

# Minutes of a meeting of Spurstow Parish Council held at St Boniface Church on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 20:00.

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

The Council welcomed attendance by members of the public, but there were none in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence. **Katherine Hutchinson, Stuart Lea.**

**Present – Gordon Whitehead, Jonathan Middlemiss, Reynold Finney, Barry Bell**

**In attendance Chris Jones, Clerk, Chris Willcocks**

2. Declaration of interests. Members to declare any interests under the following categories: - Pecuniary interests, outside body interests, family, friend or close associate interests. **None**
3. Minutes of the previous meetings. **Agreed.**
4. To discuss any items raised by Electors. **No electors present.**
5. Climate Emergency. **Update on action to support re-opening of Beeston station - Chris Willcocks joined the meeting and gave a very interesting talk. He joined the project some 2 or 3 years ago. 2 ½ years ago the group received part-funding to commission a report from Arup Consulting see <https://www.peckfortonparish.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Beeston-and-Tarporley-Station-Final-Issue-v1-April-2022.pdf> for the report. The project has been moved from the “Restore your Railways” scheme to become a stand-alone project, and is now looking for a sponsor (often a Railway Company). Beeston Station would be the only stop between Crewe and Chester, and it is seen that there would operate a shuttle service to and from Chester and Crewe, with a possible connection to Liverpool, based on the reclamation yard as the site of a new station and car park for up to 100 cars.**  
**There is no immediate action needed from Spurstow Parish Council, but Councillors said that the Council would enthusiastically support the project, and will respond to CWAC’s <https://participatenow.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/local-transport-plan-4-phase-1> and Cheshire East’s equivalent. The report referred to above is on the “News” page of Spurstow Parish Council’s website.**
6. Precept. **It was agreed to request that Cheshire East for 2023/24 increase the level of Precept (Currently £ 3,960.00) for 2024/2025 by about 7.5% to £ 4,250.00**
7. Flooding on long lane. **Cllr. Middlemiss has been specifically approached by a local business whose cellars are flooded, and the Spurstow Parish Council have had many requests from residents of the 3 houses opposite the Yew Tree. It was agreed that the Chair would ring Cllr. Pearson and that Cllr. Middlemiss and the Clerk would also pursue this. Consider getting “Danger Flood” signs up to say £ 150.00. The Chair agreed to communicate with Edward Simpson M.P. about this.**
8. Planning applications, current, and outstanding. **To specifically include 23/00489E The Old Stables, Jaspers Meadow Badcocks Lane, it is understood that the project may have been abandoned. and 23/2083N Cobblestones, Cappers Lane. Please see the appendices below.**

**Road safety improvements to the junction of Cappers Lane and Long Lane.** Ms Stansfield has mailed to ask, “Please can we ask for Cappers Lane corner to be salted. A car came off the road this morning. “, This was discussed at some length by the Council. Beeston Parish Council have asked to use the Speed Indicating Device, but it was felt, particularly in the light of the continuing issues on the corner by the old schoolhouse, that it should be left where it is, apologise to Beeston Parish Council, explaining that due to Cheshire East Council’s lack of action, Spurstow Parish Council doesn’t feel that we can remove it.

9. Meadow House Park tribunal. **The Chair briefly updated the meeting on the tribunal outcome. He is most dissatisfied with the response of the Tribunal Response which was not in favour of the leaseholders, but following the intervention of Edward Timpson appreciable work has been carried out and the relationship with the landowner is much improved.**

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- 10.** Litter Picking Chair to discuss terms with Mr Wilson and clarify the situation
- 11.** Any other business raised by Councillors. **There were no other matters raised, therefore the meeting closed at 21:50.**

Draft pending approval