



Moulton Parish Council

<https://moultonpc.org.uk>

MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Moulton Parish Council held on
Monday 14th March 2022

Present: Cllr Capstick (Chair), Cllr Harding (Vice-Chair), Cllr Jennings, Cllr Kershaw, Cllr LeBreuilley, Cllr Marr

Also present: Clerk to the Council (Mrs W Maddock) and three members of public

The meeting started at 7.30pm

1	Apologies	<p><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>To receive, with explanation, any apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Boyle (work) and Cllr Bush. There were no apologies received from Cllr Smith. The Clerk detailed that this was the 6th consecutive month that Cllr Smith had failed to attend a council meeting or provide apologies for absence. As such, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, Cllr Smith was now disqualified as a councillor and a casual vacancy was declared. This was to be notified to CWaC at the earliest opportunity and a notice of vacancy published.</p>
2	Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.
3	Public Forum	Three members of the public attended the meeting. One wanted to outline an idea for a community citizen award and it was confirmed that this was to be discussed as an agenda item later in the meeting. The second member of public raised a question about the Regent Street Backs development (at which time Cllr Marr declared an interest); querying whether there was a back-up plan if the latest planning application is rejected. Concern was expressed about the deterioration of the area and the problems with parking. The third member of public wanted to express support for agenda item 11 (Declaring a climate emergency). The Council was encouraged to support this motion as it was felt that a "grass roots" approach was needed to change things locally, as Government and Local Authorities have reacted slowly to the crisis.
4	PCSO Report	<p>ASB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of a Suspicious Male / Vehicle in area, same time as a helicopter • Report of a individuals attending an address trying to get them out of their property. • Two Males fighting on the street <p>THEFT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report that a money was left at a Cash point in McColls by mistake and when returned the money was taken. <p>BURGLARY – None Reported VEHICLE / BICYCLE THEFT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of a theft of a Motor Vehicle <p>PARKING / HIGHWAY DISRUPTION – None Reported SPEEDING – None Actioned in Area FRAUD</p> <p>To make people aware of what's happened within the Moulton / Davenham area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person paid for work before it was actually finished. Builder didn't attend or finish the work – GET CONTRACT and PAY FOR WORK AFTERWARDS • Person received a call from someone posing as the police. Stated that they were doing an investigation on their bank, and advised not to notify the bank. Asked for a transfer of money. POLICE WILL NEVER ASK FOR MONEY. If in doubt HANG UP and CALL 101 / 999 to confirm this BEFORE SENDING MONEY. <p>RESIDENTS VOICE ISSUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeding and Parking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>PCSO will be focusing on this over the next couple of months as seen on DAVENHAM / MOULTON FACEBOOK GROUP</i>

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		<p>POLICE SURGERY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21st March @ Church Hall (Crows Nest) 14:00-15:00
5	Minutes	<p>Motion: To note the minutes and any supplementary documents (circulated to members) of the following meetings as a correct record:</p> <p>a) MPC Meeting on 10th February 2022 Proposed by Cllr Marr. Seconded by Cllr Jennings. Resolved.</p> <p>b) MPC Extraordinary Meeting held on 24th February 2022 Proposed by Cllr Marr. Seconded by Cllr Jennings. Resolved.</p>
6	Financial Matters	<p>a) To consider the expenditure during the previous month and approve payments.</p> <p>Motion: To approve payments to be made in March Proposed by Cllr Capstick. Seconded by Cllr LeBreuilly. Resolved.</p> <p>b) To consider the financial reports for YTD</p> <p>Motion: To accept the financial reports as presented Proposed by Cllr Kershaw, Seconded by Cllr Capstick. Resolved.</p> <p>c) To consider the 2021-22 National Salary Award as announced by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC)</p> <p>It was noted that a letter should be put on file confirming the increase in pay from 1st April 2021.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the new rate of pay applicable from 1st April 2021 Proposed by Cllr Marr. Seconded by Cllr Harding. Resolved.</p> <p>d) To consider the annual registration payment to the ICO and consider paying this annually by Direct Debit.</p> <p>It was agreed to set up a direct debit for the payment of the ICO registration.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the ICO payment and method of payment. Proposed by Cllr Jennings. Seconded by Cllr Harding. Resolved.</p> <p>e) To review the latest statements from Scottish Power</p> <p>It was agreed that the direct debit would be allowed to increase and that a one-off payment would not be made. Scottish Power will be asked to carry out a systems check. The viability of using solar panels would be investigated by the EWG. Changing electricity supplier would be investigated and the clerk will follow up on the installation of halogen lights at the cenotaph.</p> <p>Motion: To approve a one-off payment to Scottish Power or to increase the monthly direct debit It was resolved to increase the Direct Debit by £51 per month.</p>
7	Councillor Attendance	<p>To receive a report from the clerk for the YTD attendance of councillors</p> <p>It was noted with disappointment that one councillor had very low attendance (attending only 2 meetings out of a possible 17).</p>
8	Planning	<p>To note planning applications received since 14th February 2022</p> <p>None received.</p>
9	Community Citizen Award	<p>To consider supporting a Community Citizen Award – providing funds for a suitable engraved memento and to discuss how the award might be managed.</p> <p>The Council was strongly in favour of establishing a Community Citizen Award. It was queried what the criteria would be for judging the award and also the mechanics of managing the process. It was agreed that the Special</p>

