**MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY** **3rd AUGUST 2020 VIA ZOOM VIDEO CALL**

**Part I**

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors T Hodges, P Kelly, M Litton, T Smith, M Venables, A Ross, P Cobley, P Walker and L Kelly.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** L Sandison, Clerk.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Cllr P Walker informed the PC that a Church Warden from St. John the Evangelist Church would like to talk at the next PC Meeting to discuss a Right of Way through the Church grounds.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr M Stocks.

##### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th July 2020.

**PROGRESS REPORT**

-Awaiting update from CWAC regarding school flower planter relocation.

-The picnic benches have now arrived. Installation should take place week commencing 3rd August.

-The management company for the retail units have agreed to improve the wire fence from the Co-op store to the Manchester Road hedge.

**POLICE**

Report from PCSO Rebecca Jackson:

ASB

LOSTOCK GRALAM- 1 incident (s)

Reports of around 10/15 motorbikes/ quadbikes racing around Winnington woods. I have spoken to the ‘caretaker’ of the woods who has no recollection of this. He is at the woods 2/3 times a day and will let me know of any problems.

THEFT

LOSTOCK GRALAM- 3 incidents (s)

Two incidents of theft from the Co-op. CCTV enquiries are still ongoing to identify those involved.

One theft of a motor vehicle on Manchester road. Enquiries are still ongoing.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

LOSTOCK GRALAM- 2 incident (s)

Counterfeit notes being used at Cheshire Business Park. No further reports.

Suspicious male standing outside of the Community Centre’s play park, taking photos. Increased amount of visits have been made. No further reports or sightings.

DRUGS

LOSTOCK GRALAM-

There have been a number of reports surrounding possible drug activity. We are working with partner agencies in dealing with the situation.

Whilst on patrol I have also noticed

1. Overgrown grass verges along the A556 have been reported to CWAC. Ref: HW231756528 (Penny’s Lane turning) HW232030047 (Lostock Triangle). I have been informed that the grass verge should be cut on Sunday 2nd August. I will chase up if that is not the case.

PCSO Update

I will continue to address parking and speeding issues within my PCSO powers.

THIS MONTH PRIORITIES

I will continue to monitor parking obstructions, speeding and provide visibility around residential/business areas.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

My August surgeries will be held in Lostock Gralam Community Centre car park in the PCSO van. The dates and times are as follows:

Wednesday 5th August 12:00-13:00

Wednesday 12th August 17:00-18:00

Thursday 20th August 16:00-17:00

Thursday 27th August 12:00-13:00

PCSO Rebecca

-Cllr P Kelly queried whether quad bikes are allowed to ride in Winnington Woods. The Clerk and Cllr M Litton clarified that the woods are privately owned and that a small number of people have permission to use the woods to include quad biking.

-The PC discussed a motorbike which regularly speeds and pulls wheelies in the Parish. The Clerk will pass on any further information to help the Police with their investigations.

-Chairman T Hodges recognised the work of PCSO Rebecca Jackson who is doing a good job.

-Cllr T Smith to report the theft of plants from the flower planter, using the 101 service.

**MARK STOCKS**

As the Lockdown is being eased there are number of issues to raise

Firstly, CWAC are currently continuing with the majority of staff working from home. Especially in planning and enforcement.

Secondly there has been COVID incident at the Cheshire Grill with a customer testing positive. The track test was operating her and additional safe guards have been put in place.

It is been planned for all school to resume when the term begins in September

On planning the COSTA application has been approved I did request additional litter be put in place.

We are still waiting for the HS2 compound application to come in on Griffiths road. Further work is being carried on the TATA site as the demolition work continues.

The verge on A556 at the junction with Penny’s lane was cut on the central reservation yesterday following a recent accident.

I am still waiting on update on highway issues which I discussed Pete earlier today.

Lostock Boxing club have submitted an application to the Police crime commissioner for community funding which I have supported.

If anyone has any issues please feel free to call me.

