

MINUTES

Chairman Mike Maughan
Councillors Chris Ward, Richard Kitchin, Welna Bowden, Tim Rahill

Clerk Kate Lloyd

Members of the Public: Three

1. Apologies of absence:

Cllr Paul Buchanan (Annual Leave)
Cllr Carl Willis (work commitments)
Cllr Mike Dix (Covid restrictions)

2. Procedural matters

i Declaration of interests

Cllr Maughan declared an interest in all planning matters item 16.

ii. To agree the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of The Parish Council 23 January 2023. An amendment was made to item 7, to change the date of the Festival to 1 July 2023. **RESOVLED:** Councillors approved the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 January 2023.

3. Actions from last Meeting

Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 23 January 2023 were discussed:

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
13. Community Speed Project	For both 30 mph speed signs to be restored to their correct height. To be taken forward with Highways To take forward the speed signs examples with Highways	Cllr Chris Ward	Completed – Refer to item 7
20. Correspondence	To contact Highways regarding a kerb outside a property in Mallory Walk.	Cllr Chris Ward	Completed - Refer to item 17
21i Finance	To request VAT invoices from suppliers in order to claim back VATS	The Clerk	Working in progress

4. Village Police Report

Cllr Maughan advised the Local Officers are Sgt John Tinn, Beat Manager PC Lena Martin and new PCSO Jayne Lockwood. He read through the Police report noting crimes. Surgeries are being held every three weeks with the next one taking place on 27 March 2023. Councillors were advised that the PCSO has written to Cllr Bowden regarding speed equipment being installed on posts and this is progressing. Cllr Maughan advised there is a low rate of crime and efforts by the Police to engage with the Parish Council.

5. Public Speaking Time

A resident raised issue with the use of the sports field for exercising of dogs advising that the free dog waste bags have not been in place for some time. Cllr Maughan advised there has been a breakdown in routine due to bereavement. The resident offered to take on the role of delivery of the dog waste bags and install them. The resident also asked about the use of pink spray to mark where dog waste has not been removed by owners. Cllr Maughan advised marking has been undertaken in the past. No commercial dog walkers are permitted to use the field. Cllr Bowden advised the Public Space Protection Order is in place whereby every dog walker must carry

dog waste bags when exercising their dogs. Concerns were also raised about the damage caused to the grass verge by people parking their vehicles. There was a suggestion of making a small lay-by.

Cllr Ward suggested opening of the Parish Car Park but there is not enough visibility or control. There was a suggestion for an article in Local Life. **ACTION:** Cllr Maughan to order dog waste bags to be passed on to the resident to install.

6 **i Field Update**

Cllr Maughan provided an update on behalf of Cllr Buchanan. There has been a good uptake on the use of the field which provides a useful source of income. The mower has been in storage and mowing will start soon. The lead time for the new storage facility is 5-6 weeks.

ii Pond Development Update

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors there was no further update.

7. **Parish Councillors Updates**

Cllr Chris Ward advised 20mphs zone in Moor Lane and Moor Crescent is progressing and the scheme will be advertised for a 21 day consultation period shortly. Highways have assessed the pot hole in St Mary's Road and advised it does not warrant a repair. Cllr Maughan advised this is not a pot hole but a sink hole. The date for a speed survey in St Mary's Road has not yet been agreed.

A question was asked if the Decoy Farm Development will be considered for a lower speed limit. Any comments from residents should be feedback. Cllr Ward will raise the issue with the manhole in Church Croft with Highways.

Cllr Ward advised that the resident wishing to lower the kerb outside 10 Mallory Walk can do so. The resident is responsible for the financing of this. He has raised the speed sign slippage and gated signs for the village with Stuart Bateman.

Cllr Ward advised whatsapp group members had reported tradesman /door to door salesman who may not be legitimate have been calling in the village. Cllr Ward advised a "no calling zone" was not in place in the village. There was a suggestion for an article regarding this in Local Life

Cllr Bowden advised Councillors the food bank contributions / donations have reduced significantly. An article will be including in Local Life. A litter picking event will be held on 18 March (am) and 26 March (pm). Friends of the Alley Way had met on the 31 January and a tidy up session held on 11 February. The wild seeds and bulbs have been planted. The alley way paths need cleaning especially Penfold Way to Church Croft. Cllr Bowden suggested panels for the alley ways which could be painted by the Brownies / School children.