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		<p>Projects Committee would consider the issues more fully in a separate meeting.</p> <p>Motion: To approve the purchase of a suitable award This motion was deferred pending the recommendation of the Special Projects Committee.</p>
10	Maintenance of Moulton Green Spaces	<p>a) To consider the revised quote from Massey & Harris for £950 (excl. VAT) to include the wet-pour repairs to the swing (previously discussed) and underneath the see-saw</p> <p>It was agreed to accept the revised quote from Massey & Harris, which supersedes and negates the quote accepted at the extraordinary meeting of 24th February (agenda item 5c)</p> <p>Motion: To approve the repairs by Massey & Harris Proposed by Cllr Capstick. Seconded by Cllr Kershaw. Resolved.</p> <p>b) To consider the recommendations and quote from Play & Leisure Ltd for the repair to the cantilever swing.</p> <p>It was agreed to have the inspection and repair to the cantilever swing carried out by Play and Leisure Services at a cost of £200 (plus VAT).</p> <p>Motion: To approve the repairs to be carried out by Play & Leisure Services Ltd. Proposed by Cllr Capstick. Seconded by Cllr Kershaw. Resolved.</p>
11	Declaring a Climate Emergency	<p>To consider making a climate change declaration</p> <p>It was discussed that by declaring a climate emergency, MPC recognises the issue and acknowledges that it should take any steps within its power to act on the causes of climate change and their impact on the community. It was agreed that the original motion (Moulton Parish Council declares a climate change emergency) should be amended and will also include: a target date of 2030 to reduce local climate impacts, with Moulton Environment Working group to report on actions to be taken, and the plan to engage the local community.</p> <p>Motion: Moulton Parish Council declares a climate emergency with a target date of 2030 to reduce local climate impacts. Proposed by Cllr Kershaw. Seconded by Cllr Marr. Resolved</p>
12	Boundary Commission Review	<p>To be aware that the second 6-week consultation for the parliamentary constituency review is now open and will run until 4th April. 2022-02 The 2023 Boundary Review_ Partner Pack.pdf</p> <p>Cllr Marr confirmed that he had made representation at a Boundary Commission Review (BCE) meeting on 11th March in Chester, supporting the constituency change to Northwich. He proposed that Moulton Parish Council should also support the change using the BCE comments process. All comments should be submitted by 4th April.</p>
13	Queen's Platinum Jubilee	<p>a) To provide an update on actions completed and/or outstanding</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Jubilee bench had been ordered and an oak sapling has been purchased for planting as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. MAG is unable to provide support on the 4th June, therefore the working group would need to consider activities for the event.</p> <p>b) To receive the guidance from CWaC for planning Jubilee events The CWaC guidance covers deadlines for applications regarding events, hanging bunting over highways and lighting a beacon. It was confirmed that no applications need to be submitted as all MPC events are taking place on MPC land, there will be no road closures and bunting is only to be hung on MPC land. It is to be reviewed if a traditional beacon is to be lit.</p>
14	Clerk's Report	<p>The Clerk's Report and correspondence was circulated to all Councillors as part of the meeting pack. The full report can be obtained by contacting the Clerk as follows: clerk@moultonpc.org.uk or by tel. (07908 031367).</p>

