

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12TH APRIL 2021 VIA ZOOM VIDEO CALL

Part I

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT: One Community Centre Association representative.

The Parish Council observed two minutes silence in respect of the Duke of Edinburgh who died on Friday 9th April 2021

PUBLIC FORUM

Comments from the Community Centre Association (CCA) representative;

- Reports on social media that a manhole cover has been removed at the play area.
- Birches Lane road surface and pavement are in a poor condition and require attention.
- Gyratory road surface is in a poor condition and in need of repair.
- Dog mess is still an issue in the parish.

Comment from Cllr P Kelly;

- Complaint to Cllr M Stocks made with regards to litter bins being emptied on an irregular frequency.
- Green bags with litter pick waste was left behind when litter bins were emptied.
- Fly tipping at the over flow car park may be a farmer as the bag left was an animal feed bag.
- Question to Cllr M Stocks with regards to the barrow persons route as Cllr Kelly does not see them past Fryer Road. CWAC, insist they go to the 30mph sign.
- Cllr Kelly has reported vehicles driving on the overflow car park at night causing a nuisance to local residents in the apartments.
- Cllr Kelly is collecting on average two bags of litter per week from the overflow car park. Cllr Kelly has been keeping the area tidy whilst new managing agents are appointed.
- The Costa Coffee building site is producing litter which blows across Cheshire Avenue, the Clerk has reported the matter to the building company.

Comments from Cllr M Litton;

- The Townshend Road/Hall Lane litter bin is overflowing and appears to have been missed.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Chairman T Hodges also sits on the Lostock Gralam Community Centre Association Committee.
- Cllr P Walker has joined the Lostock Gralam Community Centre Association Committee which held its AGM in March.
- Cllr P Walker is also set to join the Church PCC Committee.

MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1st March 2021 with the following amendment;

Cllr Kelly submitted a FOI request through Cllr M Stocks regarding HS2, Tata & Woodland trust regarding non-disclosure agreements which have been signed. It would appear that CWAC borough councillors did not know that authority of CWAC had signed a non-disclosure document with HS2B and others. Cllr Kelly requested that the Clerk write to MP E McVey, which she has done, and awaiting a response.

PROGRESS REPORT

- UU have now carried out works to the rocking manhole on Manchester Road (opposite the Community Centre).
- Suggestion box has been ordered although delivery is not expected until after 22nd April.
- Updated bus shelter information and cost received. Cllr M Stocks has agreed to contribute £1000.00 to the project in May. The PC reviewed the current cash forecast with the impending MUGA expenditure in mind. The PC **RESOLVED** to delay the site survey until the PC is confident that it has sufficient funds after the MUGA project. The Clerk will include the bus shelter project on the May summons for review alongside an updated cash forecast.
- Response from Rt. Hons Esther McVey regarding non discourse agreements signed by CWAC with HS2 etc received.
- BEIS response received regarding LSEP application to increase tonnage.
- CWAC response received regarding LSEP application to increase tonnage.
- Litter picker sticks have now been received along with a hoop (to hold bag open) to help Cllr Kelly when out litter picking.

ANNUAL GOVERNANACE STATEMENT

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept Section 1 of the AGAR.

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept Section 2 of the AGAR.

It was noted that the Clerk had amended the other payments figure, due to not making a payment which had been expected within the financial year.

POLICE

COVID-19

With regards to COVID-19, Cheshire Constabulary's policy has remained very similar to recent months. The policing response to the COVID pandemic has focussed on the 4 E's with Enforcement being seen as a position of last resort. We are advised to **engage** with the public and **explain** the COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time. We are then advised to **encourage** the public to abide by said rules. Then, at a last resort, where a blatant COVID breach has been identified we must **enforce** with a fixed penalty notice. This month in particular we have however, seen an influx fixed penalty notices being issued in the county.

LOSTOCK GRALAM

3x reports of COVID breaches this month. Advice given by attending officers.

Anti-Social Behaviour

LOSTOCK GRALAM

Reports of graffiti on Community Centre Play Area. Investigations are on-going.

Vehicles driving on field, tearing up grass and crops. Land owners were made aware.

Reports of vehicles in the overflow carpark on Cheshire Avenue doing donuts and leaving marks on the floor. Regular patrols are made to the location weekly to deter this activity and to catch any vehicle ASB in the act.

Suspicious Activity

LOSTOCK GRALAM

Reports of possible drug activity in the area. Investigations are on-going.