-Cllr P Kelly has raised the following with Cllr M Stocks and CWAC J Gibbs:

* Query pothole funding in relation to utility manhole repairs.
* Flooding on Gibbon Drive, since road resurfaced, surface water no longer drains to gully.
* Wilson Crescent is in need of resurfacing.
* Update required regarding red light traffic cameras for Lostock Gralam.

##### PLAY AREAS AND INSPECTIONS

**-**There has been vandalism at the play area with some of the Social Distancing signs being removed/damaged and two Covid-19 guidance signs removed/damaged. Cllr Venables and Cllr Cobley reinstalled the salvageable signs.

-Reports of scaffolding bars and zimmer frame being thrown around the play area have also been received.

-PC discussed installing one larger sign to be screwed to the fence or Community Centre building (permission for this would need to be sought). The PC **RESOLVED** that one large social distancing sign fixed with screws to the Community Centre Building would be preferable. Clerk to discuss with the Community Centre Association and obtain quotes.

-As per the latest play area inspection recommendations, the Clerk has ordered a replacement aluminium No Dogs in the Play Area sign from the Sign Shed Ltd at a cost of £44.95 + £4.95 delivery + vat. Cllr P Cobley kindly removed the damaged sign and fitted the new sign.

**FOOTBALL PITCH PROGRESS**

-The PC **RESOLVED (**the Football Pitch Executive Committee abstained from the vote) to accept the Lettings Policy written by the Clerk and Cllr M Venables. FCC will require a copy of the policy to proceed with the PC’s grant application.

-The Chairman suggested that the Clerk invite the Military Fitness Instructor who runs classes on the grass at the play area to the next PC meeting to touch base.

-The Clerk will contact the Community Centre Association to ascertain the current arrangement between the Military Fitness Class and the Community Centre Association.

**COMMUNITY CENTRE LEASE**

-The first draft of the Community Centre Lease should be ready week commencing 3rd August.

-The PC **RESOLVED** to accept John Wright’s quote of £300.00 inclusive, to draw up a new lease plan.

**CHAIRMANS REPORT**

-The Chairman asked for suggestions on raising the profile of Lostock Gralam. The following suggestions were received:

* Welcome to Lostock Gralam Road signs with new PC logo.
* PC logo on the planters.
* Further daffodil planting on the Townshend Road hill.
* Flowers around the base of Welcome to Lostock Gralam road signs.
* Lostock in Bloom.

The PC **RESOLVED** to carry out further planting in the Parish.

**CLERKS REPORT**

-Logo update, the artwork has now been received and the transfer document signed.

-The Clerk has requested a quote for a 20ft Christmas tree from Northwich Town Council.

-Cllr P Walker attended the virtual PCC meeting on 23.7.2020. Report attached. Cllr P Walker mentioned that Covid fraud had been a concern for other local parishes. The Clerk recommended that the PC look to write a Newsletter when the FCC decision is received.

-Councillors discussed the prospect of holding the Christmas light switch on in the usual format. It was agreed that the PC will review again next month as COVID guidance is regularly changing.

-A request for litter picking equipment for two was made to Clerk to allow for summer holiday litter picking.

-Cath Hodges has expressed an interest in joining the Lostock Gralam Parish Council.

-The Clerk and Cllr M Venables have reviewed the PC website in light of the new WCAG.21 website compliance regulation for public sections due to take effect from 22nd September.

-The PC **RESOLVED** to purchase a wreath for the Remembrance Service through the Lostock Gralam Church. Cllr M Litton will attend the service.

**PLANNING**

The Council considered the following planning applications and **RESOLVED** to respond as below:

|  |
| --- |
| APPLICATIONS |
| 20/02357/FUL | -55 Townshend Road, Lostock Gralam-Single storey rear extension. Demolition of existing conservatory.**No Objection** |
| 20/02344/TPO | **-**St Johns Church, Station Road-Remove 1x lime tree (T1) and replace it with a red maple tree (Acer Rubrum) in location marked on plan**No Objection** |
| DECISIONS |
|  |  |

**FINANCE**

-The PC reviewed and **RESOLVED** to accept the Q1 Receipts and Payments report and bank reconciliation.

