**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting at 7:30pm**

**Monday 20th March 2023.**

**Councillors in attendance:** Alex Baker (AB), Derek Heiron (DH), Ian Pulley (IP), Charlie Blood (CB), Jo Butler (JB), Rachel Blood (RB), Victoria Coward (VC), Jos Saunders (CE-JS)

**Parish Clerk:** Michelle Andrew (MA)

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| **1.** | **Apologies for Absence**  None |  |
| **2** | **Declarations of interest.**  None |  |
| **3** | **Public Forum**  No members of the public present |  |
| **4**  **All Noted** | **Feedback and information sharing with Cheshire East Councillors**  Cheshire East Councillor was present at the meeting.  CE-JS shared that a banding system has been proposed for schools with students requiring additional support to make the system more flexible with regards to funding. Initial feedback from test schools and parent carer forums has been positive and a consultation paper will now be produced for further feedback.  Clerk shared with CE-JS that she had still not received any further communication from Highways regarding the grit bins in the village. Councillor CE-JS will send an email herself to see if she can get a response.  Clerk also has not received any response about the poor state of the gullies in the village. Clerk mentioned that the gullies are all due for inspection at the end of March and will keep an eye on the database for these being cleared.  CE-JS asked for an update on the playground improvements. Councillor RB who has been in contact with Cheshire East over this has chased ANSA but has not received any response. CE-JS will email about this also to chase.  Councillor AB commented that some potholes around the village have been marked for repair. This is very much needed as there are currently many pot holes on roads around the village. |  |
| **5.**  **Noted** | **PCSO comments**  Next PCSO meeting is Friday March 24th 5-6pm.  Clerk has asked for additional PCSO posters to place in the noticeboards around the village about the surgery’s. |  |
| **6.**  **Approved** | **To agree as a true record, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th February 2023.**  Approved **3 FOR** |  |
| **7.**  **Approved**  **Noted**  **Noted**  **Noted** | **Finance**  **a. Payments to be authorised by the council.**  **BACS**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Clerk Salary March | £ 197.22 | | Clerk Expenses – Laminator & Sheets | £ 24.48 | | Namesco Website Renewal – M. Andrew | £ 184.54 | | L Smallwood - Cleaning | £ 50.00 | | Autela Payroll Services | £ 83.27 | | HMRC PAYE | £ 187.60 | | Zurich Insurance | £1,041.57 | | **Total** | **£1,768.68** |   **7 FOR**  **Cheques**  None issued or waiting to be cashed.    **b.** **Bank Statement Reconciliation**  Bank accounts at the end of February **2023**  Current Acc £31,780.79  Renovation Acc £37.24  **TOTAL = £31,818.03**  **Direct debits paid in January 2023**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Opus Electricity** | £ 81.03 | | **Opus Gas** | £548.40 | | **BT Broadband** | £ 45.12 | | **Water Plus** | £ 24.62 |   **c. Update on the opening of a new Reserve Bank Account.**  Clerk has emailed the form to the bank who requested further information. Clerk has emailed this also and is now waiting to hear back. |  |
| **8.**  **All Noted** | **To update Council on preparations for the Internal Audit.**  JDH Business Services Ltd will carry out this years Internal Audit. They have requested the Audit be submitted electronically this year.  Clerk has begun to put the requested documents together ready to submit after Year End. |  |
| **9.**  **Noted**  **Action**  **Noted**  **Noted** | **Updates on the upcoming changes to the Council regarding the amalgamation with Lyme Handley …**  **a. Bank Accounts.**  Clerk has posted the letter to the bank requesting a change of name on the Council Bank Accounts to be effective from April 1st. Clerk will check this change has taken place after April 1st.  **b. Clerk’s Position.**  Clerk informed Autela Payroll that Council agreed to simply change the PAYE name with HMRC to include Lyme Handley. This will be carried out after Year End.  **d. Energy Contracts.**  Energy broker confirmed that the circumstances surrounding the changes to the Council did not require a termination of contract and the energy contract will continue as is. |  |
| **10.**    **Approved**  **Action**  **Approved**  **Action** | **To assess, and amend where required, the Hall Booking Form 2023.**  Councillors agreed to amend the booking form to remove the ‘Hall Areas Required’ section and Hall Hire will now include all areas as standard. Approved **7 FOR.**  Clerk will now amend this on the website.  Councillors also agreed that Sound Equipment Hire will also now be included in the fee – **7 FOR**. Hall Charges will be amended to reflect this change. |  |
| **11.**  **All Noted**  **Approved**  **Noted** | **To continue discussions on plans for the King’s Coronation in May.**  An event will take place on the afternoon of Saturday 6th May after the Coronation and run into the evening.  Councillor RB brought along a photocopy of the Programme of Events from the village for the Queen’s Coronation. This included child and adult races and games.  A suggestion was made to purchase some lamp post signs for the main road and a coronation flag for the village hall. Approved **7 FOR**.  Councillor RB has been in touch with Whaley Bridge Band to play an informal bandstand style set. |  |
| **12.**  **Noted** | **To discuss options for milk deliveries in the village.**  No update as still waiting for the bridge to reopen in Whaley Bridge. |  |
| **13.**  **Noted** | **To note any correspondence received.**  A letter was received from TV Licensing to complete a no license required declaration for the village hall. Clerk has completed this declaration. |  |
| **14.** | **To consider Planning applications received.**  No planning applications received. |  |
| **15.**  **Noted** | **Reports from Community Events working party.**  Community Events working party will meet to further discuss the plans for the King’s Coronation. |  |
| **16.** | **Update on SUMUP verification for taking payments.**  No Update. |  |
| **17.**  **All Noted** | **To discuss maintenance of the hall and garden.**  Quotes for the Fascia boards are still being chased. If these are not received soon the work will likely need to be carried out as an emergency.  Also finding it difficult to acquire quotes for the replacement doors.  The gardener who has agreed to attend to the outdoor areas at the village hall will be contacted to come before the Coronation event and to include jet washing the patio and flag stones. |  |
| **18.**  **Noted** | **To further discuss options for making improvements to the playground on the village field.**  No updates – see point 4. |  |
| **19.** | **To discuss hall lettings.**  No new bookings. |  |
| **20.** | **Update on ownership paperwork for the village hall.**  No updates. |  |
| **21.**  **Noted** | **Update on progress in trying to acquire grit bins for the village.**  No update – See point 4. |  |
| **22.**  **Noted** | **To further discuss Flooding Issues in the village.**  Drains due for inspection at the end of March – See Point 4. |  |
| **23.** | **Items for future meetings**  None |  |
| **24.**  **Noted** | **Items for information**  Clerk has added Councillor VC’s mobile number to the Government Gateway login as a secondary number to prevent a delay in gaining access should clerks phone be lost / broken.  There is a Rose Queen Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 28th March. |  |
| **25.**  **Noted** | **Date and time of the next meeting**  Monday April 17th 2023 @ 7.30pm. |  |

The meeting concluded at 8.58 pm.