

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.**  
**AT WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL, CHURCH LANE, WISTASTON.**

**Present:** Cllr. J. Moore (Chairman)

Cllrs. T. Kilkenny, D. Lucas, D. Millington, R. Moore, G. Roberts, Mrs. V. Smith & R. Squirrell.

**In Attendance:**

Mrs. A. Cross (Clerk), Borough Cllr. Mrs. Simon & 2 Residents.

**101 APOLOGIES**

Cllr. J. Scott, PC Clark & PCSO Bowman.

**102 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting and the Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**103 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of interest were made in response of any items on the Agenda.

**104 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / POLICE MATTERS / CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS**

Farmer Richardson reported the fields including the Eric Swan Sports Ground are waterlogged, due to the inclement weather, He is considering moving his barrier forward to alleviate the parking problems. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr. Kilkenny (Chairman of WSLA) agreed to a site meeting with Farmer Richardson to discuss the proposal.

Borough Cllr. Mrs. Simon reported on the following: -

- a) Cheshire East Council Tax will increase by 3.99%
- b) Loraine O'Donnell has been appointed as the new Chief Executive for Cheshire East Council.
- c) Complaints have been received regarding noise disturbance at the Care Home in Park Drive. Action has been taken to alleviate the problems and all those who complained will receive a written response explaining the situation.
- d) The proposal to remove Colley's Lane from the winter gritting route has been 'called-in' and the decision is on hold.
- e) A surgery with Dr. Kieran Mullan MP is being held at 4pm on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020, at Wistaston Memorial Hall.
- f) A Wistaston Ward Walk with the dog warden is scheduled to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**105 PLANNING MATTERS**

**(i) Planning Subcommittee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The following items were **RESOLVED:**

20/0145N Outline planning permission for one dwelling with matters reserved – 490 Crewe Rd  
 20/0290N Single storey ext. to rear and alterations to hip roof to create gable – 6 Handforth Rd.

**NO OBJECTIONS** be made on the above two planning applications.

### **Planning Application 19/5282N Land to the rear of 22 Westfield Drive**

An email was sent to Mr. Taylerson Cheshire East Council (CEC) Planning Officer, raising concern that no response has been received to Wistaston Parish Council comments on the rebuttal made by Bower Edleston Architects and these are not shown on the comments section of CEC Planning Website.

Cllr. Millington reported that no response has been received from Mr. Taylerson regarding the above. The rebuttal has been removed from Cheshire East Council website and the application approved.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter be sent to the Cheshire East Council Acting Chief Executive Mr. Frank Jordan, expressing concern regarding the planning consultation process in respect of the above application.

**(ii) The following planning decisions have been notified from Cheshire East Council**

19/4921N Rear conservatory – 8 Nessina Grove.

**PERMIT**

19/5442N Alterations and extensions – 427 Crewe Road.

**PERMIT**

## **106 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Council considered the Chairman's Report.

**(i) PCSO Discussion**

The Chairman attended one of PCSO Bowman's Beat Meetings to discuss the following: -

- a. A monthly print out of the Police social media reports will be placed at the Church Hall and Memorial Hall for those who do not have access to the internet.
- b. Speed checks were requested on roads which are not frequently covered by the Community Speed Watch Group.
- c. Support was requested for the SID post in Broughton Lane which has been held up for nine months.
- d. A useful and constructive visit has been made to address Farmer Richardson's concerns raised at the January meeting of Wistaston Parish Council.

**(ii) Care Home - Park Drive.**

Residents have raised concerns of noise and disturbance at the Care Home in Park Drive. A further invite to attend a meeting of Wistaston Parish Council has been extended to the Home Manager.

**(iii) WSLA**

Concerns have been raised by residents regarding the volume and speed of vehicles attending the Eric Swan Sports Ground and parking in the access road to the field entrance. There is also widespread use of the Car Park by non-users which is adding to the problem.

Cllr. Kilkenny Chairman of WSLA reported that a sign stating 'No Unauthorised Parking' has been vandalised. Farmer Richardson's daughter will attend a meeting of WSLA to try to address concerns. The School and Nursery will be requested to remind parents not to park at the Eric Swan Sports Ground.

The Chairman's Report was received by Council.

## 107 CLERKS REPORT

The Council considered the Clerk's Report.

**(i) Misuse of Public Footpaths and Other Issues raised by a Resident**

Members received a copy email from a resident, regarding misuse of footpaths and other issues.

**RESOLVED:** That a response be sent to the resident stating the issues raised will be forwarded to PCSO Bowman for attention and Wistaston Sports and Leisure Association are trying to restrict parking at the Eric Swan Sports Ground.

