

**MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th
APRIL 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, T Hodges, L Cashmore, I Parkinson, P Walker, A Ross, and K Hodgkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk

PUBLIC/PCSO: 1 Member of the public, CWAC Cllr M Stocks

1. PUBLIC FORUM

- a. MOP expressed their concerns about the planning approval of the overflow car park at the end of Cheshire Avenue.
- b. MOP commented that they were ok with a planning application to install solar panels on a new apartment block to be built on Cheshire Avenue.
- c. Cllr Cashmore enquired whether there is any update on the request to move the 20-mph sign on Station Road closer to the railway bridge so that traffic is slowed before the preschool. *The Clerk advised that she will chase up Highways for a response.*
- d. Cllr Ross enquired whether the wooden fence on the Lostock Gralam side of the railway bridge can also be painted.
- e. Cllr Ross raised concern about the damaged Octel fence

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr P Cobley and PCSO Hambleton.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr T Hodges is a member of the Community Centre Association Committee.

Cllr P Walker is a member of the Community Centre Association Committee and Lostock Gralam PCC.

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 4th March 2024, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

4. PROGRESS REPORT

- a. Signs have been installed on the Community Centre re- not kicking balls at the building.
- b. Sunken road surface now repaired on Manchester Road near to traffic refuge island.
- c. Railway fence has now been replaced.
- d. The Church will look into the possibility of ringing the bells for the D-Day 80th anniversary.
- e. Blocked School Lane gully re-reported 28.3.2024 ref **HW600526733, update:** The enquiry has been assessed by the team and an appropriate action has been taken where required. **Noted**

Cllr K Hodgkinson advised that CWAC did attend but the problem remains, Cllr M Stocks advised that he will take the matter up.

- f. The Kings Portrait has been received; the PC **RESOLVED** to offer the Community Centre the portrait to put up on display.

6. POLICE

PCSO Hambleton sent a report. See Appendix 1.

The Clerk read out a press release regarding a warrant executed on Hesketh Drive, this will be included on the May report.

The Clerk advised that the PC has supplied CCTV footage to the Police.

7. MARK STOCKS

Cllr M Stocks gave an update with regards to the Octel planning application which has been refused. Cllr Stocks went on to say that there has been activity on highway maintenance in light of the additional funding from the cancellation of HS2, gully emptying still remains an issue and on the agenda. Cllr Stocks Members Budget will not be available until mid-May due to the PCC election and again when there is a general election.

Cllr T Smith thanked Cllr Stocks for the Octel update.

8. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement & Administration AGAR document for 2023/24. The Clerk and Chairman duly signed the document.

9. PLAY AREA

- The Clerk and Cllr M Venables spoke about a quote which had been received re the Ash-die back at the play area, it is not yet known the timeframe for when the works would be required as the latest tree inspection for the site advised to monitor the die back. The Clerk will obtain further advise and quotes to enable the PC to appropriately budget for the expected future expenditure.
- The ROSPA annual play area inspection will take place in April.
- Cllr M Venables gave a verbal update with regards to general repairs carried out at the play area; the PC **RESOLVED** that Cllr M Venables can spend £50.00 on materials (wood & specialist paint) to make a new step for the junior climbing frame.
- The PC were unsuccessful with the TCE Community Fund support application.

12. 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/>

24/00475/S73	<p>-Land At Cheshire Avenue Lostock Gralam -Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of application 22/03271/FUL (Construction of a three-storey building containing 6 apartments with associated car parking) for the installation of photovoltaic solar panels to the south facing roof.</p> <p>5th April – No objections received via email</p>
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NEW PLANNING DECISIONS

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13. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- a. Cllr T Smith – spoke about the parish daffodils and asked that the PC consider purchasing more bulbs in September, the PC **RESOLVED** to make a note to ensure that a bulb order is placed in time for autumn planting. Cllr Smith also requested that the grass be cut before May where the daffodils have now died back.
- b. Cllr T Hodges – asked that the PC consider a joint newsletter such as the Great Budworth Bulletin format with local paid advertising. Digital and print together with church and school and community centre, PCSO. The Cllrs agreed to have a look at the Great Budworth Bulletin and to pull a plan together and ask if the various groups want to get involved.

12. CLERKS REPORT

- a. The Clerks appraisal has now been completed by Cllr M Litton and Cllr M Venables – The PC **RESOLVED** to contribute £200.00 to the Clerks CiLCA training course which she plans to start in September, the PC will review the PC finances closer to time and may contribute more dependent on the PC's financial position come September.
- b. The Clerk is due to attend an LSEP LLC meeting on 10th April.
- c. ASH has advised of a price increase to the Church bin collection, the Clerk will check that the price is still best value compared with other suppliers.
- d. The Community Centre has installed a new fast BT hub which knocked out the PC remote CCTV access. The Clerk suggested that the cost of reconnecting both the Community Centre and Parish Council CCTV could be shared by using the same IT technician on one call out.
- e. The Clerk has enquired about verge posts for Wells Avenue, the Clerk is awaiting a price from Highways.
- f. The PC **RESOLVED** to renew the annual Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society subscription at £8.00. Cllr Smith asked if there is a newsletter in return for the subscription.
- g. The PC discussed a draft funding letter to local businesses and agreed that the project requires further work, the PC agreed to form a working group consisting of Cllrs T Smith, I Parkinson, L Cashmore, T Hodges, P Walker, and A Ross.
- h. Freeola's prices are going up by 25p per month. InstantPro is changing from £3.49 to £3.74 (ex VAT). The price change will take effect from the 25/04/2024 invoice
- i. HS2 Petition update received:
The Government subsequently published Network North: Transforming British Transport (you can read it at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/network-north>) which set out a new approach to transport in the North and Midlands and reaffirmed a commitment to deliver Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR).
- j. Community Litter Pick – Saturday 13th April, 1pm to 2pm.

