

**MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5th
FEBRUARY 2024 AT THE CHURCH HALL**

Part I

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors M Litton (Chair), M Venables (Vice Chair) T Smith, P Cobley, A Ross, T Hodges, and K Hodgkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk

PUBLIC/PCSO: 3 Members of the public, CWAC Cllr M Stocks

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr I Parkinson, Cllr L Cashmore, Cllr P Walker and PCSO P Hambleton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr T Hodges is a member of the Community Centre Association Committee, Cllr T Hodges also declared an interest in planning application 24/00122/LDC due to a land easement agreement.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

-MOP queried the informal footpath across Church land to the Broseley Estate which was recently blocked off for several days. Chairman M Litton explained that the land is owned by the Church and partly consecrated, neither the Church, CWAC or the PC were responsible for the informal path being blocked off.

-MOP queried if the PC had received an update regarding the Cheshire Av. overflow carpark planning application. The Clerk confirmed that the application is still awaiting a decision.

-MOP advised that they had reported anti-social behaviour at the overflow carpark to the Police (several cars were parked up, others donutting).

-Cllr K Hodgkinson advised that a bush is overgrowing the pavement on Station Road.

-Cllr K Hodgkinson has reported the train station fence which is not secure.

-Cllr M Litton asked that the Station Road hedge which is growing over the road at the railway bridge be chased up.

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 8th January 2024, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

5. PROGRESS REPORT

- a. Townshend Road defective street lamp re-reported ref: **HW579718794**, complaint now updated to: Your enquiry has now been investigated and resolved. Noted: Cllr T Smith advised that the street lamp is still defective and has not been resolved, Cllr M Stocks to chase up.

- b. Sunken road surface near to the Manchester Road refuge island has been re-reported ref: HW577499970, complaint now updated to: Your report has now been investigated and a works order has been raised to repair the issue.
- c. The Clerk has contacted CWAC Highways Jerry Gibb to chase up the Stubbs Lane sinkhole investigation – awaiting response.
- d. The Clerk has contacted Highways for a price for either a sign or bollard for the Stubbs Lane footpath leading to the A556 (White Hill).
- e. The Clerk has received a response from WVHT regarding parking on the Townshend Road grass green. WVHT contacted the CWAC Parking Team who advised that the footpath around the grass green is classed as an 'adopted road' so the parking team could only utilise powers that cover the Highway and not the footpath as that is where the vehicle is being parked. Cllr M Stocks advised that he will follow this matter up with CWAC.
- f. The Clerk has written to the Manchester Road property with regards to a dog which barks/jumps up at the perimeter wall.
- g. Tree works at the play area are scheduled for 13th February.
- h. Grant application for £500.00 has been submitted to TATA for MUGA solar power light units.

6. POLICE

PCSO P Hambleton sent a report. See Appendix 1.

7. MARK STOCKS

- CWAC budget likely to increase by 4.99%.
- Car parking charges and green bin charge given green light to increase.
- The council is under pressure due to the increase in adult and child social care costs, the council has asked the government to set a cap on the amount private companies can charge to house a child.
- The government will award the council around 1m for Highways on the back of HS2 being scrapped.
- The Octel site planning application is yet to be determined.
- Cllr T Smith asked Cllr Stocks about adult and child social care costs.
- Cllr T Smith asked Cllr Stocks about HS2 and the selling off compulsory purchased land/property.
- Cllr P Copley asked Cllr Stocks about private funding for HS2 and reports that HS2 trains may run on existing train tracks.
- Cllr T Hodges asked about the councils change in emphasis.

8. PLAY AREA

- a. Play area inspection report received. Circulated to Cllrs as attachment to Summons.
- b. Verbal play area repairs update given; the Clerk advised that the Operational play inspection contract is due for renewal.
- c. The PC discussed the litter picking/bin emptying at the play area and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should obtain 5 further bin keys.
- d. PC considered and discussed the Community Centre complaint regarding footballs hitting the building and damaging guttering. The PC **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact the Community Centre to offer that the PC will install signage advising that balls should not be kicked against the Community Centre, a budget of £80.00 was agreed for suitable signage.

9. PLANNING

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

NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS –

The PC no longer automatically receives paper copy plans, please view documentation at <https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>

24/00122/LDC

-Land at junction of Manchester Road & Griffiths Road, Lostock Gralam
 -Existing use of the site and building as a residential dwelling
-Objection

Cllr T Hodges abstained from voting due to declaring an interest.

NEW PLANNING DECISIONS**10. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

- a. PC discussed Christmas tree ideas and requested that Cllr M Venables research the cost of an artificial tree.
- b. The PC discussed writing to local businesses to ask for financial support to deliver additional benefits to the community, the PC could also invite companies to sponsor the newsletter and community defib.