8. **Elections**

i. Purdah / Pre Election Period

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors of the Local Elections including Parish, taking place on 4 May 2023. He provided details of Purdah (pre election period) and the rules around publicity.

ii. Nominations Process

Cllr Maughan provided details of the nominations process and read through the election timetable which set out key dates.

The Clerk asked whether Councillors wished to make their own arrangements for the submission of their nomination forms or make arrangements with Cllr Maughan/ The Clerk.

A Councillor asked about the changes to the Ward. This was discussed briefly. **ACTION:** The Clerk to check with CWaC Elections team on the details of the wards and Councillor representation.

9. **Village Festival**

Cllr Maughan proposed a change to the date of the Festival from 1 July to 8 July. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to change the date of the Festival to 8 July 2023.

10. **Local Life**

Cllr Maughan provided an update advising the deadline for articles is 30 March 2023. Councillors discussed the potential for a more modern and electronic form of communication with the community. There was suggestion of using the monies spent on Local Life on improving the website service given the Parish is growing significantly with the Wrexham Road Development.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed for Cllr Tim Rahill to investigate various options or ideas for communication / website which can be brought back to members to consider further. **ACTION:** Cllr Rahill to research options / case studies on communication / website and bring back for members to consider.

11. Lengthsman Services

The Lengthsman provided an update advising he had attempted to clean the pathway between Penfold and Church Croft. This has proved difficult but may be easier given the recent rain. The Pump is in a poor condition. He will keep a check on shrubs with regular maintenance of the pathways. Work on the bench in Lower Kinnerton will be undertaken once the weather improves.

The suggestion for colourful fence panels in the pathways would require permission from residents as the fencing posts are not owned by the Council.

12. Chicken Sheds

Cllr Kitchin advised he had reported odour issues to the Environmental Agency (EA). There have been significant odour issues and residents should report their concerns. A Councillor questioned whether the odour is a cyclical issue and a Councillor thought the odour could be reduced by improved quality bedding. Cllr Ward advised a resident had raised concerns with the HGV traffic coming through the village and not taking the agreed route.

13. Village Hall

Cllr Maughan advised several Councillors had met with the DVF and Pre School to discuss the development of the DVF Hall. The proposals are acceptable and plans will be formalised. A strip of land to support building works / reconfigurations and access is needed. The plan is for a proper community centre. It will require a great deal of work and funding with possible sources from lottery / match funding.

14. Community Speed Project

Cllr Bowden provided an update advising she had met with Stuart Bateman in February. Speed assessments will be taken. A black box will be in place from Gorstella by the 30 mph sign and opposite Moor Lane. Cllr Kitchin suggested asking Highways for accident numbers.

Cllr Bowden advised the signage out towards the twin towers has dropped. This may have been caused by hedge trimming equipment. There may be a delay in the signs being lifted due to a change in contractor.

15. PROW

No further update

16. Training Crossing Closures

No further update

17. Planning Applications

Cllr Kitchin provided an update on all planning matters. It was commented that the development scheme at Two Mile House looked nice with plans to reinstate the farm shop. It is anticipated there will be further applications over the few years as improvements are made. It was noted there was an application for the removal of an internal wall. This does not require planning permission.

18. Finance

i To approve income and expenditure from 8 January to 6 March 2023

The Clerk requested Councillors approve:

CHALC subscriptions for 2023/23, Insurance Premium 2023/24 £582.

Set aside reserves for speed signage £30,000, an allocation for the Pond Development, with the remaining balance to be committed for the Village Hall project.

RESOLVED: Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 8 January to 6 March 2023.

RESOLVED: Councillors approved CHALC subscriptions for 2023/24, Insurance 2023/24 and earmarked reserves for the various projects in the Village Hall

ii To agree the outturn for 2022/23

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed and approved the outturn for 2022/23

iii To consider a draft charging policy.

The Clerk advised the draft charging policy has been reviewed by Cllr Buchanan. It required an amendment for cricket not football charges. **RESOLVED:** Councillors approved the Charging Policy.

19. Correspondence

i. Concern from resident – hedgerow encroaching on pathway opposite the Shop

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors he had received concerns from a resident about the hedgerow encroaching on the pathway opposite the shop. This has been shared with resident who will take action when he can and once the nesting season has ended.

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm.