

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 9th JULY 2008 IN TIM PARRY
COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNEXE

Present: A. Litton (Chairman)
Councillors: R. Smith P. Carter K. Gleave T. Wood
A. Bird K. Reynolds C. Lee J. Wheeler
V. Hudson

Also Present: C Wakefield – Clerk
Inspector B. Heywood, PCSO L. Gover
2 members of the public
N. Davies, Warrington Guardian

1 To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Regan and L. Smith who were at a presentation, Cllr Leigh who had a prior commitment and Cllr Gore who had a work commitment. Cllrs R. Smith, V. Hudson and J. Wheeler had all sent apologies as they would be late arriving because of other meetings.

(Clerk's note – all 3 arrived during agenda item 2)

2 To receive a presentation on the Mersey Gateway Crossing from Steve Nicholson (Project Manager) and Steve Hunter (WBC), and have the opportunity to ask questions.

The Council were given a very interesting and fairly detailed presentation on the new Mersey Gateway Project. This included the design, planning process, the finance aspects and the effects on Warrington as anticipated by the Project Team. Mr Nicholson and Mr Hunter then answered a number of searching questions on the project and the rationale behind some of the planning assumptions. The Chairman thanked them for the presentation and Mr Nicholson left the meeting.

3 To consider and decide the Parish Council response to the Mersey Gateway Crossing.

The Parish Council felt it would be beneficial to know what the WBC response to the Mersey Gateway crossing is likely to be. Mr Hunter appraised the Council of the options that are being put to the Executive Board. After further discussion it was proposed that the Parish Council response should be very similar to one of the options being put to the Borough Council (i.e. to support the project contingent on adequate mitigation for Warrington/Great Sankey being provided). This was put to the vote and agreed. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Halton Borough Council conveying that decision, and copy it to Warrington Borough Council. It was further agreed that to strengthen the case the concerns of the Parish Council about the impact on Great Sankey should be stated.

RESOLVED **To inform Halton Borough Council that Great Sankey Parish Council will support the Mersey Gateway Scheme contingent upon securing adequate mitigation measures in Warrington and Great Sankey to ensure that the impact of additional traffic diverted there is minimised.**
PC/2008/50

The Chairman suspended the meeting at this point for a report from the Police and questions from the public. The meeting then resumed.

4 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th June 2008

The Chairman asked if the Council were willing to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting and acceptance was agreed.

RESOLVED **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th June as a true and accurate record**
PC/2008/51

5 Matters arising from the minutes of meeting on 11th June 2008

5.1 To be updated on progress with arranging Art Competition for schools

The Chairman reported that the Art Competition in Sankey Valley St. James school had been judged and the school had been asked to send all the entries to the Council for display in Community Centres. It had been very worthwhile and the artist who helped to judge the competition had been asked by the school to go in and do some demonstrations for the children. Obviously a CRB check would have to be done and the Chairman asked if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for that if there is a cost. It was agreed to pay. Cllr Smith informed the meeting that judging at Barrow Hall School has been arranged for Monday 14th July. The Clerk gave him the certificates which had been prepared and the vouchers for prizes. She asked for cheque number 8017 to be signed, in the amount of £100, to re-imburse her for the vouchers she had bought that day (the previous set were paid for from Petty Cash, but there was insufficient to pay for both schools). This was agreed and the cheque signed.

5.2 To be updated on progress with the logo

Cllr Wood brought 4 possible designs, produced by Mr Fuller, for the Council to choose from. Councillors were impressed by all the designs but chose the simplest of them as being most versatile for a number of varied uses. There was some discussion of the format the design needs to be in. Cllr Wood will liaise with the artist about getting the design in a useable format.

RESOLVED **To choose the simplest design produced (plain shield with acorn cap and legend on cap, transverse banner with 3 salmon, all on a rectangular background) as Parish logo**
PC/2008/52

PC/2008/42

Chairman's signature and date.....

6 To receive a report from the Youth Group and agree any recommendations.

The draft minutes of the first Youth Group meeting had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Bird asked if there were any questions and then asked the Council to agree the 3 recommendations made at the meeting.

First was to name the Group the "Youth Projects Group" and this was agreed. Next was to set the membership at up to 6 Councillors plus the PCSOs. This was agreed, council members were agreed as Cllr Bird (Chairman), Cllr R Smith, Cllr L Smith, Cllr T Wood. Cllr Lowe had also expressed an interest so a vacancy will be held for her if she wishes to take it up.

Third was to accept the terms of reference for the Group. A draft had been produced at the first meeting. This was unanimously accepted.

The Youth Projects Group had also come up with a list of initial actions and work is starting on these. It was agreed that an action to establish a budget for the group should be progressed in consultation with the Finance Committee before any firm recommendation is made to full Parish Council.

RESOLVED PC/2008/53 To accept the 3 recommendations of the Youth Group (made at the meeting on 23rd June 2008) as to its title, membership and terms of reference.

7 Finance Committee business

7.1 to be informed that the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2008 (already received) were approved and accepted without amendment at the meeting on 1st July 2008

The Council noted that the draft minutes had been accepted as a true record.