Theft

LOSTOCK GRALAM

3x reports of shoplifting from stores in the area. Investigations are on-going.

PCSO Update

This month I have been focussed on my usual commitments of speed enforcement and regular foot patrols. I have spent time outside of each school on the area to ensure the pupils arrive and leave school safely. Unfortunately, I have noticed a large increase in ASB this last month. To combat this, my foot patrols have further increased, especially in the Lostock Gralam area, and investigations into specific incidents are on-going. After reports of dog fouling in the area, I have passed these concerns over to CWAC for them to put out some dog fouling stickers and to do some patrols of the area.

I have unfortunately been made aware of quite a few incidents that have not been reported to us directly via 101 or the Cheshire Police website. If this is not reported, we do not know an incident has taken place. Please can I urge any incident to be reported via 101 or the Cheshire Police website, so that we know about the incident early enough to take action.

Weekly PCSO surgeries with the current guidelines regarding COVID-19, I have been advised to hold my PCSO surgeries online. These will be held on the following dates:

Saturday 3rd April 12pm – 1pm

Friday 9th April 4pm – 5pm

Wednesday 14th April 12pm – 1pm

Wednesday 21st April 5pm – 6pm

Sunday 25th April 11am – 12pm

Friday 30th April 5pm – 6pm

All welcome to contact me via email or private message via social media to discuss any worries or concerns.

PCSO Chris Flanagan

Shakerley Police Beat Team

-The Clerk has asked the PCSO to concentrate on Lostock Gralam over Easter to help deter vandalism and anti-social behaviour in light of vandalism at the play area. The Clerk has also asked if the PCSO will be holding sports on the park when Covid restrictions allow which he has confirmed, he will do.

MARK STOCKS

Cllr Stocks was absent from the meeting but had telephoned the Clerk prior to the meeting;

Cllr Stocks wanted to ask the PC's thoughts on planting an Oak tree later on in the year to mark Price Philips passing. The tree and planting would be FOC to the Parish Council.

The PC was in favour of planting an oak tree although the tree location would need further discussion.

COVID-19 UPDATE

-Latest Covid Stats: Seven days up to 6th April – fewer than 3 cases in Shakerley.

PLAY AREA

-The annual ROSPA play inspection will be taking place in April.

-Vandalism has occurred at the play area with a fence panel being ripped out damaging the fence panel and post. This has temporarily been secured back up using bike locks/locks. The Clerk instructed CG Services to inspect and repair the damage. This will cost £365+VAT.

-Complaint received regarding unsafe football pitch surface due to lumps of concrete and stones coming to the surface. CG Services dug out and removed the concrete/stones FOC.

-Communication received from a local parent advising that children had graffitied on the Community Centre building, fortunately chalk was used and witnesses asked the children to remove their graffiti.

CCTV:

- The Chairman and Clerk attended the play area site to discuss CCTV requirements for the site. The Clerk/Chairman in partnership with the CCA has investigated whether the lamp posts could be used to elevate the cameras out of vandals reach. An electrician has advised against the idea as the lamp posts are a sealed unit and the camera/s may block the lamp light.
- The Clerk applied to Arnold Clark Community funding for £1000.00 to go towards CCTV for the play area. The PC has been unsuccessful on this round however the PC will automatically be rolled over to next month's draw.
- The Clerk will be applying for other possible CCTV funding over the coming month.
- The Clerk, Cllr P Walker and the Chairman will look to obtain three quotes over the next couple of months. The specification would be for 2/3 poles with 7 cameras.
- The CCA has offered to house the CCTV unit in the Community Centre building.
- The PC would need to look at recompensing the CCA for any electricity and video connection used.
- The Community Centre's bandwidth will also need to be sufficient to run the CCTV.

FOOTBALL PITCH:

- Planning Application Update-

The Clerk gave a summary of the research and quotes received to date. The Clerk went on to talk about the planning application and the discharge of planning conditions. In an attempt to get the final tree root protection fence planning condition discharged, it has come to light that the MUGA will need to move, by approx. four metres to avoid tree roots and canopies as per Indigo Surveys and the CWAC Tree Officers judgement. By moving the MUGA, a brand-new planning application must now be submitted.

