

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

Present: K. Gleave (Chairman)
Councillors: J. Regan P. Carter C. Lee P. Gore
T. Wood L. Smith A. Bird R. Smith
A. Litton J. Wheeler V. Hudson

Also Present: C Wakefield – Clerk
10 Members of the public
PCSO L. Gover
N. Davies, Warrington Guardian

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Reynolds sent his apologies. Cllr R. Smith sent his apologies for the start of the meeting (note – he arrived during the Police report).

The Chairman suspended the meeting at this point to hear a report from the Police and receive a written report from PCSO Grady. He then took questions from the Public. The meeting was then resumed.

2. To be informed of progress towards filling the 2 Casual Vacancies for the Council in Sankey South Ward

It was confirmed that no election had been called for, therefore the vacancies should be filled by co-option. Advertisements have been put in the normal places and applicants advised to send in their details by 30th October so that the Council may consider them and vote on co-option at the next meeting.

Cllr Bird asked to make a personal statement at this point, then read out his resignation letter. A copy was given to the Clerk, and he also gave a letter to Miss Davies from the Warrington Guardian.

The Chairman said he was sorry that he (Mr. Bird) feels as he does and thanked him for his work for the Council and the success of the projects he has worked on via the Youth Group. Mr. Bird left the meeting.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th September 2009

The Chairman asked if the Council were willing to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting and acceptance was agreed.

Cllr Wheeler pointed out she had been unable to attend the last meeting as she was working and asked whether, in future, it can be recorded when the reason for absence is work. It was agreed that this will be done.

RESOLVED To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday
PC/2009/72 9th September 2009 as a true and accurate record

PC/2009/61

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

4. Finance Committee business

- 4.1 to be informed that the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 1st September 2009 (already received) were approved and accepted without amendment at the meeting on 6th October 2009

The Council noted that the minutes had been accepted.

- 4.2 To receive the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on 6th October 2009, to be informed of the items approved for payment at that meeting and to have the opportunity to question any payments

The papers had been circulated prior to the meeting and there were no questions or comments on them.

Cheque number 8357 was signed for £50 to the Warrington Older Peoples Forum in accordance with Resolution FC/11/2009.

- 4.3 To be informed that Finance Committee, at the meeting on 6th October 2009, authorised payments of £5536.29 for net wages and £1731.82 for payments to Inland Revenue. This was a difference of 25% more than August which was a very low month, but 2% more than March which was more typical

The Council noted the figures and accepted the explanation.

- 4.4 To consider recommendations made by Finance Committee at the meeting on 6th October 2009 and decide whether to accept them

Two recommendations had been made. FC/112/2009 is covered by agenda item 7 and Cllr Regan moved that FC/114/2009 should be discussed after the Public and Press have left the meeting as it is confidential in that it involves Council staff. This was agreed.

RESOLVED To discuss FC/114/2009 after the exclusion of the Public and
PC/2009/73 Press due to the confidential nature of the matters to be
discussed (Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960
s1(2))

- 5 5.1 To receive the draft minutes of the latest Youth Project Group meeting and a verbal update of any further activity, and decide if there is any action for the Council at this time.

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr R. Smith reported that the meeting and subsequent activities had largely been involved with the Shadow Parish Council event which took place on 12th October. The event had been very successful, despite one of the schools not turning up as expected, and had been won by St. Gregory's. They had been awarded the shield and all the children

PC/2009/62

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

taking part had received a mini-plaque and certificate each. Many Councillors contributed to the discussion at this point, emphasizing the success of the event and how impressed they had been with the standard of the debate and the excellent grasp of the issues demonstrated by the young people taking part. This was the third Shadow Parish Council event run by Great Sankey and was the best attended. The view was that these should continue annually. Cllr Liz Smith praised Allan Bird for his work with the Shadow Parish Council event and said he will be sadly missed by the Youth Projects Group. Other members concurred. She said that more commitment would now be needed by other Councillors if the group is to go forward.

5.2 To consider recommendations made by the Youth Projects Group at the meeting on 23rd September 2009 and decide whether to accept them.

Two recommendations had been made. Resolution YPG/7/2009 was to not have Sankey All Stars sessions run in October 2009 half-term. Finance Committee had already considered and endorsed this recommendation as setting up an October scheme would have been too rushed. The recommendation was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED **To refrain from running a Sankey All Stars scheme in**
PC/2009/74 **October 2009 half-term.**

Resolution YPG/8/2009 was to recommend holding further discussions, including Ivan Baracskai, over running Sankey All Stars sessions during Easter and Summer holidays in 2010. This was also agreed unanimously, with the direction that the Finance Committee should also be involved.

RESOLVED **To hold further discussions, involving Ivan Baracskai, Finance**
PC/2009/75 **Committee, YPG and Wolves with regard to running Sankey All**
 Stars Schemes at Easter and Summer 2010.

