



# HALE PARISH COUNCIL

## OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



### MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HALE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Williams, Cllr Healey, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Wright, Cllr Spargo, Cllr Cleary

In attendance: The Clerk and 3 Members of the public were present

1. **Apologies** – Cllr McNamara, Cllr Anderson, and Cllr Brown registered their apologies.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of Interest.

3. **Public Participation** – To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation

4. **Minutes** –

i/ Cllr Trevaskis proposed that the minutes for Hale Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 20th September 2021 should be approved as a true record. Cllr Williams seconded the proposal.

**The Motion was approved**

5. **Matters Arising From previous Parish Council Meetings** – The actions taken and an update of progress on outstanding matters was noted and accepted.

i/ **Welcome Back Fund** – It was resolved that the The Clerk will work in conjunction with the Chairman to submit proposals to Halton BC for a number village initiatives which will fall within the scope of the Welcome Back Fund.

i. **Improved literature & Map** – It was agreed that an updated leaflet or leaflets should be considered with the emphasis upon informing visitors & tourists who come to the village. Some previous literature was offered for review and it was suggested that the services of a “Wayfarer” map designer might be considered. The Clerk was asked to inform ward councillors of the proposals and it was noted that Councillor Wharton has some responsibility for Tourism & Regeneration within his remit.

Serious consideration should be given to highlighting preferred parking areas and walking routes which would avoid farming fields and residents' properties.

Literature which is approved and produced could be available in the church, local pubs & businesses such as the restaurant, post office & village shop.

- ii. **Litter Bins** - to be positioned in appropriate positions around the village and Mersey way
- iii. **Market Stall Equipment** - to be used for events such as a Christmas/Easter Market or Artisan food markets

It was noted that any installations should be of a temporary nature to qualify for funding and that any further Covid-19 restrictions could impact on proposals and the longevity of the funding availability.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Spargo

**The Motion was approved**

- 6. **Ward Councillors Report** – Cllr Wharton contacted the Clerk and informed him that there was nothing of particular interest to report this month.
- 7. **Payments** – A proposal by Cllr Wright to accept all payments made between 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021 as recorded in the cash book record which has been reconciled against the Bank statements to these dates, all payments having been made under Financial Regulation 6.4 as detailed was received and seconded by Cllr Spargo

**The Motion was approved**

- 8. **Accounts** – Approval of the accounts presented by the Clerk was deferred until the November meeting when clarification on certain matters will be available.

**The Motion was deferred until November 2021**

- 9. **Insurance Renewal** – Cllr Trevaskis proposed that the Clerk should seek clarification about certain aspects of the revised Insurance policy details (i.e. there should not be an increase in the premium over the term of the policy schedule) and have delegated authority to commit to the 3 year option which is significantly better in terms of cost. The Clerk will ensure that cover is “like for like” and includes all relevant risks. Cover for regalia which is not currently included in the renewal will be considered with a view to inclusion. Cllr Wright seconded the proposal

**The Motion was approved**

**10. Halloween Event** – It was noted that Hale Parish Council will stage a Halloween event in the Village Hall on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The event will be advertised on social media but it was noted that further promotion is not necessary as the number of residents wishing to attend is very good and approaching maximum limits.

**11. Civic Service** – It was noted that the proposed date of 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022 for the Civic Service clashes with the nationally recognised celebration of Mothers Day. A number of members believe that this might impact negatively on attendance numbers and the number of positive responses from dignitaries and local groups. On that basis it was agreed that the Clerk should enquire with The Vicar, The Lord Mayor, The Guildswomen and the Freemen in the first instance to establish whether the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022 will be more appropriate.

Cllr Spargo agreed to co-ordinate all catering requirements and Cllr Mitchell agreed to address any administrative requirements provided that the title of the Civic Service remains as “Civic Service and Guildswomen Sunday”.

It was agreed that the event should be fully inclusive and should acknowledge all organisations within the Village.

It was resolved that The Clerk will contact the Guildswomen to explain that any changes to previous and current arrangements have been made solely in an effort to make the Service fully inclusive. The Chairman explained that he felt that a lot of misinformation had been offered previously and that a working group including Cllrs Spargo, Trevaskis, Wright, Williams and Mitchell should be established for this Civic Service.

The Chairman insisted that if any Members of the Public aren't happy with provisions for the Civic Service the Parish Council are willing to listen and ultimately to change the schedule by contacting The Clerk if appropriate.

The proposals were submitted by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Spargo

**The Motion was approved**

**12. Macmillan Coffee Morning** – It was resolved that a donation of £50 be made to cover expenses incurred in the staging of the Coffee morning held by a local resident in support of the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. It was noted that a local resident had covered the cost of Village Hall hire by way of a donation.

Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Spargo

**The Motion was approved**

**13. Bank Signatories** – It was resolved that a time limit of 36hrs should be adopted for bank signatories on the Parish Council Unity bank account to approve payments submitted for payment by the Clerk. If any signatory is not able to approve payment within the 36hr

time scale they should inform the Clerk so that alternative arrangements can be made to ensure all payments are prompt.

The Chairman asked to be removed as a signatory and the list of current signatories was amended to include Cllr's Cleary, Wright, Spargo, McNamara and Mitchell.

Proposed by Cllrs Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Cleary

**The Motion was approved**

- 14. Artillery Gun** – It was resolved that the Clerk should work in conjunction with Cllr Cleary to establish a site plan for the siting of the Fawcett Gun currently being renovated by the Lord Mayor. Cllr Cleary agreed to liaise with Hale Royal British Legion and share recommendations with the Clerk to establish a scope of works. Consideration should be made to the securing of the existing Gun, its siting on a possible hard standing and the arrangements for this proposed installation.

It was agreed that the siting of this asset on private land should not be considered.

**This Item was deferred pending consultation with HRBL**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30pm