13. FINANCE

- a. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the Q4 Budget vs Actual and bank rec.
- b. The PC reviewed and agreed the Earmarked Reserves and Reserves for 2024/25 – *noted this is the Y.E bank balance + Q4 Vat return.*

RESERVE FUNDS		
Play Area Wet Pour	I1	0.00
Boundary Signs	I3	1,000.00
Lostock in Bloom	I5	407.61
Play Area Cleaning budget	I6	61.39
Play Area Repairs (Mark Venables)	I7	250.14
EARMARKED RESERVE FUNDS TOTAL		1,719.14
GENERAL RESERVES		
CAPITAL		
CAPITAL PROJECTS	J1	13,735.39
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS		15,454.53
YE Bank Balance		14,462.18
Q4 Vat return		992.35
Total		15,454.53

- c. The Clerk has now opened a Lloyds Saving account with a view to moving the Co-op funds over after the precept has been received.
- d. The PC **RESOLVED** to add two further bank signatories to the Lloyds Bank Accounts, Cllr I Parkinson and Cllr A Ross will be added.
- e. The PC **RESOLVED** to approve ICO. amended direct debit to reflect new Lloyd's bank account details.
- f. The Clerk will be working on the year-end over April.
- g. The dates for the period of excise of Public Rights will be: Monday 3 June – Friday 12 July 2024.
- h. The PC **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which are due and note any income received:

Payment Type	Payee	Amount
Online Bank Trf	Security Installation & Service Ltd	£156.00
Online Bank Trf	The Sign Shed Ltd	£25.79
Online Bank Trf	Lyndsey Sandison	£943.26
Direct Debit	Nest - (Direct Debit)	£39.57
Online Bank Trf	HMRC	£107.18
Online Bank Trf	Ash Waste Ltd	£209.22
Online Bank Trf	CG Services Cheshire Ltd	£252.00
Direct Debit	Freeola Ltd	£13.46
Online Bank Trf	The Sign Shed Ltd	£5.16
Income		
Bank Trf	Lostock Gralam Community Centre	£65.00

14. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Members Budget requests.
- Christmas tree / decorations.

The meeting finished at 8.32 pm

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meetings will be the Annual Parish Assembly and Annual Meeting on Monday 13th May 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Church Hall.

L. Sandison

Appendix 1

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Fight on the corner of Manchester Road and Station Road. Male arrested for being drunk and disorderly.
- Report of a person on the rail tracks by the station. Patrols attended no trace of anyone on the tracks.
- Report of a male shouting and swearing outside a residential property. Male arrested and charged for breaching his bail conditions. A second incident the same male was arrested for public order offences, after making hand gestures of a gun and drawing his fingers across his throat.
- Report of youths 'running riot' on Hesketh Drive. The youths are running up to residential properties starrng through the windows and intimidating the residents. Enquiries on going to identify the youths involved.
- Further reports of the smell of cannabis coming from an address on Wilson Crescent. Joint visit planned with Weavervale Housing.

Burglary

- No reports received.

Theft

- No reports received.

Road Safety

- One speed enforcement session carried out on Manchester Road, 7 offences reported.
- Report of a young person riding a motorbike up and down Gibbon Drive. No details of the motorbike or address provided.
- Report of a potential drink driver on Stubbs Lane, the vehicle found and stopped. Driver provided a positive breath test, driver was arrested and charged.
- Stop check of a vehicle on Manchester Road. The occupants were arrested for being involved in the concern in the supply of Class A drugs. The driver has also been arrested and charged for various driving offences.
- Vehicle stop checked on Wells Avenue, the driver was arrested for public order offences and failing to provide. Investigation on going.

Parking/highway Obstructions

- Report of a vehicle parked across an access road to the rear access to properties on Station Road.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

Thursday 11th April, between 11am – 12pm.

Lostock Green Chapel, Birches Lane, as part of visiting the community hub.

Tuesday 16th April, between 5pm - 6pm.

Chapel Lane, Allostock. A Police vehicle will be parked in the car park near to the bungalows.

Monday 22nd April, between 1pm – 2pm.

Costa Coffee, Lostock Gramam.

Tuesday 30th April, between 10am – 11am.

Hulme Lane, Lower Peover. A Police vehicle to be parked near to the shop.

Wednesday 8th May, between 5pm – 6pm.

Lach Dennis Village Hall, Holmes Chapel Road. A Police vehicle to be parked on the car park.

PCSO Phil Hambleton

Shakerley Police Beat Team