

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13TH MAY 2023 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors M Litton, M Venables, K Hodgkinson, P Walker, P Cobley, L Cashmore, T Smith, and A Ross.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk

ALSO

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr M Stocks

The Chairman opened the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr T Hodges, Cllr I Parkinson and PCSO P Hambleton.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 15th May 2023, having been copied to members, were confirmed as being a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON 15th MAY 2023.

-None.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

A copy of the Annual Report outlining the work of the Parish Council over the past 12 months can be found at the end of the minutes.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCILLORS FOR THE PARISH

Cllr Stocks advised that the Enforcement notice is still pending on planning application 23/01998/FUL as they are going broader than first anticipated. Highways are behind on maintenance jobs; however, they are now tackling jobs and appear to be doing them well under the Colas contract. A gullies/grids database has now been shared with the Clerk and Chairman. It was disappointing to see PCC John Dwyer lose his seat especially as he had supported the parish. Cllr Stocks went on to mention the speed analysis carried out in the parish and advise that his Members Budget is now open.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr K Hodgkinson advised Cllr Stocks that the school Lane grid is still blocked.

Query enquiring the back ground of the new PCC, Cllr Stocks advised that he is an ex-Labour Cllr from Warrington.

The PC discussed pot holes, Cllr Stocks advised that only pot holes which have been reported and assessed will be repaired.

There being no further business, the Parish Assembly meeting closed at 7.18 p.m.

ANNUAL REPORT OF LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2023-24

THE COUNCIL

Councillor Mark Litton has served as Chairman for the past twelve months with Councillor Mark Venables serving as Vice Chairman. The Parish Council has kept all 10 seats filled throughout the year, with a strong council ready for another year ahead.

CESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

Cllr Stocks has regularly attended Parish Council meetings in the year and been in contact with the council and clerk throughout the year. Cllr Stocks has again supported the Parish Council with a Christmas light switch on grant, planning applications and highway matters.

PLAY AREA

The play area remains well-kept with councillors taking on the litter picking and bin emptying. CG Services have done a good job maintaining the grassed area and have one year left on a three-year grass cutting contract. Some items at the play area need cleaning and some assets require a fresh coat of paint; this is an on-going project being completed by the Parish Councillors. There has been some anti-social behaviour incidents and graffiti at the play area. The CCTV has been a welcome asset which has been used for evidence purposes on a few occasions.

HIGHWAYS

The Highways S106 project at Townshend Road is disappointingly no further on despite the Clerk chasing for updates, in general, the road surfaces, gullies, and manholes are not being maintained to an expected standard. Some patching works have taken place but in general the road surfaces are in decline.

POLICING

Phil Hambleton is the PCSO for Shakerley. Phil is active in the parish; he carries out work with the local primary school and attended the community fun day held by the Community Centre committee in the summer. There have been several drug related arrests within the parish, and we hope to see a continued commitment from the Police in tackling drug offences in the parish.

CHURCHYARD

The Parish Council has continued its support to St. Johns Church by providing a churchyard bin and by awarding a churchyard maintenance grant. The Church is under increasing financial pressure, with funds stretched.

PLANNING

The LSEP build is underway with a completion date of Q4, 2025.

A WS Storage planning application at the old Octel site was refused in the year, Planning Enforcement have reached a stage where they are finalising their report ready to serve an Enforcement Notice requiring the cessation of the storage use, removal of trailers, the bund etc.

A planning application was approved in the year to develop the overflow carpark on Cheshire Avenue into a car sales site, work has yet to commence.

