

MOTTRAM ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

MEETING HELD 16TH MARCH 2020

Present Cllr R. Hughes (Chairman), Cllr Levis, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Hatton, Cllr Davis, Cllr Walker R. Taylor (Clerk) Cllr P Findlow Borough Councillor and 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence : Cllr Dodd family bereavement.
2. Declaration of interests from Councillors : None.
3. Requests for dispensations : None.
4. Minutes of the meeting held on: 20th January signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
5. Matters Arising : Clerk reported on the C.E. Rights of Way Officer requesting ratification of Cllr Morgan as Rights of Way Officer for Mottram St. Andrew proposed Chairman seconded Cllr Levis **Resolved Unanimously.**
6. Public Participation: W. Pilkington raised issues of Village Green seat maintenance noted by the Clerk and damage to Wilmslow Old Rd verge noted by Cllr Levis for referral to Highways.
7. Finance : Clerk reported Bank balance at 5th March £14,759.97 payments made since Knutsford IT web hosting £150, ChALC Training £70 reconciled balance at today £14,539.97. The Internal Auditor training had been completed and a meeting had taken place where a 24 point criteria for the next audit was produced, Council will be compliant therewith. Annual Risk assessment draft received from Insurers and conducted and explained by the Clerk. Issue of budget variance period considered and agreed to remain at 6 monthly.
8. Web Site/ APP : Cllr Levis produced a written report considered and debated by Council. No decision on engagement of professional supplier and progress to ensure that the web site is device compatible and creation of a Village App until further research concluded, matter carried forward to the next meeting.
9. Mercury Magazine: Cllr Hatton reported on response to the Village survey on the request for support for the magazine, 80% of residents did not reply, substantial advertising revenue had been lost. The Chairman advised that a loss of £1,100 had been incurred already in 2020 shared between the Village Hall and the Parish Council and a heated debate ensued contributed to by a member of the Public with the Chairman's agreement. This debate became unruly as there was constant interruption and emotions began to run high. The Chairman requested the member of Public to leave forthwith and this course was followed. Further structured debate continued suggesting that substantial losses would be incurred in the next financial year and proposed Chairman seconded Cllr Morgan that the Council support

financially the production of the Magazine during the forthcoming year incurring likely anticipated losses of £1,500 to £2,500 **Rejected by 5 votes to 1**. Cllr Hatton to convey the decision to the Village Hall Trustees who have voted to support the magazine.

10. Village Defibrillator : Cllr Hatton reported that the Village Hall would be installing a device and intended to apply for grant assistance, no further action needed by the Parish Council.
11. Planning : Current applications considered 20/0745M, 20/0827M, 19/5259M, No observations. Mill Hall retrospective application 20/0715M debated in full proposed Cllr Levis seconded Cllr Davies, that Council observe that the proposals were not compatible with their rural surroundings and green belt location and incompatible with previous consent **Resolved unanimously**. Council once again endorsed its disapproval of applications made retrospectively after work has been carried out. Clerk requested to respond accordingly.
12. Highways : Cllr Levis reported that Mill Lane improvement works scheduled to commence imminently. The proposed improvements to the Priest Lane junction with Prestbury Road to be readdressed with Highways. Greendale Lane adoption considerations proceeding despite significant misinformation but not yet resolved by Cheshire East. The issue of a proposal to remove Mottram Rd/ Alderley Road from the gritting schedule debated and Cllr Findlow contributed helpfully, Matter has been referred back to Highways to pursue further consultation. The Clerk reported that his negotiation with Peaks and Plains had proved successful and new car parking places are to be installed at the Bungalows at the Crescent during the forthcoming financial year commencing on 1st April.
13. Coronavirus : Clerk advised the meeting of the latest government recommendations to combat the spread of the Virus. Councillors unanimously wished to promote all members of the community to offer support to those who need it locally. Clerk requested to advertise on the notice boards that help is available in the event of individual problems.
14. Airport Liaison : Financial planning for the future severely affected by the Coronavirus quarantine recommendations. The navigation channel affecting the Village to be narrowed to the 1 Kilometre central line.
15. Climate Change Action : Council debated the proposed planting of trees and no Councillor was prepared to lead a campaign. Council wished to encourage local land owners to plant trees where ever feasible. Chairman will meet with local businesses with a view to promoting climate change initiatives, Clerk to organise.
16. Village Hall : Cllr Hatton reported on likely substantial reduction of the Village Hall's activities in view of the effects of the Coronavirus government directives. The financial planning of the Hall will be adversely affected.

17. Village Maintenance : Clerk reported on-going work being adversely affected by the weather conditions but plans in hand to complete all jobs scheduled.
18. Other Business : None