

CHURCH MINSHULL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 07 MAY 2024

PRESENT:

Cllr Bob Schiller (Chair), Cllr Tim Boote, Cllr Brian Charlesworth, Cllr Sharon Kynaston and Cllr Nigel Lewis.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Borough Cllr Becky Posnett.

24/001 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Cllr Schiller be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.

24/002 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Cllr Lewis be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.

24/003 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Smith.

24/004 CO-OPTION

RESOLVED – that Sharon Kynaston be co-opted as a Member of the Parish Council. Cllr Kynaston then signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

24/005 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

24/006 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 05 MARCH 2024

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a true and correct record.

24/007 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Posnett provided an update on a number of Borough Council matters. With regards the replacement of the dog waste bin on Eachus Lane, the Parish Council would have to provide this and the Clerk was asked to proceed with the order. There was a general discussion about inconsiderate dog owners and it was suggested that articles encouraging owners to clean up after their dogs be included on the website and the Insight magazine.

The resurfacing and relining of Over Road was scheduled for sometime between July and September, although concern was expressed that this may not be soon enough given the ongoing damage to the road surface.

Cllr Posnett would be liaising with the owners of Home Farm Park regarding the provision of street lighting in the vicinity of the entrance as the Borough Council had refused to replace the broken streetlight, which had been removed.

24/008 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None present.

24/009 FLOODING AND RIVER POLLUTION

Cllr Schiller agreed to liaise with the 'Save the River Weaver' Group to ascertain the benefits of becoming involved with the group.

24/010 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Councillors, once again, discussed the poor condition of road surfaces across the area. The Clerk was asked to invite the new Police and Crime Commissioner to the next meeting, in order to discuss traffic issues in particular.

A complaint regarding an obstructed public right of way would be reported to Cheshire East Council.

24/011 VILLAGE HALL REDEVELOPMENT

It was suggested that a professional fundraiser may be able to assist in the next phase of the redevelopment.

24/012 PLANNING

No applications for consideration.

24/013 VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Cllr Lewis advised that revisions were being made to the Parish Council pages on the website.

24/014 CLIMATE CHANGE

Councillors supported the information leaflet that had been drafted by Cllr Dobson and considered the plans to plant wildflower seeds in various locations to be highly beneficial.

24/015 POLICE CLUSTER MEETING

It was noted that this would be held on Wednesday 05 June, commencing at 7.30pm, at the Bunbury Pavilion. Cllrs Charlesworth and Schiller agreed to attend.

24/016 FINANCE REPORT

1) Internal Audit Report

The Internal Audit report concluded the 'On the basis of the internal audit work carried out, which was limited to the tests indicated in the report, in our view the council's system of internal controls is in place, adequate for the purpose intended and effective. There was a recommendation that 'invoices should be secured and retained for all council transactions', which this was supported by the Council.

RESOLVED – that the internal audit report be approved and the response to the recommendation be noted.

2) Annual Governance Statement 2023/24

The Council considered the Annual Governance Statement, which outlined the governance requirements for the Council. The Internal Audit report had confirmed that the Parish Council had robust financial controls in place, therefore, the Council could identify that it was compliant with all requirements.

RESOLVED – That the Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk accordingly.

3) Accounting Statement 2023/24

The Accounting Statement 2023/24 and the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Balance Sheet for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 were received by the Council. These detailed the Council's income and expenditure during the financial year. The Council's opening balance as at 1 April 2022 was £8,838 and its closing balance on 31 March 2024 was £4,402.

RESOLVED – that the accounting statement for 2023/24 be approved and the Chairman be authorised to sign the Statement accordingly.

4) Exemption from Limited Assurance Review

As the Council's income and expenditure were both less than £25,000, the Council could declare itself exempt from a limited assurance review by the external auditor. All of the relevant documentation still required completion and publication on the Council's website.

RESOLVED – that the Council exempts itself from the requirement for the external auditor to undertake a limited assurance review.

5) Payments

RESOLVED – that the following payments be approved:

Payee	Reason	Total	VAT	Net
Pryce Jones *	Website (monthly)	50.00		50.00
Mark Robinson *	Salary (monthly)	155.53		155.53
Chalc	Affiliation	139.46		139.46
JDH Business Services	Internal Audit	305.40	50.90	254.50
Zurich Insurance	Insurance	206.05		206.05
Mark Robinson	Re-imbursements	18.44		18.44

* Ratification

24/017 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 02 July 2024 at the Village Hall.