7.2 To receive the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on 1st July 2008, to be informed of the items approved for payment at that meeting - detailed in Appendix 3 – and to have the opportunity to question any payments

The relevant papers had been circulated prior to the meeting and Cllr Gleave asked if there were any questions or comments on them. There were none.

The Finance Committee had resolved to make a donation of £50 to the Walton Lea Project (FC/81/2008) and cheque number 8016 was signed for that purpose. The Committee had also offered a payment of £15 to a user who had damaged his trousers at Hood Manor Community Centre. He had written to accept the offer and so cheque 8004 was signed for that.

7.3 To be informed that Finance Committee, at the meeting on 1st July 2008, authorised payments of £5136.43 for net wages and £1595 for payments to Inland Revenue. This was a difference of 2% less than the previous month.

The figures were noted.

PC/2008/43

Chairman's signature and date.....

7.4 To consider recommendations made by Finance Committee at the meeting on 1st July 2008 and decide whether to accept them

Cllr Gleave gave an update on what had been agenda item 5 for the meeting on 1st July: "To decide if the Committee wants to recommend applying for a credit card for Council business use etc." The Committee had decided not to recommend applying for a credit card but was exploring an alternative course of action to achieve the same ends. Cllr Lee volunteered information about how another group which has to have 2 signatories for payments is able to make use of a credit card. The Finance Committee will consider this option in more depth before making a recommendation to full Council.

8 To agree to the holding of a Civic Service during this Civic Year, and review it at the beginning of the next Civic Year

The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council should hold a Civic Service, in the early spring, to allow an opportunity for the public to celebrate with the Council the achievements and work of the Civic Year. He would like to hold it at St. Mary's and would be willing to officiate. There was some discussion as to whether a multi-faith service would be required, but it was generally felt to be more appropriate to have a Christian service but make it as open and inclusive as possible, and to invite the groups who use the community centres to attend. The idea would be to review it in the following Civic Year and if successful make it an annual event. At this stage it was agreed that the Chairman should approach the vicar of St Mary's and gather some more information, then report back.

9 To adopt a draft policy on advertising

This was deferred to the September meeting.

10 To consider suggestions from the public received in response to the "What can the Parish Council do for you" campaign.

There had been no new suggestions.

11 To consider planning applications received by the Council - Appendix 1 – and consider if any objections are to be raised.

Cllr Wheeler declared an interest and left the room. Councillors considered application 2008/13159 but did not wish to make any objection.

Cllr Wheeler was asked to return, and standing orders were suspended in order to allow the meeting to conclude its business.

12 To consider correspondence received by the Council - Appendix 2 - and consider if any action is required.

A list of correspondence and copies of letters had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. The Parish Council considered and noted all items. The following caused further discussion.

PC/2008/44

Chairman's signature and date.....

Item 1: letter from United Utilities and notice to drill 2 investigative boreholes on Lingley Green Triangle. It was noted that work had already started and this was welcomed as action is needed to alleviate flooding in that area. The Clerk was asked to keep an eye on things and make sure the area is reinstated when work has finished.

13 To receive reports from Councillors and consider if any action is required.

Cllr Wood reported that the "Walking Bus" has been going for 1 year now and asked if it could be given some publicity on the website. This was agreed.

The issue of the fence at the back of Mayfair Grove was supposed to go to WBC Traffic Control Committee but it didn't. In the meantime some further witness statements to cover the use of all 3 pathways have been submitted, so the case will be stronger when it does go to Traffic Control in September.

Cllr Wood also reported that she, and other people who use "Blackberry's" for email have been having problems downloading correspondence sent via email, and asked for it to be sent in a different way. There was some discussion of this, and Cllr Carter suggested storing the files in a secure location and emailing out links to it. It was agreed to try this method.

Cllr Bird reported that he has been going to meetings of the Extended Schools Cluster Group and he will be sorting out liaison between that group and the Youth Projects Group.

Cllr Gleave informed the meeting that the Chapelford bus service is starting on 21st July 2008.

The Chairman gave an update on the litter issue. He had met with Alan Fitzpatrick and Sheila Woodyatt and they had agreed to set up a project on reducing litter which would go to all the schools in Warrington. The Youth Parliament will also be involved.

Cllr Wheeler reported that the Rights of Way cases which deal with access between Cromwell Avenue and the areas around Gullivers World are going to the Traffic Committee next week. She is not hopeful of the outcome as Gullivers World are bringing a barrister to contest the issues.

Cllr Wheeler also reported that she has been trying to set up a meeting to establish a "Friends of Sankey Valley Park" group but has been having difficulties in getting hold of a Ranger or other officer to come along. She will continue to try, and the Chairman asked her to let him know if she has not managed to make progress by the end of the week.

Cllr Regan had sent an email, circulated to all at the start of the meeting, giving an update on progress, or lack of it, in refurbishing the area around the shops at Hood Manor.

14. Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the

PC/2008/45

Chairman's signature and date.....

business to be transacted, the public and Press leave the meeting during consideration of the following agenda items

It was resolved to exclude the public from the next part of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED **To exclude the press and the public from the remainder**
PC/2008/54 **of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business**
 to be transacted.

15 To be updated on progress with Wroxham Road centre.

There was no progress to report, a reminder had been sent.