12. CLERKS REPORT

- a. The PC **RESOLVED** to purchase one set of defib pads with ICPR puck at a cost of £127.00 + VAT, the PC **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should order replacement pads with ICPR puck as and when needed.
- b. An informal gap between CWAC and Church owned land was fenced off without permission from either the Church or CWAC. It would appear that a member of the public had installed the barrier, which was then removed several days later by a member of the public after a large volume of social media comments.
- c. Complaint received regarding costa coffee cup and ToLet sign at the Cheshire Business Park, complaint passed to the managing agent who has now resolved the matter.
- d. The next Renaissance LLC Meeting is Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 18:00 on site. Cllr P Walker will endeavour to attend.
- e. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the Northwich Town Council planter quote for 2024.
- f. A new national system to produce Local Plans is now being introduced by Government as part of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023. Council Cabinet agreed on 10 January 2024 to commit to preparing a Local Plan under the new national system for plan-making and to support the development of a borough-wide design code to eventually be incorporated into the new Local Plan or a supplementary plan. [Planning Policy consultations](#) The consultation begins on **Friday 26 January** and runs until **5pm on Sunday 17 March**. Any comments or sites can be submitted online via the Council's website using the links above.
- g. West Cheshire Town and Parish Council Conference - RSVP by February 23rd, this is a friendly reminder that you are invited to the West Cheshire Town and Parish Council Conference, focusing on "Supporting Our Communities." On Wednesday, 6 March 2023 at DoubleTree Hilton, Chester at 5:15 pm - 9:00 pm

13. FINANCE

- a. The Lloyds bank account is now open, £2,500 has been transferred into the account from the Co-op current account. Three-person authorisation is set-up for all payments.
- b. Church grant cheque to be re-issued due to bank rejecting payee name format.
- c. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the following payments which are due and note income received:

Cheque	Payee	Amount
Online Payment	Lyndsey Sandison	£955.45
Direct Debit	Nest	£39.57
Online Payment	Bailey Audio Systems Ltd	£234.82
Online Payment	Ash Waste Ltd	£159.07
Online Payment	HAGS SMP Ltd	£84.00
Online Payment	CG Services Cheshire Ltd	£504.00
Direct Debit	Freeola	£7.92
Online Payment	Mark Venables	£6.14
301035	Lostock Gralam PCC	£1,600.00
Online Payment	Defib4Life Ltd	£152.40
Income		
Online Receipt	Leading Military Fitness	£196.50

15. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Cllr P Cobley sends his apologies.
- Discuss damaged grass verges.
- Contact parish businesses.
- Bowling green maintenance next to Slow & Easy.

The meeting finished at 8.34 pm

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.00pm in the Church Hall.

L. Sandison

PCSO Hambleton Monthly Update for the Shakerley Ward

Anti-Social Behaviour

Lostock Gralam

- A report of a vehicle window being broken in December, there are no viable lines of enquiry, due to the damage not being reported for nearly a month.
- Report of a neighbour screaming in the street, a male is seen to assault a female. The male was arrested, charged and sentenced for a number of offences. Enquiries identified that the male was also wanted in Spain for a serious offence, following being dealt with by the courts, the male was extradited to Spain.

Burglary

Lostock Gralam

- 1 reported, the suspect has forced entry into a secure property and removed numerous items. A suspect has been arrested and the investigation is ongoing.

Theft

Lostock Gralam

- Report of waste food stolen from the bins at Co-op.
- Report of a new garden chair and broken spade being taken from the garden of a residential property. Suspect has knocked on the front door, there was no reply, and then taken the items.
- Report of laundry products being stolen from Coop. CCTV images of the suspect provided, awaiting identification of the suspect.
- Report of drinks and food being stolen from Coop, 2 suspects have been identified.

Road Safety

Lostock Gralam

- One speed enforcement session carried out on Manchester Road, 4 offences reported.
- 3 reports received regarding vehicle ASB on the car park and Cheshire Avenue. Patrols are being conducted to prevent/deter this and identify those involved.
- A report of 3 motorbikes being ridden on the footpaths and doing wheelies along Manchester Road. Enquiries are ongoing to identify those involved.
- Vehicle stop checked, suspected drink driver. The driver provided a positive drugs wipe at the roadside, arrested for driving under the influence and possession of a Class A drugs, following a search.

Parking/highway Obstructions

Lostock Gralam

- Concerns raised about vehicles parking on the pavements on Townshend Road and Langford Road. Patrols to take place to monitor the parking and appropriate action taken to deal with any offences.

Schools

- Visits to Lostock Gralam, Byley and Lower Peover schools, to chat with staff to discuss any concerns /problems and provide reassurance.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

Wednesday 7th February, between 10am – 11am.

Costa Coffee, Lostock Gralam.

Monday 4th March, between 4pm – 5pm.

Costa Coffee, Lostock Gralam.

Everyone is welcome to come along to say hello and discuss any local issues or concerns.

I am aware that not everyone will be able to attend these surgeries, if you wish to raise any concerns please complete the Residents Voice Survey on the Cheshire Police Website, search for Residents Voice Northwich, and when completing the survey, the Policing area is Shakerley.