Cllr R. Smith said that the Young Role Model award which the YPG had discussed had been shelved for now, but information already gathered would be held in reserve in case there is a need to revive it in the future.

6. To receive an update report on actions taken since the last meeting over the Pycroft Road area flood alleviation proposals and decide if there is any further action to be taken at this stage

Councillors Wood, Carter and Lee all declared a personal interest in this item because of their connections to UU. Cllr Wheeler stated that Development Control will be undertaking a site visit in relation to UU's planning application for Stocks Lane Playing Field. It was also pointed out that the Public Inquiry relating to the residents application to have the field designated as a Village Green is being deferred until January. UU have lodged an objection to this application and WBC have lodged a comment about it. Councillors have been asked why GSPC have not commented on this application, but GSPC had not been invited to comment. GSPC has asked to be involved and is being allowed to take part in the Public Inquiry.

PC/2009/63

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

It was asked if UU are following up any of the other possible sites which had been suggested. Cllr Lee had tried to contact UU about this but they have recently undergone some internal re-organisation and contacts had changed. He commented that they had already done a lot of investigative work in the area and he thought they were continuing. The Clerk was asked to write to UU for an update and invite them to a meeting, as the Council still wants to get a solution to the flooding problem which will have the least impact on other areas and people.

There was some discussion of possible outcomes should the Village Green application be successful and it emerged that there could be a number of unintended consequences which could have a negative impact on the football pitch there – Cllr Wheeler volunteered to get more information on this from WBCs solicitor, and pass it on to other Councillors via the Clerk. This is a new situation and so there is a lot of unknown ground.

7. To consider draft changes to Standing Orders recommended by Finance Committee and decide whether to accept them

A copy of the proposed changes to Standing Orders, affecting paragraphs 18.2, 18.5, 24.1 and 24.2, had been circulated prior to the meeting and Cllr Regan proposed that the Council accept them. There was some discussion as to whether there could be any exceptions allowed under para 18.5 e.g. for an organisation that did not have accounts for a year as they had not been operating that long. It was agreed that there was still scope for the Council to consider and vote on exceptional cases. It was therefore agreed to accept and adopt the draft changes as proposed by Finance Committee.

RESOLVED **To accept revision of Standing Orders paragraphs 18.2, 24.1
PC/2009/76 and 24.2 and insertion of new paragraph 18.5**

8. To be updated about progress with running a 15 week Boxing Course for young people in the Parish

Cllr Regan reported that the course is due to start on 16th October at Hood Lane Community Centre. Phoenix Club had experienced a delay with their printers so the leaflets and posters had only just arrived, however they said they would give an extra week free if that delay adversely affects take up in week one. There was some discussion of how the publicity is being handled and the Council was satisfied that a lot of effort is going into the publicity.

Cllr Lee said that Cllr Regan is to be applauded for his efforts in getting this running and the Chairman echoed the sentiment and expressed the Council's thanks.

9. To receive a report from WBC about the Summer Playschemes they ran over the Borough this Summer and note the success of the Great Sankey Schemes in terms of children registered and attending when compared to like schemes. To decide whether to allocate the same amount to such schemes in 2010, venues to be decided later.

PC/2009/64

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

The report from WBC had been circulated prior to the meeting. Whittle Hall scheme had been top, in terms of numbers of children registered, of the 25 schemes run by WBC for other organisations. Tim Parry scheme was in fourth place and Bewsey Barn was fourteenth. This was very successful and the Clerk pointed out it could have been even better, if more Play Leaders had been employed, as both Whittle Hall and Tim Parry had been obliged to turn children away on some days. It was suggested that next year the schemes should be publicised on Chapelford, possibly via the Residents Association.

Cllr L. Smith asked that consideration be given to siting a scheme at Hood Manor Community Centre next year, instead of Bewsey Barn. Hood Manor does not have a suitable outdoor area for play but it was suggested that Cllr Litton could ask Hood Manor school for the use of their playing field for the scheme. He is to check on this and report back, and Finance Committee was asked to carry out a review and make recommendations on how and where the schemes are to be arranged for 2010. The Council agreed unanimously that £3000 should be set in the budget for 2010/11 for WBC-run playschemes.

RESOLVED **To allocate £3000 in the 2010/11 budget for Playschemes to**
PC/2009/77 **be run by WBC**

- 10. To consider letter from WBC concerning changes to the way previously approved planning applications are dealt with. To consider if the Parish Council now want to have Ward Lists circulated to all members and to note the time limits for determination.**

After some discussion of this item it was agreed that in future, because of tighter timescales, ward lists emailed to the Clerk should be forwarded by email to the Council, with the exception of those who already receive them as Borough Councillors.

