

**MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022 AT THE CHURCH HALL**

**Part I**

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** L Sandison, Clerk

**PUBLIC/PCSO:** None

**1. PUBLIC FORUM**

-Cllr P Cobley raised concern about a rough sleeper under the Octel bridge and possible evidence of drug dealing/taking.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

-The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr P Walker, Cllr M Stocks and PCSO P Hambleton

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

-Chairman T Hodges is a member of the Lostock Gralam Community Centre Association Committee.  
-Cllr M Venables is the Chairman of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group.

**4. MINUTES**

-The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed and signed as being a correct record.

**5. PROGRESS REPORT**

- Tall trees near to the Highfield Avenue alleyway are due to be cut back.
- The gullies near to Griffiths Road junction have been investigated with works carried out. The Clerk reported further flooding after the works had been done. This has now been investigated and materials removed which were again blocking the gullies. The network stewards will continue to monitor the area. The Clerk will write to CWAC Highways with regards to the gully position (not at lowest point in the road dip).
- Cllr M Venables has submitted a Hynet consultation response on behalf of the Parish Council.
- The litter bin has now been emptied between the gyratory and business park entrance after three weeks of reporting.
- The Clerk will arrange litter picking equipment for 2<sup>nd</sup> April.
- The Clerk has written to Costa Coffee with regards to the small bins which are only emptied once per day.

**6. POLICE**

PCSO P Hambleton gave the following report:

- Fence panels have been removed for a second time, at the park on Townshend Road, awaiting for Weavervale to replace/repair the panels.

Theft (including shoplifting).

- 3 reports of shoplifting from the Coop, on each occasion meat has been stolen.

Burglary

- No Reports Received.

Vehicle / bicycle theft

- No Reports Received.

Parking/Highway disruptions

- Numerous reports of parking issues on Townshend Road, near to the flats.

Other

- 3 school assemblies on Internet Safety.
- Stop and search of a male and his property drugs were recovered, investigation on going.
- A Speed Enforcement session carried out on Manchester Road, 10 offences reported.

Chairman T Hodges spoke about the need for members of the public to report criminal activity in the parish to the Police/PCSO. The Clerk will update the PC website and noticeboard to promote reporting crimes in the area.

The Chairman also a Neighbourhood Watch member distributed DNA marking kits to those who wanted them.

**7. MARK STOCKS**

-Cllr M Stocks has arranged an oak tree for the Parish Council to plant for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

**8. ASSET REGISTER**

-The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the updated Asset Register for 2022.

**9. RISK ASSESSMENT**

-The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the updated Risk Assessment for 2022 and noted the revised procurement fraud prevention.

**10. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT & ADMINISTRATION**

-The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Annual Governance Statement & Administration policies for 2022.

**11. MEETING DATES**

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the below meeting dates and times for 2022/23.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – 7.00pm (Annual Parish Assembly & Annual Meeting)  
 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022- 7.00pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022- 7.00pm  
 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – 7.00pm (Bank holiday - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan)  
 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – 7.00pm  
 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - 7.00pm  
 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 – 7.00pm

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## 12. HS2

-Cllr M Venables gave an HS2 Phase 2b PowerPoint Presentation showing the Environmental Impact HS2 will have should it go ahead – presentation appended to Minutes.

-The PC **RESOLVED** that a response to the HS2 Environmental Statement Consultation should be drafted highlighting the impact on the area whilst construction takes place. It was **NOTED** that the PC want regular contact with HS2 due to the impact the build will have on the local area.

## 13. QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE WORKING GROUP

-The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Queens Platinum Jubilee Working Group Terms of Reference and Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

-Cllr M Venables, Chairman for the Working Group gave a verbal update with regards to the proposed activities which the Church will be holding and an event which the Community Centre are planning. Parish Councillors were invited to volunteer on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June for a Community Centre Jubilee fun day. It is not yet known if Lostock Events will be planning an event or volunteering at the Community Centre Jubilee fun day.

## 14. PLAY AREA

### (a) Play Area

- The PC **RESOLVED** to accept Indigo Surveys Tree H/S inspection survey quote of £360 + Vat.
- Strike has installed the replacement fence panel at the play area.
- PC **RESOLVED** to monitor the wet pour shrinkage and await the Annual Play Area Inspection outcome due next month.
- The PC **RESOLVED** that they would be in favour of contributing to a memorial bench at the Community Centre play area, however the amount would need to be discussed when further information is received from the Community Centre Association.

### (b) Sports Facility Management Committee (SFMC)

-Permission for the drop kerb has now been received from CWAC Highways. The Clerk paid the £78.00 application fee and claimed back.

-RM Groundworks will carry out the work on 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

## 15. PLANNING

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

<b>APPLICATIONS –</b>	
<i>The PC no longer automatically receives paper copy plans, please view documentation at <a href="https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/">https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/</a></i>	
APPEALS	
DECISIONS	

## 16. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

-Chairman T Hodges, spoke earlier in the meeting about reporting crimes to the Police/PCSO and DNA kits.

-Chairman T Hodges spoke about the on-going situation in Ukraine. The Clerk confirmed that Parish Council funds can not be used for charities abroad/outside of the parish. The Clerk will seek what action is appropriate for a Parish Council in such circumstances.

-Cllr T Smith, no response has been received with regards to the Fryer Road commercial unit wall/railings. As suggested by CHALC, the Clerk will look to arrange an in-person meeting with the owner.

-Cllr K Hodgkinson will be planting the school planter with red, white and blue flowers for the Jubilee. The PC **RESOLVED** that the cost of the plants may be claimed back as expenses - £20 suggested amount.

-Cllr P Kelly has been investigating the viability of planting a Christmas tree at the Hall Lane traffic lights, he concluded that the option was more complicated and costly than anticipated and suggested that the PC continue to purchase a cut tree for the Hall Lane location.

## 17. CLERKS REPORT

-The Clerk will be working on the year end accounts in March.

## 18. FINANCE

- The Parish Council awarded Lostock Gralam Primary School an S137 grant of £50.00 for the purchase of seeds and plants to create a school garden which will grow fruit and vegetables.
- The Parish Council considered an S137 grant application from the Community Centre for a family fun day in June, the PC **RESOLVED** not to award a grant at this time.
- The Parish Council reviewed and considered a financial snap shot for the year end, along with budget to actual and bank reconciliation.
- Agreed Earmarked Reserves and Reserves for 2022/23 are as follows:

<b>Earmarked Reserves &amp; Reserves</b>	<b>£</b>
Earmarked Reserves – Bus Shelter	4,750.00
Earmarked Reserves – Drop Kerb + Gate	2,310.00 (net)
General Reserves for 2022/23	17,413.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,473.56</b>

- *Caveat: - if the PC award an S137 grant to the School/Community Centre then the above will be reduced. The PC is aware that the wet pour at the play area is shrinking and likely to need back filling at a cost of between £2000-£3000.*
- The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the following payments which are due:

Payee	Details and Period	Amount
300865	Lyndsey s	£1,351.83
300866	CG Services Cheshire Ltd	£212.00
300867	Ash Waste Ltd	£120.46
S/O	Freeola	£7.20
Income		
n/a		NIL

**COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The meeting finished at 8.55pm

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.00pm in the Church Hall.

*L. Sandison*