

POULTON & PULFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 25th January 2023

PRESENT : Cllr A Higgins (Chair) : Cllr Board : Cllr West : Cllr Evans : Cllr Franklin
Cllr Murray : Cllr Douglas

3 members of the public attended the meeting

Items in RED added before Minutes were issued

1 – Apologies – Cllr Ewins, Cllr Tipping, PCSO Cain Jones were unable to attend the meeting

2 – Adoptions and Appointments

Cllr Higgins stated an interest in item 6.10 Pulford Place planning application

3 – Suspension of Standing Orders

3.1 – Residents complained again about speeding through the village and on the 50 mph stretch past Cuckoos Nest where it is dangerous to walk on the pavement due to hedge growth – **Action Clerk to contact the Estate**

3.2 – The state of the pavements on Old Lane and the corner into Pulford Court was noted. Cllr Franklin stated that the Green party were intending writing to CW&C re the pavements – **Action Clerk to contact the Estate and Streetscene**

3.3 – Natural Resources Wales have been contacted re state of Pulford Brook – ref CAS-204364-J6L2 and NRW 00309301 – the Brook is now flowing freely

3.4 – A request was made to contact the Grosvenor Hotel re debris near/on the banks of the brook – **Action Clerk**

4 – Minutes of October 2022 meeting – approved

5 – Progress Reports

5.1.1 – Police – No relevant offences listed on latest report. PCSO Cain to be contacted re lack of progress on speed monitoring through the village – **Action Clerk**

5.1.2 – A security App is under development to help persons out on their own or concerned with their safety – c/f

5.2 – Community Park – report noted (attached).

5.2.1 Direction signage to the Park – c/f – **Action Cllr Franklin**

5.3 – The imminent closure of the A483 was noted – **Action Clerk to alert residents**

6 - Planning

6.1 – Woodfield Farm transit van and 2 statics remain - c/f – the Council is planning to contact the landowner

7 – Finance and Audit

The following items were approved : -

	Paid In £	Paid Out £	ITEMS REF VH or CP are approved by the VH and CP Committees
7.1		5885.69 Exc vat	Recurring Payments made 1 Apr to 15 Jan Recurring Payments 15 Jan to 31 Mar (687.16)
7.2	33 25		VH internet contributions (x3) Poppy wreath contribution received

7.3		250	Marathon funds transfer to CP ref 331
7.4		48.74	Linemarker Spray cans Graffcity via JE ref 332
7.5		1020	JFT Planter - inv 10662 - pd in 2 halves ref 333
7.6		235	EXSqueezeme Treesx2 ref 334
7.7		25.27	Homesense via MF ref 335
7.8		24.99	Xmas decs via MF ref 336
7.9		40	Xmas tree disposal via JE ref 337
7.10		82.08	Huws Gray - inv ID437682 ref 338
7.11	To pay >	(3955)	Max to pay over 2 years for 50 mph limit on B5445
7.12		c 300	Refurbishing Community Park benches etc paid by CP
7.13	On web site		Detailed spreadsheet for 2022/23 showing RECEIPTS, PAYMENTS, ANNUAL RTN 2021/22, and ASSET REGISTER

Finance Status	Bank £ 15 Jan 23	Recurring payments £ to Mar 23 to pay	CIL Funds received but not allocated	CP Ringfenced £ to 26/27	Unallocated PC Funds £ exc FI >	Further Income £ est 22/23
7.14	11,616.19	687.16	6,846.30	3584.76	497.97	2397.31 vat refund to date + 50 recurring

7.15 £ 4647.55 available till 2030 for Community Park improvements - noted

7.16 – Precept request 2023/24 – option 1 was agreed (£ 6227)

7.17 Local election likely recharge £ 181 was noted

8 – Correspondence for Information – no comments

9 – Clerk's Reports & Queries

9.1 – Pulford woods clearance and footpath establishment – noted – c/f

9.2 – Old Lane lighting – short term purchase of battery powered lights (3) approved.

