



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
17TH JULY 2023 AT NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, FULLER DRIVE.**

PRESENT:

Councillor Andy Pennance -Chair
Councillor Andy Chris Flaherty -Vice Chair
Councillor Richard Weilding
Councillor Nick Churchill
Councillor George Jones

In Attendance:

Sue Togay – Clerk

17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Sue Jones

18. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None.

19. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th May 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20. MATTERS ARISING:

None.

21.. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

22. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT:

Cheshire East Councillor Allen Gage was not in attendance.

23. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

The Clerk had an on-site meeting on 18th July with a contractor to discuss a pilot weed spraying area and invited Councillors to attend. Discussions took place by Councillors regarding a pilot scheme and if successful, further weed spraying in the Parish.

RESOLVED: that Rope Parish Council provide a budget of £1,500 for weed spraying in the Parish.

Acorn Bank Hedge – the Clerk to report the need for cut back now that the nesting season was over.

Sleeper crossing over stream, Evergreen Way – the Clerk to follow this up again as there had been no feedback.

Planters – discussions took place regarding placing planters in the Parish. The Clerk to contact Crewe Road Nursery regarding approximate costs.



Councillor Nick Churchill had walked the Parish footpaths and informed Councillors that some of them were not accessible due to crops. The Clerk to contact Cheshire East BC relating to legislation.

24. HIGHWAYS MATTERS:

None

25. POLICING MATTERS:

There were no officers in attendance. The Clerk to request briefing notes from PCSO if not able to attend in person. There had been some asb relating to the bus stops on Rope Lane that had been mentioned on Facebook but had already been reported.

26. PLANNING MATTERS:

None

27. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

The Police & Crime Commissioner's 'Open Forum' – Councillor Wilding had attended this on behalf of the Council and found it extremely interesting. Topics covered were:

The Nantwich area was a problem at present with the presence of 'county lines' operating.

There was a new leaflet regarding 'fly tipping'.

There was little presence of Police Officers in the Parish.

Speedwatch sessions were not being held at the moment due to health and safety issues.

Young Drivers courses were being held.

Most areas were having the same problems as those in Rope Parish

Parishes could submit specific questions prior to the meeting to be addressed and Rope Parish Council are able to do this at the next meeting if we have any specific issues.

Wybunbury United Charities Meeting – Councillor Flaherty gave a report. It had always been a problem identifying candidates to receive some of the funds held by the Parish but there was now a resident who was linked to the 'Multi Academy Trust' who may be able to supply those within the parish who would qualify. As Mr Dodd no longer wished to be a trustee, the following resolution was made:

RESOLVED: that Rope Parish Council resolve to remove Mr R Dodd as a trustee and signatory of Wybunbury United Charities and add Councillor Andy Pennance as a trustee and signatory to join Councillor Chris Flaherty who had been a designated representative at the Annual Meeting on 15th May 2023.

28. CLERK'S REPORT:

All relevant correspondence received since the last meeting had been forwarded electronically to Councillors for their attention.

The Clerk to contact the two residents who had shown interest in co-option as the more formal election poster had now been displayed and co-option could take place.



29. FINANCE

A. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

None

B. PAYMENTS

Section 137 Payments:

None

General Payments:

S Togay Clerk's Salary - July	£145.80
HMRC - July	£ 36.46
S Togay Clerk's Salary – August	£145.80
HMRC – August	£ 36.46
S Togay – reimbursement Microsoft License	£ 59.99
S Togay – postage audit papers	£ 9.19
Cheshire East BC – noticeboard License	£ 5.00
JDH Business Services – audit fee	£288.00
Room Hire NLCC	£ 36.00

C. TO RECEIVE & APPROVE THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2022/2023:

A copy of the internal audit report had been supplied and it was a clean report. The following recommendations were noted:

Risk Assessment:

The Parish Risk Assessment had not been reviewed within the financial year. Follow up. Minute evidence had been supplied in the file but would be clarified to address any confusion at the next audit 23/24.

Income Cashbook:

There was a transposition error on one of the documents which did not affect the actual year end accounts and AGAR accounts as the correct precept figure was included in the year end accounts.

Follow Up: the income cashbook to be corrected to show the correct precept instalment.

RESOLVED: that the internal audit report supplied by JDH Business Services Ltd are received and approved by Rope Parish Council. Follow up actions to be taken for the next audit in 2023/24

The audit procedure was now completed with the Notice of Rights for Public Inspection now available in the notice boards and all relevant documents published on the Parish Council Website.

30. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

The Clerk to ascertain if any Rope Parish Council representation is needed on the governing bodies of Shavington Academy and Berkeley Academy.

31. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18th September 2023