**Minutes of Mouldsworth Parish Council Meeting**

**Monday 4th February 2019**

**Councillors Present**

Cllr G Jones

Cllr M Garnett

Cllr H Paesler

Cllr E Johnson

**2019/001 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr P Willis

**2019/002 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and approaved.

Proposed by Cllr Paesler seconded by Cllr Garnett

**2019/003 Matters Arising**

1. It was confirmed that the overgrown hedges by the Church on Manley Road have now been cut back
2. Cllr Jones to speak to the occupants of the bungalow on Chapel to trim back their overgrown hedges

**2019/004 Finance**

1. The accounts were presented to the Meeting by Cllr Garnett and recorded a net income surplus of £1202, resulting in a bank balance of £17,152, a sum thought to be prudent in light of any future unexpected expenditure.
2. The Financial Standing Orders were presented to the Meeting by the Treasurer and duly adopted. A copy of which is appended to these minutes
3. The Treasurer also presented the Meeting a schedule detailing Mouldsworth Parish Council’s annual risk assessments. These were duly adopted and are attached to these Minutes.
4. The circumstances concerning Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was raised and the Treasurer agreed to investigate it’s possible contribution to MPC’s funds.
5. The Treasurer confirmed that Joanne Monks has been appointed as internal Auditor for Mouldsworth Parish Council.
6. The Meeting expressed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for all his diligent hard work.

**2019/005 Planning**

1. 18/06393/OUT Although approved by the Inspector it is expected that it will be refused by the Senior Planning Officers.
2. 18/025656/FULL The Cottage Smithy Lane, application has been with drawn.
3. 18/02824/REM – 16/00496//OUT Land adjacent to Woodfield, Station Road, again although approved by the Inspector, is expected to be refused by the Senior Planning Officers.
4. 18/03506/FULL Poplar Farm Application has been approaved
5. 18/03043?OUT The Chapel Lane application has been refused.
6. 18/03695/OUT Willow Cottage awaiting decision but expected to be refused.

**2019/006 Correspondence**

There was no relevant correspondence.

**2019/007 Any Other Business**

1. The Quarry in Stable Lane has seen some activity in recent weeks. Two companies have been noticed surveying the Quarry namely ADP Rroup and Solotec. Cllr E Johnson to speak to Planning Department in Chester to establish if any approach has been made to it in respect to the Quarry site. It was also agreed that local resident Mr D Hunt has agreed to monitor the situation.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hunt for bringing this situation to the Council’s attention.

1. Neighbourhood Plan. Much discussion centred around this topic. The Chairman introduced the subject by informing those present that following much discussion and investigation by various Parish Councillors it concluded that the major effort and effort required to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan was disproportionate to the resultant benefit, and would take 18 months to two years to produce.

The Chairman reported to the Meeting that he had personally contacted the author of the Kingsley Neighbourhood Plan (not a Parish Councillor) which is currently being prepared. The Treasurer also had full discussion with the senior advisor in CWAC on NP and both came to the conclusion mentioned in the first paragraph of this section.

Cllr Johnson informed the meeting that the CWAC Local Plan has designated Mouldsworth as a “no development” area, and therefore possibly override and negate any need for a Neighbourhood Plan.

The discussion was then opened up to the general meeting and it was evident that there was a feeling from those present that a Neighbourhood Plan was required. Many opinions were put forward and it was finally agreed that the senior advocate on CWAC (Rosey Morgan) In respect of Neighbourhood Plans and Parish Plans should be invited to the next Parish Meeting to discuss the best way forward for Mouldsworth. It was agreed that effort should be made to attract as many Mouldsworth residents as possible to attend this meeting.

1. Mr Peter Howarth informed the Meeting that a new Highways Engineer (Stuart Bateman) had been appointed and would appear to be more proactive than the previous incumbent. He has already set in motion arrangements to survey the roads and drains in Mouldsworth.

The Chairman thanked Mr Howard for his efforts in progressing this matter.

Date of next Meeting and AGM 29th April 2019 at the Goshawk Pub, Station Road, Mouldsworth.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.30pm.