



Moulton Parish Council

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MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Moulton Parish Council held on
Monday 13th September 2021

Present: Cllr Capstick (Chair), Cllr Harding (Vice Chair), Cllr Jennings, Cllr Kershaw, Cllr LeBreuilly

Also present: Clerk to the Council (Mrs W Maddock), PCSO Lee Robertson and 3 members of the public

1	Apologies	<p>Cllr Boyle (work commitments), Cllr Bush (unwell) and Cllr Smith (meeting with election petitioners) Motion: The council accepts the apologies listed and approves the absences for the council members <i>The council recognises approval for this agenda item as appropriate to meet the requirement in Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.</i></p> <p>Cllr Jennings abstained from approving the absence of Cllr Smith</p>
2	Declarations of Interest	None declared
3	Members Interests Form	To confirm that Members Interests Forms are current and up to date
4	Public Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both candidates for the forthcoming election attended the meeting; one candidate requested a hustings/candidate debate and the other declined. A member of the public thanked Cllr Kershaw for inviting him to join the Environmental Working Group.
5	PCSO Report	<p><u>ASB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assault on police – Suspect arrested. Threats and harassment in the Travellers Rest – PCs attended, PCSO attended later and reassurance given. Neighbour Dispute – PCs attended and resolved the issue Threats to a next door neighbour – PCs attended and relevant housing officers made aware. No issues since. <p><u>THEFT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of a theft of a Cat – Cat returned home – no theft involved. Report of Wallet and Bank Cards being taken – wallet and card was lost. 45 sheep from Bank Farm – Rural Crime attended and PCSO attended for reassurance; no further issues <p><u>BURGLARY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of someone being in their house – PC's attended and nothing was disturbed. Report of someone breaking into a property – Patrols sent – no issue. <p><u>VEHICLE / BICYCLE THEFT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None Reported <p><u>PARKING / HIGHWAY DISRUPTION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abandoned vehicle on Jack Lane – PCSO attended after a call from resident to 101. Vehicle was there for a couple of days. Car was removed Report of Wilson Drive being blocked due to Double parking. PCs attended and there was no issue. <p><u>OTHER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Surgeries will take place once a month at the Church Hall Speed Monitoring will take place due to resident concerns on MAIN ROAD and BARNSIDE WAY

6	Minutes	<p>Motion: To note the minutes and any supplementary documents of the following previous meetings (circulated to members) as a correct record: MPC Meeting held on 12th July 2021 MPC Meeting held on 9th August 2021</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Capstick. Seconded: Cllr Kershaw. Resolved with all in favour</p>
7	Financial Matters	<p>a) Consider the current budgetary position, income & expenditure received to date It was noted that the budget would be included in next month's meeting and that the Zoom subscription would be cancelled.</p> <p>Motion: To accept the financial report as presented and approve payments Proposed: Cllr Capstick. Seconded: Cllr Jennings. Resolved</p> <p>b) Consider the VAT return for Q2 2021</p> <p>Motion: To approve the VAT return as presented Resolved with all in favour</p> <p>c) Consider the quotes provided for the tree topping of birch trees on MPF. It was agreed to accept the quote from Northwich Tree Surgery. It was noted that the chippings should be retained and not removed from site.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the expenditure for the tree topping Resolved with all in favour</p> <p>d) Approve insurance expenditure for MPC</p> <p>Motion: To approve the expenditure to Came & Co as part of the three-year agreement Proposed: Cllr Capstick. Seconded: Cllr Harding. Resolved with all in favour</p> <p>e) Consider how to spend the donation of £250 received from James Richards Circus for using Moulton Playing Field for their event in July. It was suggested that this money could be used to purchase small mementoes for the children in the village to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the expenditure of the £250 donation The motion was deferred pending further discussions regarding the jubilee.</p> <p>f) Consider the installation and management of Wi-Fi on Moulton Playing Field An agenda item will be added at the next meeting to agree commissioning a suitable survey</p>
8	Planning	<p>a) To be aware of planning applications received since 12th July – see planning tracker</p> <p>b) Consider changing the standing orders to give authority to the Planning Working Group to comment on planning applications on behalf of the Council</p> <p>Motion: To amend the standing orders to give additional authority to the PWG Proposed: Cllr Harding. Seconded: Cllr LeBreuilly. Resolved with all in favour</p>
9	Council Elections and Attendance	<p>To receive a report from the Clerk regarding the number of council vacancies over previous years and if filled by election or co-option. Also to review councillors attendance ytd.</p> <p>An agenda item will be added at the next meeting to propose a CWaC review of representation. The Clerk was asked to upload a copy of the attendance record to the MPC website.</p>
10	Traffic Calming Scheme	<p>To consider the proposed plan from CWaC for additional traffic calming measures in the village</p> <p>It was noted that the proposed plan relies heavily on the use of speed bumps, which it was felt would not be welcomed in the village and are not environmentally friendly. The meeting was suspended at 20.15 to allow PCSO Robertson to comment regarding speeding issues at School Lane and the speed monitoring that would be carried out. Complaints have also been received about speeding on Main Road and Barnside Way/Yardley Avenue. The meeting was restarted at 20.20</p>

