

# MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

MONDAY 08 March 2021 at 19.00hrs

Held via Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Present: Councillors Paul Shannon (Chair)  
Howard Hopwood (Vice-Chair)  
Glenys Harrison  
Peter Thomas  
Bob Knight

In attendance Clerk Christine Davies  
Cllr Stuart Parker (19.40 – 20.00hrs)

## 1 Apologies

Cllr Michael Smythe (unwell)

## 2 Declaration of Interest

None

## 3 To consider approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11 January 2021

Minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record by Cllr Paul Shannon, Chair.

## 4 Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

None

## 5 Public Participation

No members of the public asked to join the meeting

## 6 Highways

i) A41 Pedestrian Crossing – Cllrs Thomas and Shannon attended a virtual meeting with CWaC's transport team in January where it was confirmed that the funding for this project is to be drawn down from the Saughton S106 fund. The estimated cost of the project is £120,000 and it is now awaiting to be scheduled into Highway's works programme. The Parish Council is ready to pass on the CIL payment to Highways towards the Pedestrian Crossing.

ii) e-petition re Speed limit reduction on A41 – Cllr Thomas confirmed that this petition has been instigated by a local Christleton resident. It has attracted local media interest and flyers have been printed ready for distribution.

Action: Clerk asked to forward e-petition link to Parish Clerks of Christleton and Waverton and to publish on parish website.

Cllr Parker informed the Council that local MPs Chris Matheson and Edward Timpson are jointly hosting a live public webinar, with input from local councillors and the Police and Crime Commissioner, to be held at 5.30pm on Monday 15 March to discuss plans to improve road safety on the A41. Cllr Parker said he will forward joining information.

## 7 Pavements

Cllrs Smythe and Hopwood have carried out a comprehensive survey of the state of the pavements of the A41 stretch of road which runs through the Parish.

The issue of encroachment by vegetation affects the following sections of pavement:-

- Junction of Long Rowton Lane with A41 – (east)
- Section leading up to Bus Shelter
- Section to east of junction of Short Rowton Lane with A41
- Junction of Rowton Bridge Road – past 9 terraced houses – section towards Veynol (as well as overgrown hedge)

Issue of very poor, uneven pavement:

- Junction of Long Rowton Lane with A41 towards Rowton Grange West
- Section by Moorfields property on A41 – pavement ceases to exist – turns into rough stone

Cllr Parker recommended forwarding this issue and supporting photographic evidence to Mark Brazil, Head of Streetscene.

Action: Clerk to action.

Clerk also asked to contact Christleton Parish Clerk to inform that sandstone blocks from the wall encircling the Cheshire Cat have fallen onto the pavement impeding pedestrians.

## 8 Finance

The following retrospective expenditure for January and February was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No Online Payment	Statute Power
A Cartwright re 6 months web hosting	£72.00	OP	LGA 1972 s142
CM Davies Feb Salary £177.60 + £14.54 Exp	£192.14	OP	LGA 1972 s112
CM Davies reimbursement re wine for Messrs Fitton and Salmon	£29.50	OP	LGA 1972 s112
Michael Smythe reimbursement re Office 365	£13.75	OP	LGA 1972 s111
Bank Balance as at 05/02/21	£5109.13		

## 9 Reserves Policy

The Joint Panel on Accountability & Governance Practitioners' Guide recommend for small authorities to have 12 months net expenditure for general

reserve. It is estimated that the Parish Council will have an end-of-year balance of £4576, however, £1160.25 is earmarked for the pedestrian crossing, leaving a balance of £3416. Total expenditure for the year 2020/21 is estimated to be £4400.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed that going forward it should aim to have a general reserve of 12 months net expenditure, to be set in the region of approx. £5000.

## **10 Planning**

There have been no new Planning Applications submitted since the last meeting.

Planning decision received re 20/04664/FUL: Oakdene, Greenfield Lane CH3 6AU – Single storey extension and new solid roof to existing conservatory: Approved.

## **11 Police Community Fund Application**

Cllr Hopwood said that no decision has been made yet about funding.

## **12 Xmas Tree**

Cllr Thomas had received feedback from some local residents that having a permanent fir tree on the Village Green would be preferable to a cut one. It was decided to look into the practicalities and cost of planting a permanent tree. Cllr Knight thought it would be a good idea to gauge local opinion by putting a notice on the notice boards.

Action: Clerk to obtain quotes to present to next meeting.

## **13 Face to Face Meetings**

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council has to be held in May. The general view of Councillors present is to hold this meeting remotely as Coronavirus restrictions according to the Government's own roadmap will not be lifted until 21 June. Previously, in the meeting, Cllr Parker had endorsed this assessment.

## **14 Issues for Discussion/Consideration**

**Dog Fouling** Cllr Harrison reported that during the pandemic there has been an increase of dog fouling. She still has anti-fouling stickers given out by the Dog Warden and will put these up where appropriate.

## **15 Date of Next Meeting – 19.00hrs Monday 10 May 2021**