.84	000739
Society of Local Council Clerks – Annual Sub	£76.00	000740
Rowton Methodist Church – Room Hire	£175.00	000741
Bank Balance as at 5 September 2019	£5728.11	

Additional Signatory to Bank Account: Howard Hopwood confirmed by NatWest on 06/09/19 as new signatory

## 10 Planning

Planning Application decisions: 19/01253/FUL Tekarra, Greenfields Lane: single storey rear extension – Approved and 19/02807/FUL Heronsway, Chapel Close: erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension – Approved. No Comments submitted against 19/02369/S73 Land at Moor Cottage, Moor Lane re variation of conditions and 19/02731/FUL Claypits Lane: erection of young livestock storage building. No Comment to be submitted re Planning Application 19/02730/FUL (retrospective) Claypits Manor, Claypits Lane: erection of steel portal frame agricultural building.

### **11 Enforcement Policy Consultation**

CWaC are carrying out a survey to gather views about delegating existing enforcement powers to town and parish councils for low-level anti-social behaviour in their areas, principally relating to dog fouling and also preventing vehicles engines idling. The general consensus was that the Parish Council does not have the resources and as unpaid volunteers do not want the responsibility to issue fixed penalty notices. It was agreed that Cllr Hopwood respond to the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **12 Personal Data Management and Audit Policy**

Policy document reviewed and no amendments required. However, the policy document refers to the "PC laptop" and the Clerk confirmed that the laptop is in fact her own and not the property of the Parish Council. It was agreed that it would be put on the agenda for the November meeting to discuss providing the Clerk with a Parish Council laptop. Cllr Smythe suggested contacting Littleton Parish Council regarding the specification of their Parish Council laptop so that it would be compatible with the use of the SID.

### **13 Carols on the Green**

Date set for Thursday 12 December at 6.30pm. Cllr Thomas to order 16 ft tree from Walker's Nurseries. Cllr Harrison agreed to purchase refreshments. Event to be advertised in Newsletter (see below). It was agreed to apply to Cllr Stuart Parker's member's fund and request sum of £250 – Clerk to action.

### **14 Newsletter**

Newsletter to be entitled "Rowton Round Up". First item to be request for volunteers for Village Green and photo. Other articles to include news from A41 Pedestrian Crossing Action Group, work of local PCSO within the community, Carols on the Green invitation, Mobile Library, Rowton Rainbows, Emergency contact Information and Councillor contact information. Clerk had obtained quote from Deva Print of £12 printed black on white for 200 A4 copies printed both sides and £32 for colour. It was agreed to print in colour and for the newsletter to be distributed after November meeting.

### **15 Request for Expedition Donation**

The Parish Council discussed the request from a local student for a financial contribution towards their educational expedition to Eswatini. The Parish Council regrettably decided that it could not use public funds to contribute towards the expedition.

Action: Clerk to notify student of decision

## **16 Issues for Discussion/Consideration**

- i) Advertising Hoarding on A41 – has planning permission been sought for banner promoting local hotel?
- ii) Posts to prevent parking removed on grass verge to right of junction of long Rowton Lane with A41.
- iii) Cutting of Village Green by Rowton Hall Hotel using outside contractor. Request sight of up-to-date copy of employer's certificate of insurance liability. All three items to be included on agenda for November meeting.

## **17 Correspondence**

Clerks & Councils Direct – September 2019  
The Clerk Magazine – September 2019  
Parker's Wholesale Catalogue – Autumn 2019

## **18 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 11 November 2019**