



MOSTON PARISH COUNCIL

12th April 2023

Commenced: 7.30 pm

Terminated: 8.05 pm

Present: Councillor A Roscoe (Chair)
Councillors C Lockett and D Nixon

Apologies for
Absence: Councillors Haigh, Harrop and Moran

Also in attendance were 9 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Moran, Haigh and Harrop.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members of the Parish Council

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th March 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. FINANCES AND BUDGET

(i) 2022-2023 Finances

The Clerk presented the budget expenditure for the 2022-2023 financial year to 31st March 2023, as follows:-

BUDGET HEAD	TOTAL SPEND 2022-2023	BUDGET ALLOCATED	DIFFERENCE	FORECASTED EXPENDITURE 2023-2024
Salary	£3,628.46	£3,000.00	120.95%	£3,300.00
General Admin	£321.02	£200.00	160.51%	£500.00
Website/ICT Costs	£358.79	£600.00	59.80%	£500.00
Insurance	£205.20	£250.00	82.08%	£400.00
Payroll Costs	£189.00	£150.00	126.00%	£300.00
Audit Fees (internal)	£399.00	£150.00	266.00%	£500.00
Subscriptions	£309.68	£350.00	88.48%	£320.00
Meeting Room Hire	£160.00	£150.00	106.67%	£150.00
Training	£199.00	£300.00	66.33%	£200.00
Planning Support (includes Reserves)	£559.16	£2,655.00	21.06%	
Parish Improvements/Events	£2,748.68	£5,200.00	52.86%	£800.00
Chair's Fund	£50.00	£0.00		£30.00
	£9,127.99	£13,005.00		£7,000.00

RESOLVED

That delegated authority be given to the Clerk to make appropriate purchases/payments from the budget headings listed above, to the maximum forecasted expenditure for 2023-2024 financial year.

(ii) Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk submitted the Parish Council's bank reconciliation at 31st March 2023, which was as follows:

Bank Reconciliation 31 March 2023			
MOSTON PARISH COUNCIL			
Financial year ending 31 March 2023			
Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO			
			£
Balance per bank statements as at 31 March 2023		£	
Current Account (07572433)		£17,650.96	
Reserve Account (including interest)		£5,042.08	£22,693.04
			£22,693.04
Less: any unpresented cheques			£0.00
Add: any unbanked cash		None	
			£22,693.04
Net bank balances as at 31 March 2023			
<p>The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows</p>			
CASH BOOK			
Main and Reserve @ 01.04.2022			£18,298.37
Add: Receipts in the year			£13,522.66
Less: Payments in the year			£9,127.99
Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above			£22,693.04

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

(iii) AGAR Statement of Exemption 2022-2023

RESOLVED

That Moston Parish Council certifies that during the financial year 2022/23, the higher of the authority's total gross income for the year or total gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed £25,000, and the Clerk be authorised to complete and submit the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2022/2023 Form 2

(iv) Internal Auditor

RESOLVED

That Davenport Accountants Limited be appointed as Moston Parish Council's Internal Auditor for 2022-2023 (not 2023-2024 as originally recorded).

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council considered updates from Councillor Nixon on the following applications:-

- **New Planning Applications**

- (i) 23/1003C - Land North of Junction with Mill Lane, Warmingham Lane, Moston, Cheshire East, CW11 3PT

Full planning application had been submitted for the removal of concrete lagoons and structures and redevelopment of the site to provide a single detached dwelling.

Councillor Nixon explained the history of the site which had been purchased by Bluefield Sandbach, along with the Albion Lock Chemical Works site. The land was categorised as brownfield land. The land was currently unsightly and was an area used for fly tipping.

There was a mixed response by the Members to the design proposal, whilst they all agreed that the proposal would enhance the site, there were concerns that the proposed building was not in keeping with the surrounding buildings. Nevertheless, all Members agreed that the design was stunning and that the proposal would make the site appear more visually pleasing than it was currently.

Discussions also took place on the gifting of the car park to the Parish Council. There was a debate regarding whether it would be an asset or a liability as it would not attract any income, but it would require funding for maintenance, and these implications would need further consideration.

RESOLVED

- (i) **That further discussions take place regarding the implications of this land on the Parish Council including, provision of funding, public liability, insurance, risk assessment, signage;**
- (ii) **That Moston Parish Council supports planning application 23/1003C. The Parish Council agrees that the building is exceptional in design and sustainable development terms. The previously developed land will be transformed into a stunning dwelling adding to the existing housing stock.**

- **Ongoing Planning Applications**

- (ii) 17/5070C – Former Albion Chemical Works, Booth Lane, Moston, Cheshire. Outline planning application for 100 residential units. There had been no progress since the last meeting, regarding the completed Section 106 Agreement.

- (iii) 21/5187C – Land North of Horseshoe Farm, Warmingham Lane, Moston. Change of use of land to use as residential caravan site for one gypsy/traveller family. The Parish Council noted that this application was not decided. Although this planning application was due to be considered at Southern Planning Committee on 5th April 2023, it remained undecided at the date of this meeting.
- (iv) 22/2471C – Land South of Dragons Lane, Moston. Change of use of land to use as residential caravan site for one gypsy family. The Parish Council noted that this application was not decided. Although this planning application was due to be considered at Southern Planning Committee on 5th April 2023, it remained undecided at the date of this meeting.
- (v) 22/3244C - Fairacre, East Booth Lane, Moston. Change of use to Showman's Yard with facilitating development (hardstanding, fencing, septic tank (retrospective)). The Parish Council noted that this application remained undecided.
- (vi) 22/3186C – Ivy Fields Farm, extension to agricultural worker's dwelling. The Parish Council noted that this application remained undecided.
- (vii) 22/2140M – Advertising right, Moston Garage, Booth Lane, Moston. Demolition and redevelopment of former garage with 5 houses. The Parish Council noted that this application remained undecided.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

6. CROW'S NEST BRIDGE

Councillor Nixon reported that despite two letters sent to Cheshire East Council, in February and earlier today, this request remained unresolved and safety was still a major concern as vehicles (large and small) had followed misguided satnav directions, and had toppled over the embankment due to the inadequate signage.

Councillor Nixon added that he was particularly worried that Cheshire East Council had updated its report on its website stating that the concerns reported had been resolved, when they most definitely hadn't.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and Cheshire East Council continue to be contacted over this serious matter, until all concerns are resolved.

7. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Roscoe reminded the parishioners that this was his last meeting on the Parish Council. He had served for two terms of office. He thanked everybody who had supported the Parish Council and wished to welcome new councillors and looked forward to them continuing to work to improve the parish.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and Councillor Roscoe's hard work and commitment to the Parish Council be acknowledged.

8. KING'S CORONATION

Councillor Nixon reported that he had spent just under £100 for the event, and requested an additional £100.00.

The Clerk reported that there was funding available from the Parish Events budget.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Nixon be authorised to spend a further £100 to purchase additional items for the parish celebrations of the King's Coronation and that the funding be taken from the Parish Events Budget.

9. PUBLIC FORUM

The members of the public wished to thanked Councillor Roscoe for his hard work and commitment.

10. REPORT FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR

There were no updates from Councillor Wray.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Moston Parish Council would take place at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 10th May 2023, at St Peter's Church Hall, Elworth.