-The current account bank balance is £9,110.58 the deposit account balance is £50,933.45

-It was **RESOLVED** to accept payment of the following accounts.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Chq no.**  | **Payee** | **Amount** |
| 300732 | CG Services Cheshire Ltd | £212.00 |
| 300733 | Ash Waste  | £115.38 |
| 300734 | The Sign Shed Ltd | £59.88 |
| 300735 / 300736 | Your Environment Ltd (2 Chqs @ £780.00) | £1560.00 |
|  | Income |  |
|  |  |  |

**COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

* Bus shelter update.
* The School is looking for funding for their Early Years. Cllr A Ross is working through a list of grant providers to seek possible funding opportunities.
* Holding PC meetings in public, the Clerk will enquire whether the Church Hall is open for use, the Clerk will also need to carry out a Risk Assessment before any face-to-face meetings take place. The Clerk will update the PC ahead of the next PC meeting to enable a decision to be reached on whether the next PC meeting can be held in public.

The meeting finished at 8.44pm

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th September 2020 at 7.30 p.m. Location to be confirmed.

**Please note the Parish Clerk will be away on holiday from Saturday 22nd August to Saturday 29th August.**



# Police Crime Commissioner Meeting

23/07/2020

Commissioner welcomed us to the meeting, firstly talked about COVID 19, thanked the parish councils for their help in looking after the vulnerable and shielded. They have a fund for people in distress and was able to allot £70,000 with donations pouring into him.

He was happy and proud of the police officers during this time and admired their services to the community, Chief Inspector Sarah from Northwich said the numbers of officers in Northwich had dropped during this time due to illness and self isolating, but numbers were back to normal now. I mentioned our PCSO by name Rebecca thanking her for her commitment and reports on facebook and to the council.

The commissioner was concerned about the next day (Friday 24th July) regarding face masks, he hadn’t received up to date legalisation. But said the view of the police was to educate and a very last resort was prosecution. But did urge that the police should be informed and if any units were available they would attend. He did mention the very small minority of people who coughed and spat at police officers risking there and their families health.

His main pitch during the meeting was announcing that every area will have a named PC as well as a named PCSO. There are 122 areas in Cheshire but he has ring fenced the budget to make sure these are permanent positions whilst he is in the job. Their job is as Rebecca has been doing making herself known and visiting local schools, beauty and trouble hot spots. The PC will be tackling local crime but it is felt that with officers on the beat with locals recognising them, they will be given local crime information which they can follow up. Between them they will do 77 hours on our patch. There is also a problem solving team attached locally.

Money retained by Cheshire Police from ill gotten gains will be available to the local areas. The commissioner is willing to give each area up to £1000 to assist in local problem area’s which can be discussed between the local beat officers parish councils and any sponsors. He is hoping the parish council will match this money and local businesses to chip in. It’s not an easy £1000 he will not be giving it out willy nilly and a good case has to be put forward. For any malicious damage in the area can always call on the crime prevention officer who will assist in possible ways of stopping it.

Fraud was a highlighted concern and phone fraud during COVID has increased considerably. It is a reporting matter especially the old and vulnerable, particularly to our local team who will visit and respond. Can also report it to Action Fraud. It appears listening to other parish councils they are sending out a leaflet advising about phone and text frauds. They say if not sure about a text, call our local PCSO and don’t open it.

The commissioner then went onto speeding and red light cameras, having asked Pete’s question. He hoped all major roads at questionable junctions would have red light cameras within two years, his putting aside money from the budget for this, along side this he hopes to put in many average speed cameras, which would be great for Manchester Road.

There are two people we can contact to put our case forward.

Liaison officer Andy Jones at police HQ CWAC and

Sean Traynor senior highways and transport places strategy at Cheshire west Cheshire council Tel no 01244 (9) 73330.

Another item the commissioner was happy to announce is that crime can be reported on line which he said will be faster than 111.

Go to constabulary web site put in post code and report, and you will see any investigation work that has taken place, although delicate issues will not be put on, people will know the final outcome.

The meeting finished at 9:00pm