- The Clerk and Chairman for the project have looked at possible cost saving ideas and obtained a second opinion with regards to the drainage cost which appears to be reasonable for the design.
- An additional sum for the specialist tree root protection fence is likely to cost in the region of £2000.00.
- Having considered the above and revised [REDACTED] quote of [REDACTED], secured funding of [REDACTED] and shortfall in funds of [REDACTED] which the Parish Council would need to cover the cost of:
- The Parish Council (excluding EC members) **RESOLVED** to accept the [REDACTED] Carpet Surface option.
- The Parish Council (excluding EC members) **RESOLVED** to accept [REDACTED] Heavy Duty Arched Fence design.
- The Parish Council (excluding EC members) **RESOLVED** to accept the MUGA size of 30m X 15m.
- The Parish Council (excluding EC members) **RESOLVED** to accept the revised MUGA location in light of the tree root protection fence plan.
- The Parish Council (excluding EC members) **RESOLVED** to appoint [REDACTED] should full planning permission be granted and funding secured for the project.
- The Parish Council (excluding EC members) **RESOLVED** to add [REDACTED] to the approved vendors list.
- The Clerk has requested a quote from [REDACTED], for the required tree pruning works. The PC has used [REDACTED] previously.

- The Clerk has gathered a further solicitor quote from [REDACTED] with regards to the Parish Council building the MUGA on grounds which are leased to the CCA. The Solicitor advised that the CCA would need to surrender part of their existing lease which would cost in the region of £2000 + VAT and disbursements. The CCA would also need to instruct a Solicitor.

The CCA will discuss the matter at their next meeting as there is no contention between the PC and CCA with regards to the MUGA being built on the existing football pitch. The PC will await the outcome of the CCA meeting.

- The Clerk has invited [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to quote for the drop kerb. [REDACTED] would also be able to quote for the fence and gate which would also be required.

CHAIRMANS REPORT

- Cllr T Smith commented on how nice the daffodils and planters look in the parish.
- Cllr P Walker advised that the church is still using Zoom for meetings.
- Cllr A Ross advised that the School has demolished the old building ready for the new nature area.
- Cllr P Kelly asked the PC whether they would support him and the Clerk seeking whether it would be possible for the wildlife area at the Lostock Triangle to be transferred to the PC. Cllr Kelly would like to see the area made into a proper nature area with a bird hide etc.

The PC **RESOLVED** that the Clerk and Cllr P Kelly can approach CDP Marshall to ask whether the area could be transferred to the Parish Council to develop it into a nature area.

CLERKS REPORT

- The Clerk gave a verbal update with regards to holding virtual meetings.
- Concerned Manchester Road resident reported damaged grass verges from the recent roadworks. LSEP's contractor has now repaired the damage caused along Griffiths Road and Manchester Road and awaiting a quote to repair damage to a driveway.
- ASH Waste Ltd has written to inform the PC that the Church bin contract will increase by £1.97 per m³ from the 1st April, the PC hires a 1100 litre bin, collected weekly.
- Dog fouling complaint received. Cllr discussed campaign ideas to deter dog owners from leaving mess behind.
- LSEP has been granted permission for extended working hours to carry on until 13 May. The news page of the website has been updated accordingly (www.lostocksep.co.uk/news) and this includes details of how residents can contact the project should they need to.

PLANNING

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

APPLICATIONS	
21/00692/S73	-Celandine Court, Cheshire Avenue, Lostock Gramam, Northwich -Variation of conditions 17 (occupant age) and 18 (Affordable Housing statement) of planning permission <i>-Comments have now closed for this application although the Clerk has spoken with Cllr M Stocks and passed on Cllr Comments to Planning.</i>
1/00865/FUL	-5 Stubbs Lane Lostock Gramam

	-Single storey rear extension to and garage conversion -No Objection
DECISIONS	

FINANCE

- The Clerk will be working on the year end folder over March and April.
- The dates of the period for the exercise of Public Rights will be Monday 14 June 2021 – Friday 23 July 2021 a notice will be published on 7th June on the PC website and noticeboard.
- The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the End of Year Budget to Actual and Bank Rec and Income & Expenditure.
- The PC **RESOLVED** to accept and approve the following payments which have been made:

Chq no.	Payee	Amount
300782	Lyndsey Sandison	2,776.02
300783	HMRC	£58.42
300784	Ash Waste Ltd	£115.30
300785	E-ON	£13.92
S/O	Freeola	£12.56

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The meeting finished at 9.17pm

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be the Annual Parish Assembly and AGM on Tuesday 4th May 2021 via Zoom at 7.30pm. This meeting has been rescheduled to comply with the law with regards to holding virtual meetings.

L. Sandison