

MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
MONDAY 1 AUGUST at 7.00pm
held at Rowton Methodist Church, Moor Lane, Rowton

Present: Councillors Howard Hopwood
 Bob Knight
 Paul Shannon
 Glenys Harrison

In attendance Clerk Christine Davies
 PCSOs Linda Bailey and Debbie Netherton
 Cllr Stuart Parker

1 Apologies

Cllr Peter Thomas (work) and Cllr Melanie Fildes (holiday)

2 Declaration of Interest

None.

3 To consider the approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 16 May 2022

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

4 To consider the approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16 May 2022

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

5 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

None

6 Public Participation

Cllr Stuart Parker did not have anything to report as the Council is on holiday for August. Cllr Parker confirmed that the Parish Council could apply to his Member's Budget re a community event. PCSOs Linda Bailey and Debbie Netherton said that now it is the school holidays they are making sure that the parks and play areas are being used safely. The July monthly bulletin has been sent out to all Parish Councils in Chester Villages. Cllr Harrison raised the issue of released young offenders using aggressive behaviour in selling their wares door-to-door. PCSO Linda Bailey advised not to engage with or buy products from door-to-door vendors.

7 Highways and Footpaths

Moor Lane Drainage Issues – This is with regard to the proposed development of a two-storey block of four one-bedroom apartments. United Utilities (UU) responded to our issues of concern relating to drainage infrastructure, technical assessment and surface water drainage. It was agreed that UU's response to surface water drainage needed to be brought to the attention of Planning.

Action: Clerk to forward UU's response to Planning Department

Dip in A41 by BP Garage – Awaiting update from Highways. To be chased up.

Footpath near Rowton Hall – The request by local resident to install dog gate/stile is outside the remit of the Parish Council. This is the responsibility of the Local Authority, CWaC.

Action: Clerk to forward website link re public rights of way enquiries.

8 Finance

The following retrospective expenditure for June and July was approved:

1	Amount	Online Payment	Statute Power
Zurich Municipal – Annual Insurance	£353.51	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 140
CM Davies – May Sal £202.20+£15.99 Exp	£219.19	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 112
ChALC – Induction Training Cllr Fildes	£25.00	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Penny Lane Accountants – Payroll	£5.00	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Waverton PC – Donation re Queens Platinum Jubilee	£125.00	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Cheshire Community Action – Annual Sub	£20.00	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
CM Davies – June Sal £234.95 + £19.48 Exp	£254.43	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 112
CM Davies re purchase of filing cabinet	£187.20	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
CM Davies re honorarium to Fil Prevc	£23.00	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Penny Lane Accountants – Payroll	£5.00	OP	LGA 1972 Sec 111
Bank Balance as at 05/07/2022	£10,986.14		

Glenys Harrison verified and signed Electronic Cash Book reconciliation.

The Chair asked for item 16 to be brought forward.

16 Clerk's Homeworking Expenses

Since 2013 Clerk has been paid £1.00 per week to cover, heating, lighting and electricity. The current HMRC tax free working from home allowance is £6 per week. It was agreed that as energy costs have increased substantially that the home allowance be increased accordingly.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to increase the amount to £5.00 per week.

9 Planning

To receive following Planning Applications:

22/02192/FUL: Chestnut Cottage, Rowton Lane CH3 6AT – Erection of single storey side and two storey rear extension. No Comment to be submitted

22/02212/FUL: Meadowbank, Whitchurch Road, CH3 6AF – Replacement dwelling. No Comment to be submitted

22/02182/FUL: Rowton Poplars Hotel, Whitchurch Road, CH3 6AF – Change of use of land to accommodate outside dining, erection of huts and tent structures (retrospective). No Comment to be submitted.

To receive following decisions:

21/04283/FUL: Lyncroft, Greenfield Lane CH3 6AU – Demolition of existing single storey rear outbuildings, erection of two storey rear, single storey side and front extension. Approved

22/00009/FUL: Moor Cottage, Moor Lane CH3 7QW – Single and rear two storey extension and demolition of and erection of replacement ancillary building. Approved.

10 Weatherproof Storage Box

No update available as Cllr Peter Thomas away due to work commitment. It was agreed that a decision be made at next meeting.

11 Litter Picking Volunteer Group

This is dependent on the installation of the storage box so no action can be taken. Local resident reported that dog fouling penalty notices have been taken off street light/traffic poles on Rowton Lane. Cllr Harrison to obtain stick on notices from the Dog Warden.

12 Village Green

Cllr Paul Shannon to obtain quotes for grass cutting for next meeting.

13 Noticeboard – Rowton Hall

Due to its age and condition it was considered that refurbishment was not an option and therefore a suitable replacement be found.

Action: Clerk to obtain quotes

14 Commemoration of Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Various suggestions were submitted as a permanent memorial of this event. An appropriate inscribed plaque was considered suitable to be affixed to the Memorial Stone on the Village Green.

Resolved: Inscribed brass plaque to be purchased at cost of approx. £45

Action: Clerk to action

15 Community Event

A previous historical walk led by David Cummings in 2018 had been very successful. It was agreed that a similar event would be well received and to find out if and when Mr Cummings would be agreeable to lead such an event.

Action: Clerk to contact David Cummings

17 Items for Discussion/Consideration

Japanese Knotweed to be included as agenda item for next meeting.

18 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 12 September 2022 at 7pm.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm