

MERE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

MONDAY 15th MAY, 2023, at 8.00PM

VENUE: THE MERE GOLF RESORT AND SPA

1 PRESENT

*Cllr C Hough, Cllr R Nassab, Cllr A Newnes, Cllr A Richards and Cllr J Wright (In The Chair)
PC John Milman (left the meeting at 8:45pm)
PCSO C Paulo (left the meeting at 8:45pm)
Two members of the public*

2 APOLOGIES

Cllr N Ineson

3 MINUTES

*The minutes of the Mere Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th March were **proposed by** Cllr Newnes and **seconded by** Cllr Wright to be a true record. **All agreed.***

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

*Cllr Wright declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** regarding **Dobb Lane**.
Cllr Wright declared a **Personal Interest** for **Hoo Green Lane**.
Cllr Wright declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary interest** regarding **HS2**.
Cllr Richards declared a **Personal Interest** regarding **HS2 and Winterbottom Lane**.
Cllr Hough declared a **Personal Interest** regarding **HS2 and Hoo Green Lane***

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was agreed all matters arising from previous minutes are covered under this meetings agenda headings.

6 CASUAL VACANCIES

There are two casual vacancies on the council after the Election on the 4th May. If these are not filled by co-option within 35 days then the usual procedure of informing Cheshire East Council applies.

7 POLICE REPORT

PC John Milman gave a report including the following:

- *There were thirty-six registered incidents for the parish of Mere in April on the police system.*
- *Four car accidents reported.*
- *Mereside Road is a problem at the moment with regards to speeding. PCSO Paulo recorded 104 speeding vehicles within a 35 minute period.*

As requested at the previous Mere Parish Council meeting the Clerk has written to the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Dwyer asking if we can have a more detailed list of criminal activities when we make such a request to PC Milman. A reply has been received dated 12th May from the Crime Commissioners PA stating that the Constabulary will be making contact with the clerk directly.

8 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

*Now that we have a new council Cllr Wright **proposed** Cllr Newnes, **seconded by** Cllr Hough to be the council's representative both on the Airport Users Advisory Group and the Technical Advisory Group.*

9 **HS2**

Mr Nigel Hennerley very kindly stepped in to present Mere Parish Council's petition at parliament. He had intended to attend this evenings meeting but as it clashed with High Legh Parish council it was not possible. It was agreed to invite him to attend the July meeting. ACTION: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).

10 **B5569**

Nothing to report

11 **SPEEDING IN MERE**

A message has been received from PCSO Chloe Shore confirming that the speed limit on the B5569 between Mere Lights and the Swan is 30mph.

The Clerk was asked to write to Simon Skates at Cheshire East asking where are the flashing speed signs he promised us? ACTION: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).

*Cllr Hough **proposed** Mere Parish Council write to Cheshire East Council asking for the speed limit to be reduced on Hoo Green Lane. **Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed.***

ACTION: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).

Cllr Newnes will ask Cllr Parkinson if the Cheshire East Council policy has changed with regards to flashing signs on the highway? ACTION: Cllr Newnes.

12 **WINTERBOTOM LANE AND HOO GREEN LANE**

Nothing to report.

13 **DOBB LANE**

Application for the lane to be made a restricted by-way.

*Cllr Newnes **proposed** this item be carried over to the next meeting. **Seconded by Cllr Nassab.***

14 **FIREWORKS EVENT – 4TH NOVEMBER**

The Clerk has obtained quotes for a fireworks display on the 4th November as follows:

***Nemisis Firework** - £2750 plus VAT.*

***Fireworks International** - £4500 plus VAT*

***Atom** – no response.*

***Lightech Sound and Light** - £2925 plus VAT*

*Cllr Newnes **proposed** that the council stay with its original decision of accepting Lightech Sound and Light quote. **Seconded by Cllr Nassab. All agreed.***

The Clerk has contacted Tabley Parish Council asking for confirmation in writing that they are willing to pay half of the costs incurred to arrange this event. A reply has been received on the 11th May from the Tabley Parish Council Clerk stating that in principle Tabley Parish Council has agreed to support the event where they can. A quote from their last meetings minutes is as follows:

“7.1.1 Resolved that Tabley Parish Council would support some kind of event and Cllr Greenway will report back to Mere Parish Council and going forward and request that a Committee be formed.”

Tabley Parish Council Clerk also stated that Tabley Parish Council have a meeting on the 15th May after which she will feed back to us how exactly Tabley Parish Council is prepared to support our event.

15 **MERE PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE AND FACEBOOK**

The Mere Parish Council social media policy document was presented to the council.

*Cllr Wright **proposed** it be adopted by the council. **Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed.***

16 **TATTON PARK**

This item to be carried over to the next meeting as Cllr Ineson is not present to give an update on the progression of an e-mail group regarding HS2.

17 KINGS CORONATION

Cllr Newnes reported that the event held at Mere and Tabley Community Club had been a great success.

The suggestion for Mere Parish Council purchasing a bench to be located near the AA Box at Mere Lights to be discussed further at the next meeting.

*The Clerk to make enquiries with Tatton Estate as to whether they will grant permission for a bench to sited here. **ACTION:** KJ Whitlow (Clerk).*

18 PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS

- i. *There have been no **new planning applications**, one notification of Lawful Commencement of Planning, eight Decision Notices and two notifications of planning withdrawal received since the last Mere Parish Council meeting. Details are recorded in the Planning Book.*

19 RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICERS REPORT

- i. *The total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is £10980.10 of which **£170.43** belongs to the **Archive Fund** and **£3911.37** is the **CIL money** (has to be spent within 5 years – starting from 2021).*
- ii. *Paid into the account on the 3rd April 2023 the sum of £4500.00 which is the half year precept.*
- iii. *Mere Parish Council accounts will be sent to the internal auditor JDH Business Services Ltd after this meeting.*
- iv. *The Clerk is currently on SCP 23 salary grade. According to NALC the hourly rate was raised from £14.67 to £15.67 and according to NALC should be back dated to the 1st April 2022. However, the Clerk is happy for it to take effect from the 1st April 2023 if the council agrees.
Cllr Wright **proposed** that the new hourly rate starts from the 1st April 2023. **Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed.***
- v. *Cheque Signatures. We should have three people authorised to sign cheques although only two signatures are required on each cheque. At the moment it is the Clerk and the Chairman (Cllr Wright) who are authorised. The Clerk will arrange for the Deputy Chairman's name to be added to the list.*

20 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- i. *The Clerk for hours during January, February and March 2023 £903.59
Cheque made payable to
"Kathryn J Whitlow"
Cheque No: 100890*
- ii. *PAYE £226.00
This has already been paid as it had to be with HMRC by the 22nd April
Cheque made payable to
"HM Revenue and Customs Only 120PD00337552"
Cheque No: 100889*
- iii. *Alan Newnes £050.50
For the raffle prizes bought for the Kings Coronation Party raffle.
Cheque made payable to
"Alan Newnes"
Cheque No: 100891*

- iv. Council insurance due for renewal on the 1st June 2023. £436.00
 Cheque made payable to
 "BHIB Ltd"
 Cheque No: 100892
- v. ChALC membership invoice for 2023-24 £206.09
 Cheque made payable to
 "Cheshire Association Of Local Councils"
 Cheque No: 100893
- vi. Clerk's end of year expenses £458.86
 Cheque made payable to
 "KJ Whitlow"
 Cheque No: 100894

Cllr Newnes **proposed** that the above cheques be paid. **Seconded** by Cllr Wright.
All agreed.

21 **BUDGET**

- i. Once the above payments have been made it will leave **£8699.06** in the cheque account.
- ii. Expected payments to be made at the next meeting in July are as follows:
- | | |
|--|---------|
| Clerk | £950.00 |
| PAYE | £250.00 |
| A and G Blackburn (grass mowing at
Tabley Church) | £120.00 |
| Pay Roll | £081.00 |
| Internal Auditor | £270.00 |

TOTAL £1671.00

This means we will have approximately **£7028.06** in the cheque account, minus the CIL and the Archive money leaves £2946.26 available to spend by the beginning of July 2023.

22 **NEW BUSINESS**

- i. **Information bulletin to Changes to Bus Service** – E-mail from Richard Hibbert, Head of Strategic Transport and Parking about bus routes. *Noted.*
- ii. **DLUHC Consultation On Infrastructure Levy** – *Noted.*
- iii. **Mere Parish Council meeting venue** – Notice has been received from Mere Golf Resort and Spa that they are due to close for the Multi Pound Investments work to be completed. Meaning Mere Parish Council will not be able to hold its meetings there from October. At the current time they do not have a completion date. It was agreed to hold the council meetings at Mere and Tabley Community Club. The Clerk is currently waiting to hear from them regarding availability.

23 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Monday 10th July, 2023 starting at 7:45pm. Venue The Mere Golf Resort and Spa, Mere.
 The meeting dates for the remainder of 2023 have been booked as follows:
 Monday 11th September
 Monday 16th October
 Monday 4th December

24 **ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS**

- i. *Cllr Richards asked for the layout of the agenda to be reviewed.*
- ii. *Cllr Hough enquired about forming sub-committees*

The meeting closed at approximately 10.05pm

Signed: *Date:*