



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 25TH^H MAY 2021
AT NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, FULLER DRIVE**

PRESENT:

Councillor Stefan Pyra – Chair
Councillor Andy Pennance -Vice Chair
Councillor Ben Wye
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Councillor Rob Hassall

In Attendance:

Sue Togay – Clerk

29. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Robert Dodd

30. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Councillor Stefan Pyra in relation to Shavington Academy
Councillor Rob Hassall in relation to Berkeley Academy and Shavington Academy.

31. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th March 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32. MATTERS ARISING:

New Rope Laptop - this had now been purchased by Councillor Rob Hassall and the amount of £588.99 reimbursed by cheque.

Dog Fouling/Litter Picking Equipment – Chalk paint had been purchased and litter picking equipment had been obtained from CEC by the Clerk. Councillors would arrange a mutually convenient date and time to carry out some litter picking sessions. A section of Rope Lane between The Surgery and Shavington Academy was particularly bad at the moment. The Chair would mention to the school.

Parish Councillor Vacancy- the correct procedure of The Notice Of Vacancy had now concluded with Cheshire East with no candidates coming forward. The Council could now follow a co-option procedure.

Contact with Councillor Janet Clowes regarding Rope Ward Councillor - In response to a letter sent on behalf of Rope PC The Chair had now spoken to Cllr Clowes who was satisfied that Cllr Gage was carrying out his Ward duties. She had mentioned that Cllr Gage felt that Rope PC meetings were 'political' however the Chair reiterated the response that at parish level politics were not appropriate and councillors worked together at both parish and borough level for the good of the Parish. No hard feelings were held and Cllr Gage would be invited to the next meeting as Cllr Clowes stated she would keep an eye on the situation

Contact with Police - The Clerk had emailed PCSO and PC regarding where residents could obtain details of Police Surgeries for the Parish. She had been informed the details were on Facebook. In addition there was now a new PC for the area - PC Abdul Sadir.

Overgrown Hedges Fuller Drive/Whirlow Rd + Rope Bank Ave/Laidon Ave - These had been reported yet again and the Clerk had spoken to CEC. The Rope Bank Avenue premises had been inspected served a Hedge and Tree Notice by CEC Highways. The Fuller Drive Premises would be inspected shortly. The Clerk to monitor.

Stiles - Based on the Footpath Report given by Councillor Flaherty, the Clerk to follow up the installation of kissing gates within the footpaths in the parish providing more convenient access to dog walkers..

33. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

34 FINANCE:

A. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

None.

B. PAYMENTS.

Section 137 Payments:

None



General Payments:

S Togay, Clerk, annual reimbursement	£415.85
S Togay Clerk's Salary (£291.62+£72.90 back pay	£349.94
HMRC	£ 87.48
S Togay , Chalk Paint	£ 48.64
Cheshire East License Fuller Drive	£ 5.00
Room Hire NLCC	£ 32.00

Note: The amount reimbursed to Councillor Hassall for the Rope Laptop is £588.99.

C. AUDIT PROCEDURE:

A briefing note and other relevant documents had been supplied to Councillors prior to the meeting in order that the following items could be approved:

To approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement (P5) of the AGAR 2020/2021

To approve Section 2 - Accounting Statements (pages 3(Exemption Certificate) and 6)

RESOLUTION:

Rope PC approve the following for the Financial Year 2020/2021 -

Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement was approved by Councillors.

Section 2 - Accounting Statements were approved by Councillors.

The AGAR was signed and dated by The Chair and Clerk as appropriate in order to be included in the Audit Procedure.

In addition, in relation to Analysis of Variances Explanation, the Clerk had provided suggested figures ref the High Reserves held at present. It was felt that the usual organizations that requested financial support had not done so in this financial year.

Councillors were supplied with a briefing note outlining the advice from Internal Auditor and also a brief analysis of general expenditure, precept and potential reserves. Councillors discussed potential projects such as providing items for use in the public domain such as benches, additional trees etc. It was felt that the website could be further improved and populated with the addition of a Rope Facebook Page in order to raise the profile of the Parish Council especially as 'Showy rope' may discontinue and Rev Den Harding is leaving the parish... Councillor Wye expressed an interest in attending Chalc Training on this topic and Councillor Wye who is also the Webmaster would input into the process and a protocol for posting would be formulated for approval.

Councillors wished a post to be placed on the website requesting parishioners to give suggestions for projects for their parish. The Clerk would also contact CEC in order to ascertain the procedure and permissions needed to place such things as benches on CEC land.

Membership of Chalc as a local support organization was considered and the Clerk would provide further information on the advantages of Chalc Membership. .

D. REVIEW OF CLERK'S SALARY:

The Clerk's Salary had not been reviewed for the Financial Year 20/21. Discussions had taken place and the following resolution made:

RESOLUTION: Rope PC resolve that for the financial year 2020/2021 the Clerk's Salary be increased to £2,187 pa. Accordingly back pay from 1st April 2020 to be awarded. A pay review of 2021/2022 to be revisited once NALC had concluded their negotiations and decisions made.

35. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Woodland Trust - Councillor Pennance highlighted the fact that free saplings were available for planting in relation to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. It was felt that the Primary and High School in the area could be involved in this project as well as any other areas suitable in the Parish. The Chair and Councillor Hassall to feed this suggestion back to the schools. Further sites also to be identified.

Verge Salander Crescent/Rope Bank Avenue - a resident had approached The Chair and Cllr Wye with regard to a small patch of grass at this junction. He already maintained this area and had asked if it was possible to place something in memory of his daughter. The Clerk to ascertain procedure and permissions from CEC.



Edgewood Drive - the low wooden rail was broken and litter bins were in need of attention. The Clerk to report.

36. HIGHWAYS MATTERS:

Rope Bank Avenue.- potholes were still in evidence.

Rope Lane Bridge - some of the potholes had been repaired

Bus Stop, Rope Lane, Nr Medical Centre - this had been smashed twice..

37. POLICING MATTERS:

The PCSO, PC and Sergeant to be invited to the next meeting. Cllr Flaherty and Hassall had noticed some potential asb in the Dunham Crescent and Beechcroft Avenue Areas. Clerk to report to Police.

38 PLANNING MATTERS:

None

39. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

None

40. CLERK'S REPORT:

General Correspondence - All relevant correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors electronically. Please also note the following items:

Governance Review – This had been highlighted as there was a small change to the Rope Boundary. Paperwork and CEC Meeting details had been circulated. There was considerable change to the Shavington Boundaries and a designated website. Rope PC to monitor the consultation process and relevant meetings.

41. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

None

42. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

Monday 19th July 2021 – New Life Community Church to be booked again as a suitable venue plus the September meeting.

DRAFT