

MOTTRAM ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

MEETING HELD 20th NOVEMBER 2017

Present Cllr W. Pilkington (Chairman), Cllr R. Hughes (Vice Chairman), Cllr A. Philpott, Cllr S. Hatton, Cllr H. Morgan, Cllr Y. Dodd, Cllr A Levis R. Taylor (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence : Cllr P. Findlow Borough Councillor.
2. Declaration of interests from Councillors : None.
3. Requests for dispensations : None.
4. Minutes of meeting held on 18th September 2017 : **Approved** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
5. Matters Arising : Chairman reported that emergency Plan now on the web site, D. Hatch has advised the music festival held on his land resulted in a financial loss and no profit was available for donation to Charity. The field used will take time to recover and it is unlikely another similar event will be held. Photographs and C.V's of Councillors to be updated on the web site.
6. Resident Participation : Ian Wright wished to record on behalf of the Village his thanks to the Clerk for his past services which were much appreciated, the Chairman echoed his sentiments on behalf of the Council. S. Blakeborough raised a wish to address the meeting on the Mercury magazine which would be dealt with later in the agenda.
7. Clerks intention to resign : The Clerk advised that he did not intend to tender his resignation till satisfactory alternative arrangements had been found. There are two alternatives at present firstly to recruit a professional or his preferred option to train a replacement. An application to work as a deputy with a view to taking over in future had been received from a resident of the Village. After debate proposed Chairman, seconded Cllr Philpott that an assistant be engaged **Resolved unanimously**. Proposed Chairman, seconded Councillor Philpott that the budget be adjusted to include the salary of an assistant and investment in training **Resolved Unanimously**.
8. Finance : The Clerk reported that the reconcilled Bank A/C at 20/11 was £14,588.61 including paid Transparency fund grant of £1,320.61. Paid since last meeting Clerks Salary of £1,751.63 and £305.91 expenses, Hedge Cutting £100, Training ChALC £35 and Councillors expenses £22.75. The transparency grant payment is made up of Vispa Connection 23 months at £19.95pm £458.85, Web Hosting fee £150, Clerks time 1 hour per month for 1 year £162, Lap Top £350, Soft ware £200 Total £1,320.61. Clerks Salary review and the cost of an assistant were debated Proposed Cllr Morgan seconded Cllr Hughes and **Resolved unanimously** that the Clerks salary be increased to £14 per hour and the assistants starting salary be fixed at £8 per

hour. The Clerk was requested to provide details of Clerks comparative salaries to assist Council in future deliberations. Budget review was considered and a request made for inclusion of a current year budget and percentage comparative to be included in future. Proposed Chairman seconded Cllr Hughes that the budget be accepted **Resolved unanimously**. The precept level for 2018/19 was debated proposed Chairman seconded Cllr Hughes that the precept be increased by two and a half percent to £7462. **Resolved unanimously**. Allotment rent review was considered and proposed Cllr Hughes seconded Cllr Hatton that the rents be increased by two and a half percent consistent with the precept increase **Resolved by four votes to 3**. Recreation ground rent reviewed and proposed Chairman seconded Cllr Hughes to remain at £60 **Resolved unanimously**.

9. Planning : Fiddlers Elbow 17/5291M application considered proposed Chairman seconded Cllr Levis to observe that the design is inconsistent with the surrounding properties and to object on the grounds of the intended design. **Resolved unanimously**. A suggestion that Council should take responsibility for ensuring neighbours have been notified of Planning applications affecting their properties was rejected after discussion.
10. Highways : 20 M.P.H. speed zone signs installed around the School. Proposed Cllr Philpott seconded Cllr Morgan that the Chairman write to Cheshire East Highways (C.E.) to request the roads be cleaned of mud, that road signs be cleaned and where appropriate repainted, that the redundant SID post/ former School warning signs be removed in the absence of a favourable response Council to consider carrying out the work **Resolved unanimously**. Residents where ever possible to be encouraged to report pot holes to C.E. on line or at T/P 0300 1235020
11. Consultations : After debate Proposed Cllr Philpott seconded Cllr Dodd that any reduction in the bus service for Children in the Village is opposed and the Chairman to respond to the Consultation **Resolved unanimously**.
12. Village Maintenance : Two Finger post signs completed and work continuing.
13. Police Report : Chairman reported on an alleged incident of substance abuse having occurred on the School car park all Councillors agreed to be vigilant and in the event of suspicious conduct to ensure it is reported.
14. ChALC Report : A.G.M. attended by Chairman, Cllr Hughes and Cllr Philpott. An increase in subscriptions of 1p per elector was approved.
15. Village and Local Communication system : Cllr Hughes to develop an Email data base.
16. Broadband update : Cllr Hughes reported that BT are installing fibre into the Village and residents should be hearing of its availability.
17. Allotments : A proposal to install a water supply to the allotments linked with a drinks fountain at the Village Green was debated and dismissed.
18. Mercury : A request to reduce the number of editions to 4 was debated, with the assistance of S. Blakeborough and proposed Cllr Hatton seconded Chairman that

efforts be made to recruit a new editor with a view to retaining 6 editions and improving the standard of the Magazine thereafter. Clerk to co-ordinate recruitment. **Resolved unanimously.**

19. Councillors reporting duties : The issue of an abandoned vehicle debated and Councillors obligations, matter has been correctly reported.
20. Crime Commissioner meeting : No need for Council to be represented at the meeting on 5th December.
21. Other Business : Council Xmas meal to be arranged by the Clerk at the Bulls Head on Thursday 7th December 7-30pm, those who have served as Councillors during the year to be invited, costs to be borne by the individuals attending.