

**MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
MONDAY 10 JANUARY 2022 at 7.30pm
held at Rowton Methodist Church, Moor Lane, Rowton**

Present: Councillors Howard Hopwood
 Bob Knight
 Paul Shannon
 Glenys Harrison
 Peter Thomas

In attendance Clerk Christine Davies
 Melanie Fildes
 CWaC Cllr Stuart Parker (left at 7.45pm)

1 Apologies

None

2 Declaration of Interest

None.

3 To consider the approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 08 November 2021

Resolved: Minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record by Cllr Howard Hopwood.

4 Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Carols on the Green - Successful event despite the weather!
Weeds – Croft Close – Weeds removed in gutters at end of November 2021.

5 Public Participation

Cllr Stuart Parker reported that he had attended a meeting the previous week with the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Dyer, who confirmed that average speed cameras were to be installed on the A41. No timeframe has been given.

6 Councillor Vacancy

Local resident Melanie Fildes has lived in Rowton for 21 years. She spent many years doing community and voluntary work and was a trustee of Waverton Community Childcare Group. She is a retired Research Chemist and in her spare time is a rowing coach.

Proposed: Cllr Peter Thomas

Seconder: Cllr Paul Shannon

Resolved: Melanie Fildes duly co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

7 Highways

Moor Lane – Flooding. On 22/11/21 Stuart Bateman, Principal Highways Engineer advised by email that a job has been raised to increase the upstand of the kerb line outside Cllr Harrison’s property and the next door property, Byways. He anticipated that this should resolve the issue as surface water would navigate to the next drainage grid. No timeframe was given.

Despite two chase-up emails Clerk has not received a response as to a start-date. Cllr Stuart Parker said he would look into this.

Moor Lane – Sewer. Clerk confirmed she had been notified by United Utilities (UU) that the sewage outflow at end of December 2021 was caused by a piece of pipe wedged in the sewer encased with wipes. The blockage was cleared but pipe still wedged in sewer to which UU are removing this week. UU reiterated the need for the public to be made aware of the hazards of flushing wipes down the drain.

Action: Clerk to put notice on website and to contact Waverton Parish Council to remind their local residents. This issue to be included in a future Newsletter.

A41 Speed Data. The received data proves that most of the speeding occurs in the middle of the night. It was felt that the data had had a positive effect on the Police and Crime Commissioner according to above information received from Cllr Parker.

8 Finance

The following retrospective expenditure for November and December was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No/Online Payment	Statute Power
Rowton Methodist Church – Room Hire	£175.00	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 112
CM Davies Oct Sal 217.26 + 18.24 Exp	£235.50	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 111
Penny Lane Accountants – Payroll	£5.00	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 112
CM Davies – Nov Sal 201.96 + 23.32 Exp	£225.28	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 111
Walkers Nurseries – Xmas Tree	£171.00	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 112
Penny Lane Accountants – Payroll	£5.00	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 112
Glenys Harrison – refreshments re Carols on the Green	£29.26	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 112
CM Davies – Equipment + Thank You gifts re Carols on Green	£86.45	OP	LGA 1972-Sec 112

CM Davies – Battery Charger for Xmas lights	£22.99	OP	LGA 1972- Sec 112
Bank Balance as at 03/12/21	£8299.30		

Print out of Electronic Cash Book reconciliation verified and signed and dated by Cllr Paul Shannon.

i) To consider Precept for 2022/23

Draft budget for the year 2022/23 circulated. The reserves going forward are in a much healthier state. It was therefore decided to reduce the Band D precept charge to £25.00 which is a 15.8% reduction on last year. The Parish Council therefore agreed to request a Precept of £5600 for 2022/23. This was proposed by Cllr Bob Knight and seconded by Councillor Paul Shannon. Resolved: Precept request of £5600 for the Financial Year 2022/23.

9 Rowton Methodist Church

The annual donation of £150 re room hire has remained the same for a considerable length of time. It was proposed to increase the annual donation to £250.

This was proposed by Cllr Hopwood and seconded by Cllr Harrison.

Resolved: £250 annual donation to be made from 1 April 2022.

Action: Clerk to notify Philip Morrey

10 Planning

Planning Decision received re: 21/02580/FUL – 2 Croft Close, Rowton, CH3 7QQ: Extension to front with new pitched roof to over garage, conversion of garage to habitable room, single storey rear extension and render to rear and front elevations: Approved.

No Comments submitted for the following: 21/04283/FUL – Lyncroft, Greenfields Lane, Rowton CH3 6AU: Demolition of existing single storey rear outbuildings, erection of two=storey rear, single-storey side and front extension; and

21/04825/PTO: The Spinney, Rowton Lane CH3 6AU – Felling of 2 Ash trees and replanting of Ash or other native trees.

Cllr Hopwood to attend special Planning session organised by ChALC on 13/01/22. He will report back at next meeting

11 Litter Picking Volunteer Group

Only two volunteers have come forward so far which is not enough to form a group. It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

12 Weatherproof Storage Box

Details of suitable weatherproof storage box from Machine Mart circulated. The robust box will adequately accommodate the litter picking and xmas tree equipment. It has pre-drilled holes so that it can be secured to a flat surface. The current cost inclusive of VAT is £274.80. It was agreed that a suitable site be located on the Green to lay a concrete section for the box to be secured to. Resolved: Cllr Thomas to locate site and arrange laying of concrete section.

13 SMART SID

Specifications of two SIDs circulated. Discussion took place and it was agreed that although it is a good tool to capture information, the expenditure cannot be justified to monitor only Moor Lane and Rowton Lane. Plus the fact there is no facility for notifications to be sent to the offending motorist.

14 Issues for Discussion/Consideration

Xmas Tree for Carols on the Green 2022 – Cllr Peter Thomas said he will donate a tree for this event.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration – item to be discussed at next meeting.

15 Correspondence

Clerks & Council's Direct Nov 21 Issue

16 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 14 March 2022