Capability funding ref 2327 to be investigated - **Action Clerk to contact Karen**

9.3 – Beauty massage premises empty – **Clerk to investigate ownership of frontage – Ski Technique Ltd, 2 Chapel House Cottages**

10 - Councillors Reports, Future Agenda Items, Any Other Business

10.1 – Risk Assessment Reports – no problems reported but VH noticeboard is deteriorating

10.2 – VH update – funding target exceeded plus £ 1000 from Lady Edna trust. Citation required for David Ewins – **Action Clerk**

10.3 – Church Bank refurbishment – 6 new posts delivered. Cllr Higgins agreed to paint the existing posts. Surface refurbishment needs progressing – **Action Clerk & Cllr Higgins**

10.4 – see 9.3

10.5 – Coronation celebration to take place at VH. Meeting arranged for 21st Feb. Budget limit of £ 500 agreed – c/f

10.6 – see 3.3

10.7 – Planter set up a/w spring. There is still an issue with visibility when TR onto B5445 – **Action Cllr Franklin**

10.8 – Ivy Court road surface – ref HW256724200 probably expired – problem to be reported again and advice sought from Stuart Bateman – **Action Clerk**

10.9 – Cllr Higgins informed the meeting that he will be resigning after the April 2023 meeting

11 – Date for Meetings in 2023 – agreed - from 7 pm. details to be notified.

April 26th : July 26th : Oct 25th

DATE	NAME	SIGNATURE
JANUARY 2023		
JANUARY 2023		

This information is provided as guidance for the precept request 2023/24

It is based on the actual/estimated expenditure 2022/23

A decision is required to be sent to CW&C before the 29th Jan 2023

Example 1: Maintaining the same Band D precept charge as 2022/23 – ref 28 below

The Band D precept charge for Poulton and Pulford Parish Council in 2022/23 was **£18.45** based on a tax base of 337.5. If you want this charge to be the same in 2023/24, you will need to request a precept of **£6227**.

Example 2: Requesting the same precept as in 2022/23 – ref 29 below

In 2022/23, Poulton and Pulford Parish Council requested a precept of **£6004**. If you were to request the same precept for 2023/24, this would decrease the Band D precept charge by £0.66 to **£17.79**

There is little difference between the options but please note NO account has been taken of inflation of the recurring charges or the possible recruitment of a replacement Clerk ! I have been informed that the #gardening charges are unchanged in 2023/24.

There are CIL funds (£ 4647.65) held by CW&C for infrastructure improvements in the Parish

SUMMARY

REF NO	ITEM	AMOUNT £
20	Bank Reserves 30 th Dec 2022	+ 12,113.09
21	Est outgoings to 31 st Mar 2022	- 1001
22	Reserves allocated to CP as at 30 th Dec 2022	-3500
23	CIL funds allocated to VH Toilets refurbishment	-6846.30
24	VAT to reclaim for 2022/23 up to 30 th Dec 2022	+2320.99
25	Estimated unallocated reserves as at 1 st April 2023	+ 3086.78
26	Estimated recurring expenditure 2023/24 exc inflation 50 mph speed limit half payment	- 5394.31 - 1978

27	Shortfall of funds 2023/24	- 4285.53
28	Precept request keeping same precept charge as 2022/23 Estimated reserves 2023/24 exc Ref 14 sundry items	+6227 + 1941.47
29	Precept request same as 2022/23 Estimated reserves 2023/24 exc Ref 14 sundry items	+6004 + 1718.47

DETAIL of RECURRING ITEMS

<u>REF RP</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ESTIMATED PAYMENT £ 2023/24</u>	All Items exclude an uplift for inflation
1	Clerk's salary/expenses	703.80	
2	PWLB	0	Fully repaid in 2022/23
3	Subs CHALC;CCA;CCPF;ICO	237.16	
4	Insurance	793.91	Probably increase by £ 75
5	Audit	180	Probably increase by £ 40
6	Community Park ROSPA	45	
7	Donations : RBL, Parochial Church	349.50	
8	Software : Antivirus, Web, Office, PDF	486.99	
9	Payroll : Autela	111.95	Probably increase by £ 20
10	Community Park + VH m'ce	2390	28 CP visits + 4 Simply Green
11	BT line VH + Broadband	0	Assumes VH pays for this
12	Bank Charges	96	Every chq costs £ 2 to bank
13	Total est RECURRING EXPENDITURE	5672.83	
14	SUNDRY ITEMS 2023/24 (based on 2022/23)	2234	£ 1700 of this was for ROSPA course, IT support and another planter
15	TOTAL EST 2023/24 (based on 2022/23)	7906.83	

Projects implemented and/or planned in 2023/24 : -

16 – Pulford to A483 speed limits = £ 3955 – payable over 2 years

17 – King's Coronation ?

18 – Replacement Clerk ?

19 – Any others ?

