

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15TH MAY 2023 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors M Litton, M Venables, T Hodges, M Litton, K Hodgkinson, P Walker, P Cobley, L Cashmore, I Parkinson and A Ross.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr M Stocks & Community Centre Treasurer P Walker

The Chairman opened the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from PCSO P Hambleton.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 9th May 2022, having been copied to members, were confirmed as being a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON 9th MAY 2022.

-None.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

A copy of the Annual Report outlining the work of the Parish Council over the past 12 months can be found at the end of the minutes.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCILLORS FOR THE PARISH

Cllr M Stocks advised that Labour have a majority at the Council. Cllr Stocks spoke in detail with regards to the following topics, the LSEP project and possibility of using the railhead, HS2 and CWAC's work on representing the parishes, the Lime bed planning application at land off Cookes Lane, the WS Storage Solutions planning application at the old Octel site, Highways including pothole repairs, reduced spending on Highways etc due to an increase in spending on adult social care, children's services and increased council salary costs at management levels.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Community Centre Treasurer, P Walker introduced herself and gave an update with regards to the Committee. The Committee are looking to hold a Community Fun day on Saturday 2nd September between 2pm to 4pm.

They are keen to get the community involved and are seeking helpers for the event. The Parish Council Councillors who are available on the day will look to offer help on the day.

There being no further business, the Parish Assembly meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.

ANNUAL REPORT OF LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2022-23

THE COUNCIL

Councillor Mark Litton has served as Chairman for the past twelve months with Councillor Mark Venables serving as Vice Chairman. Councillor Pete Kelly and Councillor Lynda Kelly left the council in December 2022. The Parish Council vacancies were swiftly filled by co-option with Imelda Parkinson and Leanne Cashmore joining the council in March 2023. The Parish Council has no vacancies with all 10 seats filled.

CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

Cllr Stocks has not attended any Parish Council meetings in the year. Cllr Stocks does however contact the Clerk and Cllr Venables when matters arise or if he has been asked to help with an issue. Cllr Stocks has again supported the Parish Council with a Christmas light switch on grant.

PLAY AREA

The play area remains well-kept thanks to volunteer Graham Oakes who continues to litter pick and empty the bins. CG Services have done a good job maintaining the grassed area and are in the middle of a three-year grass cutting contract. Some items at the play area need cleaning and some assets require a fresh coat of paint; this is an on-going project being completed by the Parish Councillors. There has been some anti-social behaviour incidents and graffiti at the play area. The CCTV has been a welcome asset which has been used for evidence purposes on a few occasions.

HIGHWAYS

The Highways S106 project at Townshend Road is in the early stages with work yet to be complete. In general, the road surfaces, gullies, and manholes are not being maintained to an expected standard.

POLICING

Phil Hambleton is the PCSO for Shakerley. Phil has carried out several sports activities on the play area in school holidays which have been well received. In general, anti-social behaviour appears to be on the rise.

CHURCHYARD

The Parish Council has continued its support to St. Johns Church by providing a churchyard bin and by awarding a churchyard maintenance grant.

PLANNING

The LSEP build is underway, a section 36 application to BEIS to increase operating hours and tonnage was refused by the Secretary of State.

The PC is still awaiting the outcome of an application to build 14 homes next to the Slow & Easy. Planning decisions appear to be very slow with many planning applications still undecided from 12+ months ago. The Parish Council has reported two Planning Enforcement matters to CWAC, one being a wooden structure and the front of a commercial unit and the other being a trailer storage compound at the old Octel site.

COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETINGS

The Parish Council is represented at meetings with Orsted, LSEP, INOVYN, HS2 and Manchester Airport. These meetings represent an opportunity to discuss and comment on business plans and operational activities.

MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS

The Parish Council is a member of the Mid-Cheshire Rail Users Association, the Mid Cheshire Footpath Society, and the Cheshire Association of Local Councils.