

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Thursday 10th November 2022 at 19:30** in St Peter's Village Hall Worcester, WR5 3TA.

Present: Chairman Cllr. Mr. A. Tucker, Cllrs., , Mr. J. Renshaw, Mr. D. Saunders, and Mr. R. Knight, Mr A. Tidy, Mrs. A. Wycherley & Dr. D. Tibbutt.

Also present: Two members of public, City and County Councillor Mr. S. Mackay, and the Clerk.

11022 Apologies for Absence: Cllr. Mr. P. Walters.

11122 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

11222 Adoption of Minutes: Council agreed to adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6th October 2022. The Chairman duly signed the master copy which would be held within the minute book.

Public Participation: Two members of public were in attendance. No comments raised.

11322 Casual vacancy: Council considered nominations for the vacant Councillor position. Two applicants had already notified the Clerk of willingness to serve as Councillor for the current electoral period and both were in attendance. Details of the nominees were provided to Council and thus followed a brief verbal presentation by each applicant. Following the presentations, Council voted by way of a raise of the hand. Upon the conclusion of the process, Council resolved to co-opt the following self-qualified elector as a Councillor: Mr James Woolgar of Hayling Close, St Peter's, Worcester. The co-opted Councillor signed the obligatory Acceptance of Office document and was welcomed to the table by Council. Council also thanked the unsuccessful applicant for their participation.

11422 Reports from District and County Councillors:

- a. City and County Cllr. Mackay had submitted a written report prior to the meeting covering County and City issues. Council noted the report which included:
 - i. Electric charging points are planned to be installed at Tallow Hill and King Street near the city centre.
 - ii. The Gull population is being assessed within Worcester.
 - iii. Public consultation relating to the provision of traveller sites within the SWDP is due to run from the 13th of December.
 - iv. The Christmas light switch on in the city centre is on the 26th of November.
 - v. The CCTV at the underpass is online. Now just awaiting signage.
 - vi. The BMX pump track business case is being prepared as part of a larger play strategy.
 - vii. Cllr. Mackay is to fund measures to improve biodiversity within the green spaces in St Peter's by working with WEG. The Chairman requested Cllr. Tidy be involved in such plans as the environment portfolio holder.
 - viii. New streetlamps have been installed in Power Park, just awaiting an update on the streetlight near Tesco.
 - ix. The Ketch viewpoint is now open. New signage is yet to be installed.
 - x. Ongoing disruption for parking in the city following a technical glitch with the payment system for City Council car park machines.

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- b. Other matters: Cllr. Tidy raised an issue relating to Aldersley Park whereby a resident has been reportedly cutting trees down without permission. Clerk and Cllr. Tidy to raise the issue with Environmental Operations.

11522 Matters arising and action sheet: Council received updates on the latest actions:

- a. Pedestrian crossing at Primrose Crescent has been painted. No update for the signage yet.
- b. Reports of a street lighting issue at the bottom of Foxglove pedway, Cllr. Mackay to investigate.
- c. CCTV in now in place, need to ensure this is now working.
- d. Path surfaces continue to be an issue, Councillors to report any issues to the Clerk for an up-to-date list to be directed to highways.
- e. Liaison with WV. The Chairman has been in contact, waiting for an update.
- f. Tesco repairs for planters. The project is still awaiting contractors.
- g. Tree planting in the Parish. An update on Queens Green Canopy and the winter planting regime. The City Council is providing trees to celebrate the Jubilee earlier in the year. The Parish Council will also separately fund new planting in dedicated areas of the Parish over the winter planting period.

11622 Highways, Developments & Planning:

- a. Area 51. Following a request for an updated report, the City Council has confirmed that no inspections are currently being carried out. Council requested the Clerk to contact the Director for Communities to request confirmation when the previously allocated £12k will be implemented, and when the Parish Council can expect play inspections to resume. The Parish Council is also missing a swing following Covid-19 restrictions.
- b. Highways. The Chairman gave an update following a recent meeting with the Highways Liaison Officer. Several issues were raised in a letter from the Parish Council, mainly around the SLR including pollution, traveller site, barriers, ketch roundabout, speed limit, and signage. The Liaison Officer confirmed an appropriate response could be expected at the beginning of December.

11722 St Peter's Festival: Cllr. Renshaw and the Clerk provided a report following a festival working party on the 7th of November:

- a. Council agreed the proposed date for the festival in 2023 is the 11th of June.
- b. Council agreed the proposed venue for 2023 of Power Park.
- c. The next Festival working party was proposed as 9th January at 8pm via Zoom.
- d. The Chairman requested the draft site plan to be considered at the next working party on 9th January.

11822 Finance:

- a. The Clerk presented a verbal quarter 1 update and the latest financial position of Council.
- b. Council approved the following payments, including those made since the last meeting under delegated authority.

Amount	Payable To	Reason for Payment
£42.00	DCK accounting	Payroll
£750.00	Acorns Hospice	Festival donation

11922 Clerks Report: To receive a report from the Clerk on correspondence to the Council and other pertinent administrative matters:

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- a. Communication from Electoral Services regarding the approaching potential electoral period.
- b. The City Council has requested the Parish Council cover the cost of carrying out annual inspections to the newly installed outdoor gym equipment. Given that this equipment was purchased for park users and installed on City Council land the Parish Council propose for the City Council to cover these expenses as has previously been delivered for Area 51 play area. Council requested the Clerk raise the issue with the Head of Environmental Operations.
- c. Council requests a follow up meeting between City Council senior management and Parish Council.

12022 Budget: The Chairman confirmed the reformation of the budget working party on the 18th of October. The Clerk is still awaiting confirmation of expected tax base within the Parish. Council debated the results from the budget working party. Cllr. Tibbutt suggested not to purchase benches due to cost-of-living crisis. Cllr. Tidy confirmed the benches have been requested by residents and funds are available and allocated to parks within this financial year.

12122 Portfolio Holder Reports:

- a. **Local Planning:** Cllr. Saunders gave a verbal update including details regarding a recent positive meeting with the head of planning at the City Council.
- b. **Community Engagement:**
 - i. Cllr. Wytcherley provided feedback regarding the ground conditions at the spin piece of outdoor gym equipment; the Chairman confirmed this issue had been discussed at a previous meeting, Council recapped the discussion regarding the prohibitive cost to purchase grass matting to place around the gym equipment.
 - ii. Cllr. Wytcherley is experiencing some difficulty in attracting potential community organisations to apply for grants from the Parish Council.
- c. **Environment.**
 - i. Council agreed to Cllr. Tidy's proposal for the purchase of four benches for the parks at a cost of £815 each +VAT and that the Clerk be authorised to spend up to £300 for the purchase of trees.
 - ii. The final litter pick of the year is on Thursday 24th November at 10am.
 - iii. There appears to be an increase in graffiti tagging around the area.
 - iv. A bin that was installed in Power Park has still not been moved despite confirmation from the City Council that the current location of the bin is temporary.
- d. **Community Facility:** Cllr. Knight gave a verbal update on plans to build a new community facility. Plans are being submitted to the planning authority in the near future and the project is at a critical point.
- e. **Other business:** The previous long-standing Clerk is unfortunately experiencing ill health and is currently in hospital. Any calls or messages offering support would be well received.

12222 Date of Next Meeting: The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was proposed as Thursday 12th January 2022 at 19:30, at St Peter's Village Hall, Worcester WR5 3TA.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....