Village Hall update

Toilet upgrade

Fundraising for the village hall toilet upgrade commenced in October 2022 using the CWAC-recommended Spacehive crowdfunding platform.

The target for fundraising was just over £22k based upon the best competitive quote from Richard Edwards (Wrexham plumber who recently renovated toilets at National Trust Erddig property). Quote included costs for related electrical work and subsequent painting and decorating.

Fundraising got off to a good start with £6,845 pledged by Poulton & Pulford Parish Council using previously earmarked Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds.

Pledges were received from an amazing total of 139 local backers including residents, friends and village hall user groups. Notable group pledges included:

Pulford Art Group	£161
Eccleston & Pulford Parochial Church Council	£75

Several generous pledges were received from local businesses and charities including:

The Grosvenor Pulford Hotel	£1,000
Sir Donald & Lady Edna Wilson Charitable Trust	£1,000
W Fair & Son	£500
DM Motors	£200

Following demonstration of excellent local support (total of 139 separate backers) David Ewins and Peter Gosmore pitched to CWAC and received the following significant pledges:

Cheshire West Crowd Fund	£5,660
Community Innovation Fund	£3,990

We reached our target on 6/1/23 and began overfunding, potentially to cover any cost contingency and possibly to purchase additional chairs for the village hall.

Project closed on 17/1/23

Total amount pledged (incl cheque payable to PPPC)	£23,038
gift aid available	£197
TOTAL	<u>£23,235</u>

Due to pre-election purdah restrictions council-funded projects must begin after the local council elections in May (scheduled for May 4th). It is anticipated / hoped work will be carried out this summer.

FRIENDS OF POULTON AND PULFORD COMMUNITY PARK

MINUTES OF MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 17th 2023

Purpose - to recap & plan for the year ahead.

1/Committee members present – NICK FRANKLIN (chairman), Peter Gosmore (treasurer), Kate Fairhurst (secretary), Jean Ewins, Jan West, Pat Shore, Simon Pryce, Jane Yeoward, Glenys Evans.

2/ Apologies – Howard Tipping, Phil White

3/ Previous minutes adopted - proposed by Peter, seconded by Jane.

4/ Financial report – current bank balance is £1872.58

4/1 Barrie Evans, clerk to the PC, reported there are £3584.76 'ringfenced funds' available to the park committee, plus £4647.55 remaining s106 funds. Simon pointed out that the s106 money which is available until 2030, can only be used to improve play facilities in the park for children under 12.

6/Safety officer's report – the park was inspected 4.1.23 and there were no issues.

7/ Chair's report

- a/ In or around Aug 2026 the initial 10 years' plan will expire and revert to the PC.
- b/ The new constitution from Nov 2022 has been adopted and signed.
- c/ A new Friends WhatsApp group has been set up solely for use by the committee.
- d/ Vandalism in the park needs to be monitored. Nick will paint over the graffiti on the bin near to the entrance. Signs on the double gates have been cleaned and the board at the side of the pedestrian gate mended.
- e/ Monitor dog fouling in the park and consider locking the gate from dusk to dawn if deemed necessary (Nick). Jane, who inspects the park regularly to be issued with a marker spray.
- f/ The frequency of gardening is generally satisfactory, strimming could be improved. One tree at the far end may be dying, it needs to be regularly checked for signs of life.
- g/ No plans as yet for future planting.
- h/ Nick should be added as a signatory to the NatWest account although Peter will consider opening a new account with Santander.
- i/ Jean's list of ideas to consider for the planned Coronation event were circulated at the meeting which should stimulate ideas for the planning meeting scheduled for FEB 21st Please retain planning sheet which also has observations concerning last year's Christmas Tree event.
- j/ Ideas for making more use of the park were discussed. - regular dates for the boules evening, perhaps establish a walking group, walking football, rounders games, more organised use of the fitness trail.
- k/ The missing defibrillator sign from the park notice board needs to be chased up. Peter volunteered to do this.
- l/ The direction signs to the park from Highways on the B5445 have been chased up. Ryan O'Rourke (CWAC highways technician) has the matter in hand.
- m/ Yellow painted stop signs by the gate need to be redone. Acquiring stencils of the correct size could be a problem. This carried forward to the next full meeting on Tuesday April 18th

AOB/ Glenys suggested that a sandpit could be popular & preferably one that could be covered. Nick will look into this further.

Simon provided a copy of the Park's asset register, this will now be updated & held by the secretary.

Next meeting: Tuesday 21st February, solely to plan for KCIII Coronation party