		<p>Motion: To accept the proposed plan as provided by CWaC Not resolved The Council did not accept the plan as presented. The Clerk was asked to write to CWaC expressing its concerns but to agree to a formal consultation to canvass feedback from the village.</p>
11	Queen's Platinum Jubilee	<p>To further consider how this event will be marked and to agree a nominated councillor to project manage the event planning</p> <p>This will become a fixed agenda item. MPC will liaise with the Moulton Events Committee to seek a cross working plan. Cllr Capstick to provide the Clerk with relevant contact details.</p>
12	Remembrance Sunday	<p>Confirm the requirements for Remembrance Sunday and agree request to CWaC for required road closures Requirements were agreed and the application will be submitted. Suitable traffic management companies will be researched, although training for village marshals will also be investigated.</p>
13	ACV nomination for The Lion	<p>Consider renewing the ACV nomination for The Lion, as the current nomination expires in November Motion: To nominate The Lion as an ACV Proposed: Cllr Harding. Seconded: Cllr Capstick. Resolved with all in favour</p>
14	Davenham Juniors FC	<p>To update the full Council with information regarding the follow up conversation with DJFC and their proposal to enable Saturday use of MPF</p> <p>An update was provided following the meeting with DJFC on 7th Sept. including that they had approached RBL who have agreed the use of their car park. The Council meeting was suspended at 20.37 and Mr Wakefield confirmed that he had also spoken to DJFC to offer the use of facilities at The Crow's Nest. The meeting re-started at 20.38.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the use of MPF by DJFC on Saturdays for match play Resolved with all in favour</p>
15	Councillor Training	<p>Councillors to consider training requirements based on the latest ChALC training calendar All councillors are encouraged to attend training, which can be booked through the Clerk.</p>
16	Request to use MPF for Fireworks	<p>Consider the request to use MPF (instead of Royal British Legion) for the launching of fireworks on Bonfire Night</p> <p>It was agreed that a proper RA and evidence of access restrictions would be required if approval is to be given. PCSO Robertson recommended that School Lane and the path into Honeyvale Gardens should be blocked off. This needs to be checked with the PROW officer as it could be a restriction of a public right of way.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the use of MPF for firework display The motion was agreed if a RA is provided and approved by the police. Cllr Kershaw abstained from voting.</p>
17	Flag Policy	<p>To review the amendments to the flag policy and flag schedule to include the recognition of Armed Forces Day</p> <p>Motion: To accept the amended flag policy and schedule Proposed: Cllr Capstick. Seconded: Cllr Kershaw. Resolved with all in favour.</p>
18	Conditions of Hire Form for MPF	<p>To review the amendments made to the Conditions of Hire Form for MPF in light of the experience with James Richards Circus Motion: To accept the amended Conditions of Hire Form Proposed: Cllr Capstick. Seconded: Cllr Jennings. Resolved with all in favour.</p>
19	Clerk's Report and Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Grant letters • CG Services actions • Actions associated with the Circus event • Handy-person meeting and agreement re actions needed • Planning Applications • Arrangements for additional meeting on 9th August • Call for election / Co-Option issue resolution