- 11. To consider if the Council wishes to accept a proposal to have full Parish meetings in August as in other months.**

There was a feeling that there was some merit to this suggestion, although Cllr Lee did query if it would be possible for the office staff to cope with an extra meeting. As changes would require revision to Standing Orders it was agreed that a proposal to alter Standing Orders to this effect be put to the next meeting for a vote.

- 12. To receive an update from Cllr Wood on progress with the suggestion to set up a group to take action over concerns about the state of the cemetery at St Mary's, in liaison with other interested parties.**

Cllr Wood reported this is progressing well. She encouraged Councillors to visit Manchester Road cemetery to see the kind of improvement that can be made, and to join a "Friends" group when it is set up. Cllr Reynolds is now working with her and there are plans to look at Burtonwood Cemetery, talk to Penketh PC and do a site visit to St Mary's to see what can be done with funds available.

PC/2009/65

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

13. To hear report from Cllr Wood from the Warrington West Neighbourhood Area Board.

There was not much to report except that all representatives had been selected but there was still a need for one for Sankey North, and there are spaces available on various working groups if any residents want to join up. The next meeting is 15th October so there should be progress to report soon.

14. To consider planning applications received by the Council and consider if any objections are to be raised

Cllr Wheeler left the room.

The Council considered and discussed the applications on the list circulated prior to the meeting. There were no objections to be made. Cllr R. Smith declared a personal interest in application 2009/15117 and then informed the meeting that the applicant (Park Road School) was considering withdrawing the application and opting to build a shorter fence which would not require planning permission.

Cllr Wheeler returned to the meeting.

15. To consider correspondence received by the Council and consider if any action is required.

A list of correspondence and copies of letters had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. The Council considered and noted all items. Councillors were asked to inform the Clerk if they wished to take up any of the invitations that had been sent.

16. To receive reports from Councillors and consider if any action is required.

Cllr Lee said he had observed people still parking on the hatched lines at Tim Parry car park and suggested that a warning notice or notices be put up.

He also brought up the issue of how householders should dispose of shredded paper as he has had conflicting replies to this query from WBC. He asked if Cllr Litton could get a definitive answer and report back.

Cllr Wheeler gave a quick report on the results of the half marathon she and Cllr Reynolds and Gleave had run recently. All had completed the course and they had raised a significant amount of money for local charities through sponsorship. She also reported that the Bewsey Old Hall Development Planning Inquiry had reconvened to look at the revised plans. A decision is expected by the end of the year.

Cllr Regan raised the issue of a local business that was looking for somewhere for an indoor football school. The Clerk had refused the booking as all the Council's venues have a "no ball games" rule but they had turned to Cllr Regan to see if that could be waived. It was agreed that the case should be referred to the Finance Committee to consider all the issues involved, particularly safety.

PC/2009/66

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

Cllr Litton reported on developments in trying to solve the problem of Liverpool Road residents being disturbed by waste transfer vehicles. Talks have been held and good progress made, a later start time has been agreed and an end put to waste vehicles parking up. A helpline has also been set up and further measures are being considered.

Cllr Wood reported that she had been consulted by one user group from the Tim Parry Community Centre that wanted a request from the Council but she would refer it to the Finance Committee.

Cllr Gleave informed the Council that there had been a meeting about developments to improve Sankey Valley Park at which a number of schemes had been proposed. WBC are consulting the owners of Bewsey Old Hall and there may be exciting developments to come.

- 17. Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and Press leave the meeting during consideration of the following agenda items**

It was resolved to exclude the public from the next part of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED PC/2009/78 To exclude the press and the public from the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- 18. To be informed of the current position over Wroxham Road centre and decide if there is any action for the Council or decisions to be made at this time.**

There was no progress to report.

- 19. Communications**

As this item had been requested by A. Bird it was deemed to be withdrawn.

- 20. To consider FC Resolution 114/2009 – to recommend implementation of 1% pay increase for Caretaker/Cleaners and to consider implementation of increases in annual leave as published by NALC**

Papers had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting showing the NJC pay award from 2009 and the effect this would have on the pay of the Council's staff, including monetary effect of the annual leave increase for Caretaking staff and the amount of arrears if the pay award is accepted. Cllr Carter declared a personal interest and did not take part in the discussion or vote on this item.

It was asked if the increase was within the amount allowed for in the 2009/10 budget and it was confirmed that it was. The Council voted unanimously, with

PC/2009/67

Chairman's signature and date.....

GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2009 in Tim Parry Community Centre

one abstention, to accept the recommendation and implement the pay award, including annual leave increases.

**RESOLVED
PC/2009/79**

To implement the NJC Pay Award from 1/4/2009, including the increases in annual leave (LGA 1972 s111)

PC/2009/68

Chairman's signature and date.....