

WARDLE PARISH COUNCIL

17th June 2024

Commenced: 7.35 pm

Terminated: 9.00 pm

Present: Councillor Keith Roden (Chair)
Councillors James Jennings, Liz Leftwick, Angela Nelson, Ann Welch and John Wright
Cheshire East Council, Councillor Becky Posnett

Muna Clough – Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence at this meeting.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 29th April 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to correction of names.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members of the Parish Council.

4. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Members received the following update from Councillor Posnett:-

- The Household Waste Review and the Libraries Review had been postponed, due to a recent poor OFSTED review of Children and Families. Consequently, the Directors of this Department were now absent from work;
- The Environment and Communities Department was being sued due to a falling tree causing a fatality. The Council was unable to insure against such an event and the monies would have to be taken out of public funds. The Director responsible for the Department was now absent from work.
- Councillor Posnett had contacted Guinness over a tenant on Wardle Avenue due to the state of the garden.
- She would also contact Guinness regarding the poor condition of Wardle bus stop.
- The condition of the bus stop at Baileys Cheese Factory was known to Cheshire East Council.
- There was significant ongoing work at Baileys Cheese Factory to resolve historic flooding. Much progress had taken place, but there was still around 6 weeks remaining on project. The project involved the coordination of five agencies.
- Work was continuing at Calveley Primary School regarding the fitting of a ground source heat pump. The significant disruption, particularly for the children, was noted.
- Members noted that there were no solar panels installed on the new buildings at Cheshire Green Industrial Estate.
- Discussions ensued regarding the ongoing debt of Cheshire East Council.
- Alpraham and Calveley Community Council had finally received the keys to the new Village Hall. There would be an official opening in September.
- The plants in the planters on Wardle Avenue had been stolen. A local resident had taken on responsibility for maintaining the planters and was very upset.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

5. BANK ACCOUNT

The Clerk advised that she was attempting to transfer the correspondence details on the account to her address.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

6. DEFIBRILLATOR

RESOLVED

- (i) That retrospective approval be given to the purchase of a defibrillator from Severnside Defibs, in the sum of £2226.00 to include fitting, a box and training.
- (ii) That the Chair to identify businesses on Cheshire Green Industrial Estate so that the Clerk can make contact and ask for a donation.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCE 2024-2025

Members considered the following report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:-

(i) Year End Accounts for 2023-2024

Members noted that the balances in the accounts at the 31st March 2024 were as follows:-

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Community Account: | £3,055.02 |
| Business Money Manager: | £1,270.01 |
| Balance: | £4,325.03 |

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

(ii) Payment of Invoices and Reimbursements

Members noted that since 31st March 2024, the following payments *should* have been transacted from the Community Account however, as the Clerk did not have the up to date Statement, she was unable to confirm these transactions):-

| DETAILS | RECEIPTS | PAYMENTS |
|--|----------|----------|
| Cheshire East - Precept | £750.00 | |
| I Brooks – Pinfold Maintenance | | £400.00 |
| A Latham - Lengthsman | | £275.00 |
| Calveley Church – Room Hire for April 2024 | | £20.00 |
| Clear Councils – Annual Insurance Premium | | £611.87 |

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

(iii) Approval of Invoice

RESOLVED

That the following payment be approved:-

| DETAILS | PAYMENTS |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Severnside Defibrillators | £2,226.00 |

(iv) Budget Expenditure to 17th June 2024

RESOLVED

That the Budget Head expenditure to 17th June 2024, (including payment for the defibrillator) as detailed below be approved:-

| Budget Head | Total | Budget Allocated | % Difference | £ Difference |
|-----------------|---------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Office Expenses | £0.00 | £780.00 | 0.00% | £780.00 |
| Room Hire | £20.00 | £80.00 | 25.00% | £60.00 |
| Insurance | £611.87 | £620.00 | 98.69% | £8.13 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Community Projects | £2,226.00 | £2,000.00 | 111.30% | -£226.00 |
| Lengthsman | £275.00 | £1,100.00 | 25.00% | £825.00 |
| Bank Charges | £0.00 | £72.00 | 0.00% | £72.00 |
| Pinfold Maintenance | £400.00 | £1,000.00 | £0.40 | £600.00 |
| | £3,532.87 | £5,652.00 | | £2,119.13 |

Members were reminded that the total funds available at 17th June 2024 were £2,217.16 (including reserves). The second Precept instalment of £750.00 was due in September. There should be a VAT refund in the sum of £371.00

(v) Bank Reconciliation as at 10th June 2024

RESOLVED

That the following Bank Reconciliation as at 10th June 2024 be approved:-

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Bank Reconciliation 10th June 2024 | |
| WARDLE PARISH COUNCIL | |
| Financial year ending 31 March 2025 | |
| Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO | |
| Balance per bank statements as at 11th March 2024 | £ |
| Current Account (61011375) | £3,055.02 |
| Reserve Account | £1,270.01 |
| Less: any unrepresented cheques | £3,532.87 |
| Add: any unbanked cash | £750.00 |
| Net bank balances as at 31st March 2024 | £1,542.16 |
| The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows | |
| CASH BOOK | |
| Opening Balance Current at 1st April 2024 | £3,055.02 |
| Opening Balance Reserve at 1st April 2024 | £1,270.01 |
| Add: Receipts in the year | £750.00 |
| Less: Payments in the year | £3,532.87 |
| Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above | £1,542.16 |

8. DATES OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED

That the following meeting dates for 2024-2025 be approved:-

Monday, 16th September 2024

Monday, 16th December 2024

Monday, 10th March 2025

9. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that the following item of business required consideration as a matter of urgency.

10. ODOUR FROM FACTORY AT CHESHIRE GREEN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

The Chair reported that there was a strong odour being emitted at a factory on the Cheshire Green Industrial Estate.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk to notify Cheshire East Environmental Health.