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election Actions • Insurance renewals • Additional gardening work required re birch trees on MPF • Rialtas Financial Software purchase and initiation • DJFC communications and meeting • Purchase of Methodist Chapel communication • Members Budget Form preparation • Request for Use of MPF for Fireworks – communication and follow up • Complaint re Beehive Lane vehicle use • ChALC Annual Meeting booking • Remembrance Sunday Planning • MPF Actions • Police Summer Activities communication • Training – VAT course
20	Chair's Report	<p>Although the council do not normally hold a meeting in August; this year we had a vacancy to fill and following confirmation by Cheshire West & Chester Council that NO request had been received for an election to be held, and we were free to fill the vacancy by the legal co-option process, a meeting was scheduled for 9th August.</p> <p>Co-option of councillors is not unusual, in fact the majority of Parish councils consist of co-opted members. Parish Councillors are all volunteers; we all have jobs outside of the council but give up our time and efforts for the good of the community. Even a candidate currently standing for election was previously co-opted onto the Parish Council. Being a councillor is evidently not something that some members of the community would like to do but are happy to criticise. After Cllr Smith circulated to all copies of the paperwork that had been sent to CWaC requesting an election; our clerk was quick to act to get clarity on this matter and we received an apology from CWaC stating the paperwork had been misplaced and an election had been called. A follow up letter of complaint has been sent to CWaC.</p> <p>I hope the successful candidate in the election will be as proactive as members of this current council to work for the whole community and I want to take this opportunity to thank the councillors for their hard work on projects such as:</p> <p>Cllr Bush & Cllr Kershaw for their work on improving Weaver Road play area, guerrilla planting, wildflowers and improving the areas of the park and village.</p> <p>Cllr LeBreuilly for her work to ensure we have robust policies in place where we previously had none.</p> <p>Cllr Harding for bringing the council into the tech age and ensuring we are well on the way to be a Bronze standard council.</p> <p>Cllr Jennings for ensuring our new garden service contracts meet our requirements and for upgrading the CCTV on the park and his work on the CIL path.</p> <p>Cllr Boyle who carried on the work of the previous council around the neighbourhood plan and together with Cllr Harding brought it to a close when it was adopted by CWaC. And who also worked with our previous clerk to get suitable developers to meet the communities identified need regarding Regent Street Backs.</p> <p>Cllr Smith is new to our council and I am sure will add to the list of our achievements together with our newest member following the election.</p> <p>The recent disharmony in the village I have learned has caused a few households to look to move out of the village – that is very sad. Harassment of councillors by members of the community and a parish council member needs to stop. It is not acceptable for anyone to feel they are not able to go about their business in fear of bullying or harassment nor is it acceptable for a sitting member of the council to private message members of the community and berate them because they do not agree with your thoughts.</p> <p>Please can we work to get back to the harmony and community spirit we had in this village?</p> <p>Misinformation: Councillors and future councillors claiming they can stop the RSB development are giving incorrect information. We, the Parish Council of Moulton are contractually bound and unless the unitary authority rejects the planning application from Jigsaw the contract will stand or the community will face huge cost for breach of contract. I will be posting a statement on our FB page to ensure that the whole community are aware of the true facts.</p>
21	Subcommittee Reports	No sub-committee or working group reports.
22	Councillor Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Harding <p>The quarterly VAT claim has been delayed due to the on-line Govt. system being down. The website has been updated and all council members were encouraged to review it. A number of potholes have been reported to CWaC. Scottish Power meter readings are needed. PKF need</p>

		<p>chasing up regarding the annual audit. NALC has issued a revised Code of Conduct – to be reviewed for adoption. MPC surgeries to be set up again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Jennings <p>Once again the youth of Moulton have requested a Wi-Fi connection in the park and this is to be investigated. A number of parishioners, who wish to remain anonymous because of the toxic nature on social media at present, have enquired “what has Cllr Smith done for the village since being elected?” My response was honest in as much as there has been a poor attendance at meetings and a very low engagement with anything. I have questions for Cllr Smith, which I advised him about, for discussion in open session but he is not present tonight for this to happen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Kershaw <p>Trying to make contact with Gary Adams (Bostock PC) re Veolia grants. Attended a wildflower seminar and money is budgeted for new seeds for this area. Attended the ChALC “Roles & Responsibilities” course on 7th Sept and is booked onto the “Meetings & Procedures” course on the 20th. Fruit trees are to be purchased to replace the saplings at Weaver Road play area. The Env. Working Group has a new member and a meeting is to be scheduled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr LeBreuilly <p>Confirmed that a statement has been issued that MPC is not responsible for comments made on private FB groups. Asked what follow up had occurred following the ASB incident at the end of the circus event and PCSO Robertson confirmed that it is not being pursued as the circus is no longer in the village.</p>	
23	Data Protection	<p>Five Freedom of Information requests have been received and the responses were circulated to councillors. One request required a technical review to be carried out with a GDPR/FoIA consultant to ensure proper compliance.</p> <p>A councillor has threatened to make known the name of one FoIA requester and it will be pointed out that this would be a breach of data protection.</p>	
24	AOB	None	
25	Summary of Actions	To be circulated separately.	
26	Next Meetings	Moulton Parish Council	11 th October 2021 at 7.30pm in Moulton School
		Finance Committee	4 th November 2021 at 7.30pm in Moulton School
		Special Projects Committee	TBC
		Moulton Playing Fields Trust	TBC
		HR Subcommittee	TBC
		Planning Working Group	TBC
		Env Working Group	TBC

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed by Chair	
Name	Cllr Capstick
Date	