



**CHURCH  
LAWTON**  
Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023, 8:00PM, LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL**

**Present:**

Cllrs: G Mitchell (chair), L Bowler, L Grimshaw, K Newton

Patrick Redstone attended and was co-opted during the meeting.

Clerk – Sue Davies

The meeting started at 8:00 PM.

**22-23/131 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors E Mitchell and B Newton.

**22-23/132 Public Speaking – to allow any members of the press or public the opportunity to speak in accordance with Standing Orders.**

None

**22-23/133 To receive any declaration of interests regarding agenda items.**

None were declared.

**22-23/134 Co-option – To consider and agree to co-opt Patrick Redstone onto the Parish Council.**

The Council resolved to co-opt Patrick Redstone. Cllr Mitchell welcomed him to the Council.

It was raised that since P Redstone is also a Cheshire East councillor for Odd Rode, that the Parish Council ensure correct procedures are followed around conflict of interests, but it was noted that Cllr Redstone isn't on any Cheshire East planning committee.

**22-23/135 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> January.**

The minutes of the meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2023, were approved by those present subject to some agreed typing errors.

**22-23/136 To receive and note the minutes of Committee Minutes.**

Staffing Committee Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 - deferred.

**22-23/137 Matters Arising – updates were received on the following items:**

**a. Christmas Lights**

No further update.

**b. Newsletter**

The Clerk is still planning to produce a newsletter to include election promotion and the budget. Election material was considered the priority. It was noted that available staff hours had been problematic.

**c. Website Updates**

Website updates are still ongoing.

**d. Hedgehog – spaces in walls**

The Clerk is still pursuing this with the Alsager Urban Wildlife group.

**22-23/138 To receive matters from the Cheshire East representative present.**

- Cllr Redstone reported that the refuge on the A50, funded by the money awarded to Cheshire East councillors as a ward budget, has been completed. He thanked the Parish Council for their support. He feels it has helped to provide a good link between Church Lawton and Rode Heath. He noted that further money will be available and so further ideas can be considered. This will need to be a future agenda item.
- Cllr Redstone updated on the Cheshire East code of conduct and forthcoming changes.

**22-23/139 Finance**

It was agreed to defer all finance items until the next meeting.

**22-23/140 Banking**

**a. To consider and resolve to agree mandate changes needed – Unity Bank.**

The following mandate changes were agreed:

- To make K Newton a full signatory.
- To add P Redstone as an online signatory.
- To add the assistant clerk as an online signatory (once recruited)

**b. To receive an update on the Nat West Accounts.**

The Council resolved that:

- a £10,000 payment be made by cheque from the NatWest to the Unity Account.
- the Clerk try again to close the accounts with Nat West.

**22-23/141 Lawton Memorial Hall**

**a. To receive feedback from the Memorial Hall working party and agree any actions required.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**b. To receive any updates from the Memorial Hall Committee**

It was agreed that it is probably not necessary to have a representative going forward now that the Parish Council is the trustee.

**22-23/142 Planning Matters**

**a. To consider and agree responses to the following applications:**

**23/0222C Trent and Mersey Canal, Liverpool Road West, Church Lawton, ST7 3DD  
Formation of Field Access.**

It was resolved to object due to safety issues around the number of entrances onto the A50 in the vicinity of the proposal and also the fact that the brow of the hill and bend at the site makes visibility difficult.

**b. To receive any updates on outstanding applications.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/143 To receive documents relating to the Civility and Respect with a view to formally adopting the policies and making the pledge.**

It was agreed to defer all items until the next meeting.

**22-23/144 Police and Community Speedwatch**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/145 Signage in the Parish: To receive a report from Cllr Mitchell and the Clerk.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/146 Flyposting: To receive an update.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/147 Environmental matters**

It was agreed to defer all items until the next meeting.

**22-23/148 Highway Matters.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/149 Events – to consider the King’s Coronation and to agree any actions relating to the Parish Council.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/150 Communication with the public and APM**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/151 To receive any correspondence or other matters from the Clerk.<sup>1</sup>**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/152 To receive any other reports and matters from the chair or members.<sup>1</sup>**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/153 Training/meetings and courses: To note training attended and to consider any training requirements.**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**22-23/154 To agree Date of next meeting along with a meeting schedule until the elections in May.**

Fortnightly meetings were proposed on Monday: 20<sup>th</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**22-23/155 Future Agenda Items**

Ideas for proposals for the highways ward budget.

**22-23/156 To resolve to exclude the press and public due to the sensitive nature of the following items.**

The Council resolved to exclude the press and public.

**22-23/157 Staffing Issues**

**a. To consider recommendations from the staffing committee at its meetings on the 10th October 2022.**

It was agreed to defer this item.

**b. To receive a report from the Clerk and to consider resolve to agree or otherwise the recruitment of a candidate for position of assistant clerk. To agree the terms of any offer.**

It was agreed to recruit L Minshull into the role of assistant clerk on a six-month contract. Conditions and pay were agreed. The Clerk was asked to prepare the contract and arrange the start date with Mrs Minshull.