



# HALE PARISH COUNCIL

## OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HALE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 12th MAY 2022 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Spargo, Cllr Cleary, Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Brown, Cllr McNamara Cllr Williams, Cllr King, Cllr Healey

In attendance: The Clerk and twenty six members of public were also present

- 1. Election of Chairman** – The Chairman used his casting vote in a tied vote to confirm his re-election as Chairman for 2022-2023. He is confident that he can continue to fulfill the role competently and looks forward to continuing his work for the benefit of Hale Village. He proposed that Cllr Mitchell should be considered for the position of Vice-Chairman.
- 2. Election of Vice - Chairman** – There were 3 candidates proposed for the position of Vice-Chairman. Cllr Mitchell was proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Spargo. She received an absolute majority and was duly elected to the position.
- 3. Apologies** – No apologies were received by the Clerk
- 4. Declarations of Interest** – No declarations of interest were recorded by the Clerk
- 5. Minutes** – Cllr Trevaskis proposed that the Minutes of Hale Parish Council Ordinary meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 should be approved as a true record with two minor amendments. Cllr Spargo seconded the proposal.

**The Motion was approved**

**Adjournment** – The Chairman proposed an adjournment of the meeting for a period of public participation. This was seconded by Cllr Spargo

- i.** Cllr Spargo gave an update on the progress of the painting of Hale Lighthouse. He gave it as an example of what can be achieved when different groups within the Village pull together and work for the benefit of everyone. This was supported by another local resident who cited the Village ladies who held an afternoon Tea event and raised £1000+ as another instance.
- ii.** A member of Public from the Baileys Lane area made an emotional representation which identified a perceived lack of interest by Hale Parish Council in the area in and around Baileys Lane. She felt that there is a lack of interest at that end of the Village which she feels is “cut off” and in need of attention from the PC. She explained that she felt that some of the trees in the area needed urgent attention to insure against injury in the overgrowth. She also mentioned that Speeding, large dog control and dog waste management are a constant problem and are very disturbing for residents.  
The chairman agreed with the resident and agreed to focus more attention on the area in question but explained that unfortunately many the issues of concern which have been identified here are in genera the responsibility of the Higher Tier authority and that it might be more appropriate for the resident in question to contact Halton Borough Council to seek a favourable outcome. He went on to identify the speeding Issues as matters for the local Police Authorities but along with Cllr McNamara proposed that Hale PC might be inclined to explore the possibility of funding a series of appropriate signs.
- iii.** The Lord Mayor gave thanks for the help and assistance which local people had offered in the run up to the Platinum Jubilee Years opening events. He made a special note of the help that Peter Doyle who has recently passed away has made and three other residents were also singled out for praise. It was also noted that all elements of the total project including the renovation and installation of the cannon at Hale Village Hall, the Lighthouse Road repair, and the replacement of the lighthouse window are now nearing completion.

**Reconvene** - The Chairman proposed to reconvene the meeting which was seconded by Cllr Spargo

- 6. Standing Orders** – The previous standing Orders (adopted on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021) were re-adopted with the following amendments.
- i. The index was amended to reflect the true content of the standing orders following the removal of a previous item.
  - ii. Item 11 Rules of Debate – Amendment to item dd) Will now read “After discussion, The Chairman shall.....etc”
  - iii. Code of Conduct Sec 3 Item c) – Will be amended to read as follows: -  
  
C) Councillors should not get involved in the day to day operational management of services. Councillors must not contact contractors of the Council, unless it is in writing and the proper officer is copied in. Councillors are only permitted to contact advisory bodies such as Chalc, Nalc, ACRE, SLCC, ICO, CCA Equally, Officers should not get involved in politics.

The Standing orders with the relevant amendments were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Cleary. In a named vote Cllrs Trevaskis, Spargo, Williams, McNamara, Healey, King, Cleary, Anderson and Brown were in favour of the motion. Cllr Mitchell was against.

**The Motion was approved**

- 7. Financial Regulations** – It was proposed by Cllr Trevaskis that the previous Financial Regulations (adopted on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021) should be approved and re-adopted with the following amendment.
- i. Amendment to the footnote 2 under Item 12  
  
“**Payments under Contracts for building or other construction works**”  
Due to a change in the thresholds of these contract limits the amounts have been amended.

Cllr Spargo seconded the motion and in a named vote Cllrs Trevaskis, Spargo, Williams, McNamara, Healey, and Anderson were in favour of the motion. Cllrs Mitchell, King and Brown were against. There was one abstention

**The Motion was approved**

- 8. Risk Management Scheme** - The previous Risk Management Scheme (adopted on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021) was re-adopted without amendment.

Proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr McNamara

**The Motion was approved**

- 9. Code of Conduct** – The new “model” Code of Conduct for Councillors produced by the Local Government Association was adopted without amendment.

The Clerk will contact Chalc regarding the availability of training for new councillors and refresher sessions for existing members and will arrange sessions where appropriate.

Proposed by Cllr Trevaskis and seconded by Cllr Williams

**The Motion was approved**

- 10. Personnel Committee** – It was proposed by Cllr Trevaskis that the Personnel Committee shall consist of the following Members

Cllr Cleary, Cllr Williams, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Anderson, Cllr McNamara, Cllr Trevaskis and that the current Terms of Reference adopted on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 should be re-adopted with no amendments

The Clerk will contact Chalc regarding the availability of Human Resources training for councillors and will arrange sessions where appropriate.

Cllr McNamara seconded the motion.

**The Motion was approved**

**10a. Committee's**

**i. Wellbeing Committee**

A proposal by Cllr Trevaskis under Standing Order 10(j) to appoint a committee or sub-committee without notice was seconded by Cllr Spargo.

To re-assign the current wellbeing working group as a Wellbeing Committee

Members are Cllr McNamara, Cllr Williams, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Trevaskis (5)

Terms of reference were approved at the Parish Council Meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> 2022

**ii. Finance Committee**

A proposal by Cllr Mitchell under Standing Order 10(j) to appoint a committee or sub-committee without notice was seconded by Cllr Cleary.

Members are Cllr Cleary, Cllr King, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Spargo, Cllr Brown (5) Terms of reference were read out at the Parish Council Meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> 2022

The Clerk will contact Chalc regarding the availability of Financial training for councillors and will arrange sessions where appropriate.

**11. Dates for Meetings 2022 - 2023** – It was proposed by Cllr Mitchell that the following dates be accepted for future Parish Council Meetings. The dates were seconded by Cllr Trevaskis

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**The Motion was approved**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30pm