

**MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2023 at 7.00pm
held at Rowton Methodist Church, Moor Lane, Rowton**

Present: Councillors Howard Hopwood
 Paul Shannon
 Glenys Harrison
 Melanie Fildes
 Bob Knight

In attendance Clerk Christine Davies
 One member of the public
 Cllr Stuart Parker (left at 7.15pm)

1 Apologies

None

2 Declaration of Interest

None

3 To consider the approval of the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 09 January 2023

Resolved: The Minutes were signed as a true and correct record by the Chair, Cllr Howard Hopwood

4 Matters Arising

None

5 Public Participation

Local resident is dismayed at the bright yellow colour of the newly installed weatherproof storage box on the Village Green. Councillors assured the resident that when the weather is more clement it will be painted green. The resident also suggested that evergreen rhododendron bushes be planted around it to further camouflage its location. Councillors agreed that October/November would be the ideal time for planting. The resident also commented on the poor broadband coverage where they live. Unfortunately, the area by the Village Green is the furthest away from the nearest Broadband 'green box'. It is envisaged that Ultrafast/FTTP (Fibre to the Premises) broadband will be available in Rowton from 2024. Cllr Stuart Parker said that the Council was in the process of formulating the budget for the next financial year and that from the middle of March the Council would be in Purdah for the upcoming local elections in May.

6 Councillor Vacancy

To date no interest received. "Becoming a Councillor" posted on website. Item to be brought to next meeting.

7 Highways

Dip in A41 by BP Garage: Work scheduled to take place. To be chased up.

Damaged Sign at junction of long Rowton Lane/A41: Work scheduled to take place. To be chased up.

Pavement to left of junction of long Rowton Lane/A41: Under investigation by Streetcare. To be chased up.

Build up of leaves against wall of Rowton Hall Hotel, long Rowton Lane: Under investigation by Streetcare. To be chased up.

8 Finance

a) The following expenditure for January and February was approved: -

Payee	Amount	Statute Power
CM Davies Dec Sal £219.20 + £24.50 Exp	£243.70	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Penny Lane Accountants – Payroll	£5.00	LGA 1972 Sec 112
CM Davies – January Salary	£260.30	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Penny Lane Accountants	£5.00	LGA 1972 Sec 112
Anthony Cartwright – 6 months web hosting	£74.88	LGA 1972 Sec 142
CM Davies – January Expenses	£37.49	LGA 1972 Sec 112

b) Bank balance as at 26 February 2023 = £7265.10

c) Cllr G Harrison signed and dated electronic cash book reconciliation sheet.

Clerk advised that salary increment due on 1.4.23 from SCP16 to SC17 is last increment in scale range.

9 Village Green

a) Weatherproof Box. Cllr Fildes to source a suitable lock. Once weather improves box to be painted green and later in the year look into possibility of planting bushes around the box.

c) Christmas Lights. Cllr Harrison informed that her husband has fixed the lights and they will remain in her possession until needed. Parish Councillors expressed their thanks for this.

c) Alternative venue re Carols event. Methodist Church does not allow alcohol on their premises and they do not think there is sufficient room for children to run around and change of venue would not perhaps have the same attraction as the Green.

10 Planning

The following Planning Applications received since last meeting:

23/00444/TPO – Touchstone House, Greenfields Lane, Rowton CH3 6AU
Remove diseased Red Oak Tree and Sorbus tree to be planted as replacement. No Comment to be submitted

23/00265/FUL – Chestnut Cottage, Rowton Lane, Rowton CH3 6AT
Change of use of residential garage into commercial office accommodation
and erection of new garden shed.

The following to be submitted: Rowton Parish Council does not support
commercial use in this location which is specifically residential.

11 Volunteer Litter Picking Group

Cllr Hopwood said he will organise a poster to be displayed on the
Noticeboards and website. Information will also be posted on the local
WhatsApp group and the Facebook page of Christleton, Rowton &
Waverton (Local Community Forum).

12 Website

It was decided against creating a functionality link for Facebook users.
Instead, information directing Facebook users to the Christleton, Rowton &
Waverton (Local Community Forum) to be inserted on the home page of
the website. Cllr Harrison, as a local resident, will upload Rowton Parish
Council information onto the Forum.

Action: Clerk to arrange insertion on Home page of website.

13 King Charles III Coronation

Offer of help received from local resident, Huw Salmon, who helped
organise a local celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee last year.
Clerk and Cllr Fildes to meet with Huw to discuss arrangements for Picnic
on the Green to be held on Monday 8th May from 1pm-5pm. Cllr Fildes
offered to carry out a Risk Assessment for the event. Quotation received of
£28 for printing of 200 colour A4 flyers. Flyers to be distributed w/c 3/4/23.
Clerk to submit application to request £100 from Cllr Parker's member's
budget fund.

14 Items for Discussion/Consideration

None

15 Information Correspondence

None

16 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 9 May at 7.30pm