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| Date: | 10th July 2024  |

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at St Boniface Church on Thursday 23rd March 2024.**

1. **Apologies for absence.** Councillor Katherine Hutchinson sent her apologies**.**
2. **Declaration of interests. Members to declare any interests under the following categories: - Pecuniary interests, outside body interests, family, friend or close associate interests.** The Clerk asked that it be noted that the proposed development at Roselands Poultry Farm is opposite his private residence.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting. To be agreed.** The motion to accept the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting was proposed by Councillor Nell Jones, Seconded by Councillor Barry Bell and passed unanimously
4. **To discuss any items raised by members of the public. To be considered under the Council’s Standing Orders.** There were no members of the public present, and no items raised.
5. **Finance. To note that the Annual Parish Meeting discussed the Parish Council’s Annual Governance & Accounting Review (“AGAR”) for the year to 31st March 2024.** This was discussed at length in the earlier meeting.
6. **Street Lights. The Clerk has had a reply from James Pearson about street lights as follows *“I am not sure if you will see this as good news however there appears to be some options. Please let me know if you have the details that have outlined and if you have previously conducted a survey. If there is an option to streamline this and reduce costs, then this is something I would push for. I am unclear what my contribution could be re finances but I am willing to have the conversation with Highways.”* The Highways Department has only referred us to their letter of October 2021, which is attached, and says that it is not Council Policy to adopt lighting owned and maintained by Parish Councils”**

 **The Clerk has also been in communication with Chris Draper of Clear Utility Solutions, (ChalC’s recommended supplier) and has a quote of approx. £ 480.00 per year for 3 years, compared to Scottish Power’s current pricing of about £ 630.00 per year for 1198.9 units on Mpan 1300037975211**

After some discussion it was agreed to move to new supplier.

1. **Composition of the Council. To welcome any new members of the Council, co-opted at the Annual Parish Meeting.** Ian Jones was warmly welcomed to Spurstow Parish Council by all members.
2. **Planning applications, current, and outstanding. There has been one new application notified recently, under reference 24/1472N for “*Prior approval of conversion of two agricultural buildings to 5 dwellings including provision of gardens and parking.”* at Roselands Poultry Farm on Peckforton Hall Lane. The Clerk will update the Council at the meeting if there are any other applications.** The Clerk has sent a letter to Cheshire East Council and is awaiting their reaction. Cllr Finney has spoken to Cheshire Easts Councillor James Pearson about this, and Cllr. Pearson has promised to look at this particular development.
3. **Speed Indicating Device. This has been on Long Lane since the last meeting. Mr and Mrs Stansfield have kindly agreed to maintain it for the time being.** It was decided to leave it where it is, as it is doing a very good job.
4. **Any other business raised by Councillors.** It was agreed that the Council should support the campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of lithium batteries. The Clerk was asked to review other expenses, including insurance costs and maintenance costs. Cllr. Bell mentioned the potential resurfacing of the A49 through most of Spurstow in June.
5. **Flooding on long lane.  The Clerk has received a short response from Ron Henderson on 29th April in which he has promised to “…book some time in for us to look at future works and information hand outs..”, and will update the Council on this, after which the Council will receive any updates from Councillors or members of the public.**

Cllr. Midlemiss has been told of a report about this, but neither Spurstow Parish Council nor he have seen the report. Cllr. Finney feels that the problem is centred on three particular places. The Clerk to keep parishioners informed with progress including Ms Fairclough, Mr and Mrs Thrussell and The Yew Tree. I was agreed that the Clerk should suggest that anyone who has experienced a flooding issue write to Ron Henderson directly as well to Spurstow Parish Council. It was noted that Talbarn has had flooding issues for a at least two years. The Clerk was asked to contact Cheshire East Council to ensure that the kerbs stones on the inside of the corner near The Yew Tree, which are currently sitting proud are removed or repaired.

**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:29**