**(ii) Wistaston Conservation Group Insurance**

Wistaston Conservation Group have received an insurance quote from Zurich in the sum of £354.50.

**RESOLVED:** That a grant of £400 be provided to Wistaston Conservation Group to cover the cost of insurance. (Funded from line 21 – Contribution to Voluntary / Other Bodies)

**(iii) Subsidence Claim at 103 Field Lane**

The Council's Insurers have strongly recommended that reduction work take place on two Oak trees at the rear of 103 Field Lane, to avoid litigation.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council's Insurers be requested to confirm whether a 25% crown reduction of two Oak trees at the rear of 103 Field Lane will be satisfactory. This is not an admission of liability.

**(iv) Office Equipment Renewal****a) Laptop**

**RESOLVED:** That the ACER Aspire 7 A715-74G 15.6" Intel® Core™ i5 Laptop - 512 GB SSD, from Curry's PC World be purchased at a cost of £799.00 with Office 365 Personal at a cost of £60 per year to provide the software and backup storage required.

**b) Telephone and Answer Machine**

**RESOLVED:** That a BT Advanced Z Cordless telephone and answer machine (single) be purchased at a cost of £39.99.

(Both above items funded from the Office Equipment Renewal Reserve Fund).

**(v) Fallen Branch from and Oak Tree in Old Covert**

The Council **ENDORSED** Mercia Tree Care removing a large branch away from the path, which had fallen from an Oak tree in Old Covert, at a cost of £100+VAT (Funded from Line 29–Env. Gen.)

**(vi) Civic Service**

**a)** Members were invited to the Worshipful the Mayor of Cheshire East, Councillor Barry Burkhill's Civic Service on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020, at St Mary's Church Congleton. The Chairman agreed to attend if available.

**b)** The Clerk and her husband were thanked for organising the refreshments at the Civic Service held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**(vii) Crewe Area Highways Meeting**

No one was available to attend the Crewe Area Highways Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020.

**(viii) Insurance Claim for Bench in Wistaston Green Road**

The uninsured motorist who damaged the Parish Council's bench in Wistaston Green Road, has paid all the costs involved, the excess in the sum of £100 plus interest of £10.44 has been refunded.

**(ix) Police Beat Report**

Members received a copy of the beat report for December from PCSO Bowman.

**(x) Register of Members Interests**

Members were reminded it is their responsibility to ensure the Register of Members Interests is kept up to date. If there are any changes in circumstances the register should be updated.

The Clerks Report was accepted by Council.

**108 FINANCE**

**RESOLVED:** That the Accounts be accepted and the amended Schedule of Accounts for payment February 2020 (as per attached totalling £2738.22) be approved.

**109 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES****(i) WSLA Verbal Report**

Cllr. Kilkenny reported that Members of WSLA Committee met with a Consultant regarding the drainage project and it is recommended they connect into the drains from Mary's Gate housing development, not the school. This is likely to be more expensive, they are awaiting the estimate of costs from the Consultant.

**(ii) Youth Club**

Cllr. R. Moore reported that the second meeting regarding setting up a Youth Club is being held on 26<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm. More volunteers are required.

**110 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

The Environmental Report from Cllrs. Millington and Scott was received by Council.

The Clerk has reported the rubbish at the rear of a property in Beech Drive to Guinness Partnership and PCSO Bowman will be requested to assist with this matter.

**111 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That the Press Public be excluded during consideration of Item 12 on the Agenda. Pursuant of Section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 7 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**112 TENDERS – GRASS / HEDGE CUTTING**

Three quotations were requested for grass and hedge cutting, from Ansa Environmental Services Ltd. John Harding and Countrywide Grounds Maintenance. Members received copies of the only quotation received from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance.

**RESOLVED: That**

1. The quotation from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance in the sum of £3965.00+VAT, be accepted to mow Joey the Swan, gang mow the football pitches, box mow the Sensory Garden area and mow college fields, fortnightly from end mid March to mid October 2020. To cut the hedge at Joey the Swan and strim back shrubbery on the roadside edge of Valley Wood, in July and September 2020, being the only quotation received from three requested. One cut to be carried out in the week prior to the Duck Race in September 2020. (Funded from Line 27 – Recreational Grounds with a virement of £65.00 from Line 13 – Contingency General)

2. Strimming work where mowing is not possible due to the topography of the land e.g. alongside the brook edge, the embankment at the side of the children's playground and the rear of the hedge to the roadside, be carried out by the Park Ranger for additional hours pay. These areas be strimmed 3 times per year–April, June and the week prior to the Duck Race in September 2020.

**The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.**