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		<p>The discussions/actions (not noted elsewhere in the minutes) were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting for the Queen's Green Canopy will be on Sat 19th March – the handy-person has been asked to purchase a tree guard and to attend to help. • An agreement is to be confirmed with Moulton Drama Group for the management of its assets and a separate bank account is to be opened. • A meeting had been held with CWaC Eng. regarding the traffic calming consultation and MPC is now awaiting its revised proposals • The Clerk met with Gareth Jones of NorthHort Ltd for a pre-contract start-up meeting on 9th March. It was confirmed that invoices would be submitted for works actually carried out and the contract has been updated to reflect this. • The invoice for the councillor elections was chased up with the CWaC Democracy Office on two occasions and was received by email during the Council meeting. It was agreed that as a statutory payment, this invoice should be paid immediately to ensure it is paid from the 2021-22 budget and not from next year's budget. • All works instructions were issued following the EM on 24th Feb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Caddis re cutting back of laurel hedge (work completed) ◦ DCW Civils re path maintenance (date to be confirmed) • Maintenance works on MPF car park and play areas confirmed for 15th March and advance notice of closure of the car park was issued. • The Clerk liaised with the PROW Officer and the resident of 68 Main Road regarding the unsafe aerial and chimney. It was agreed that the PROW Officer would issue a temporary 21-day closure notice for safety. • Both village defibrillators have been registered on the BHF national portal "The Circuit". • Liaised with Cheshire Mobile library and published information regarding visit dates. • Confirmed all admin requirements for receipt of the Veolia grant (£1000)
15	Chair's Report	<p>Chairs Statement 14th March</p> <p>A Parish Councillor role is voluntary and is for anyone who wants to work for their community. It's not always easy, and sometimes the role comes with some difficulties and unpleasantness, which may explain why it is so hard for Parish Councils to fill vacancies.</p> <p>Today I am deeply disappointed that a councillor who was so vocal and who incurred large costs to get elected has, as of this meeting, only attended 1 Parish Council meeting and 1 councillor sub-committee meeting. I feel this shows total disregard to those members of the community who supported him, to the wider community who paid for the elections he called, a disrespect to the office of a Parish Councillor and to his fellow councillors who work hard for the community. I had believed he would be an active member working for the whole community and had looked forward to working together but alas that has not proven to be the case. The Local Government Act 1972 States that when a councillor fails to attend any meeting for 6 consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, they will cease to be a member of the Parish Council.</p> <p>We now have a vacancy on the council that our Clerk will notify to Cheshire West & Chester Council; the vacancy will be posted on the notice board AND, following the feedback of the community for our last vacancy, it will also be posted on social media.</p> <p>A Councillor Surgery took place at the Lion Pub on Tuesday 22nd February. Cllr Kershaw and myself were in attendance. We did not have any concerns or questions raised by members of the public. The next Councillor Surgery will take place on Monday 21st March @ 6:30pm in The RBL.</p> <p>Last Friday a teleconference was held with CWaC regarding the traffic calming proposal. We have discussed a number of traffic calming measures for the village. CWaC will be looking at the viability of these proposed measures and will come back to us in the next 3 weeks confirming this. We will then host a community consultation to gauge the feeling in the village and get any suggestions. I am happy to confirm that speed bumps along the roads were not an option the Parish Council would like to see.</p> <p>The Community Litter Picking scheduled for 13th March had to be postponed as I was not able to get a confirmation from CWaC regarding the litter collection nor provision of litter pickers. I have been trying to get someone to return my call's and emails for the past 2 weeks and will ask our Ward Councillors to investigate.</p> <p>I have had confirmation from the architect from Jigsaw regarding RSB on the latest plans (revision S). These details have been circulated with all councillors and I will post an update to the community on our social media channels and on our notice board.</p>
16	Subcommittee Reports	<p>There were no sub-committee reports received.</p>

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17	Councillor Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Harding Attended the CWaC traffic calming meeting and proposed a consultation run through the MPC website when the revised proposals are received. Suggested sending a letter of thanks to CG Services now that their contract is ending and this was agreed. Asked that Scottish Power investigates the power supply at Weaver Road and why there is no billing being received. Asked the Clerk to follow up with CWaC regarding the ACV status of The Lion. Confirmed that he would be putting up a solar powered light as a trial on the School Lane – Honeyvale Gardens path. Proposed purchasing a Ukrainian flag to celebrate the Ukrainian Day of Independence on 24th Aug. • Cllr Jennings A parishioner had enquired about the number of meetings attended by Cllr Smith. • Cllr Kershaw Has signed up to attend the NALC event on Climate Change. • Cllr LeBreuilly Requested that Cllr Smith be removed from all emails immediately as he is now disqualified. Queried if the change in minimum wage (effective from 1st April) would affect the handy-person, but it was confirmed that the handy-person's hourly rate is already greater than minimum wage. • Cllr Marr Expressed disappointment that a councillor has been disqualified and encouraged people to get involved with supporting the parish council. A number of residents have raised queries about obtaining the Council Tax rebate; it was confirmed that these will happen automatically if you are eligible. Outlined how CWaC has now started charging for rubble/DIY/home improvement refuse, although there is some confusion about how this will be applied. 	
18	Data Protection	There have been no FoI or GDPR requests received since the last meeting.	
19	AOB	Items to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update from CWaC re proposed traffic calming measures – if the report is received 	
20	Next Meetings	Moulton Parish Council	Monday 11 th April 2022 at 7.30pm in Moulton School
		Finance Committee	Thursday 7 th April 2022 at 7.30pm in Moulton School

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