

MINUTES OF SAUGHALL AND SHOTWICK PARK'S ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on 25 April 2016 at the Vernon Institute, Church Road, Saughall

In attendance: Councillor A Bailey
Councillor Ms M Collins
Councillor Mrs K Ford (in the Chair)
Councillor H Jennings
Councillor J Knox
Councillor Ms A Manning
Councillor Mrs J O'Malley
Councillor Mrs JE Storrar
Councillor A Warrington
Councillor Mrs JM Young
Councillor PP Young

and 3 parishioners as listed in the attendance register.

Councillor Mrs Dolores Whitton

Prior to the commencement of the meeting everyone to attendance stood in silence for one minute in memory of Councillor Mrs D Whitton who had passed away recently.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Members were in attendance.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of Saughall and Shotwick Park's Parish Meeting held on 30 March 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman welcomed parishioners to their Annual Assembly and provided everyone in attendance with a written copy of her Annual Report.

First and foremost the Chairman paid tribute to Councillor Mrs D Whitton, an incredibly well respected and dedicated long serving Parish Councillor of 43 years who had helped to improve the quality of life in the local area. Her hard work had been much appreciated and her accomplishments would be of great benefit to future generations living in Saughall. Councillor Mrs Whitton was remembered fondly and it was agreed that she would be greatly missed.

The Chairman reported on the changes in membership of the Council that had been brought about in May 2015, following a Boundary Review and an uncontested Election. She paid tribute to those Councillors who had stood down after many years of dedicated service.

The Chairman then went into detail about some of the achievements and successes the Council had enjoyed over the last twelve months including the following initiatives:

- The Provision of New Christmas Lights.
- The Cheshire Railings Refurbishment.
- The Re-launch of the Saughall Home Watch.
- The Ongoing Public Consultation Exercise on the Proposal to Re-develop the Golden Jubilee Park.
- The Council's part in persuading the Bus Company to improve the Saughall Bus Service.

The Chairman also referred to the Council's budget and informed that the Council had a budget of £81,653 and its precept had been £62,214. It had been increased by 2.2% for 2016/17 Financial Year.

The Chairman reported that Councillors remained very committed to their role and volunteered their time willingly to help improve the degree of enjoyment and satisfaction experienced in everyday life by people who lived in Saughall. Councillors were summoned to attend all Parish Council meetings and she urged residents to attend some of them in order to share ideas and concerns about the local community during public speaking time.

Finally, the Chairman informed that as the Council was relatively new, at her request, most Members of it and the Clerk had provided a short biography about themselves which she had included in her report of parishioner's information.

The Chairman then asked if anyone had any questions.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The following questions were asked and answered:

Mr B Kerr informed that he had noted that the Chairman had not mentioned anything in her report about the regretful abandonment of the initiative to provide a Community and Sports Pavilion in the Golden Jubilee Park.

The Chairman informed Mr Kerr that the Council had agreed to resubmit the planning application for the Community and Sports Pavilion.

Mr Kerr asked why the Council had agreed to resubmit the same planning application when it had also determined that the project was not financially viable.

The Chairman thanked Mr Kerr for his comment which she informed that the Council would discuss at its next meeting.

Mr DF Holman made reference to the long standing flooding saga on Long Lane and asked if the problem had been resolved.

The Chairman informed that on 8 April 2016 the Clerk had written to Mr Steve Robinson, Chief Executive of Cheshire West and Chester Council to request that he ensure that a satisfactory solution was reached in respect of this problem, as a matter of urgency. She was aware that investigations were ongoing.

Councillor A Warrington informed that he had spoken to the Engineer who had been on site. The Engineer had informed that there were a number of issues to be addressed. Work was in hand and it was expected that, this time, the flooding problem would be resolved.

Mr DF Holman then referred to the drainage issues on Seahill Road which had come to a head in the winter of 2014. He informed that remedying the situation had been complicated by the Environment Agency, the Environment Agency Wales and Cheshire West and Chester Council all being involved. He asked if the problem had now been addressed.

The Chairman informed that she did not know if the appropriate action had been taken to alleviate the flooding.

Mr DF Holman informed that he would provide the Clerk with the contact details of the officer responsible for flood prevention at Cheshire West and Chester Council so that she could ascertain whether or not the work required to address the flooding problem had been undertaken or not.