



## Moston Parish Council

13<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Commenced: 7.30 pm

Terminated: 8.55 pm

Present: Councillor Nixon (Chair)  
Councillors Haigh, Lockett, Moran and Tumilty  
Councillor Wray – Cheshire East Councillor

There were 7 Members of the Public in attendance

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bower-Lowe

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

### 3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 4. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions from Members of the Public.

### 5. FINANCE AND BUDGET 2024-2025

Members considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

#### (i) Transactions

#### RESOLVED

That the following transactions be approved:-

PAYEE/PAYER	DETAILS	RECEIPT	PAYMENT	BALANCE
M Clough	August Salary		£230.13	£19,993.05
HMRC	PAYE August		£57.60	£19,935.45
Cheshire East Council	Precept	£3,750.00		£23,685.45
M Clough	Microsoft 365 Reimbursement		£59.99	£23,625.46
HMRC	PAYE September		£57.60	£23,567.86
M Clough	September Salary		£230.13	£23,337.73
Shires PQR	Payroll Fees October-April		£124.80	£23,212.93
HMRC	VAT Refund	£101.80		£23,314.73
HMRC	PAYE October		£57.60	£23,257.13
M Clough	October Salary		£230.13	£23,027.00

#### (ii) Approval of Payments

#### RESOLVED

That the following payments be approved:-

Clerk	November – Month 8	£317.53
PAYE Clerk	November – Month 8	£79.40
Clerk	December – Month 9	TBC

PAYE Clerk	December – Month 9	TBC
SLCC Subscription	Parish Clerk Membership	£110.00
D Nixon	Administration Receipts	£98.14
Reimbursement	New Laptop for Clerk	£279.00

**(iii) 2024-2025 Budget Expenditure at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

**RESOLVED**

**(a) That the following Budget Head 2024-2025 expenditure be approved:-**

<b>Budget Head</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget Allocated</b>	<b>£ Balance</b>
Salary	£2,014.11	£3,800.00	£1,785.89
General Admin	£122.46	£250.00	£127.54
Website/ICT Costs	£528.00	£550.00	£22.00
Insurance	£251.97	£625.00	£373.03
Payroll Costs	£207.60	£300.00	£92.40
Audit Fees (Internal)	£126.00	£150.00	£24.00
Subscriptions	£106.40	£395.00	£288.60
Meeting Room Hire	£50.00	£150.00	£100.00
Training	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00
Parish Improvements/Events	£308.00	£1,000.00	£692.00
Chair's Fund	£0.00	£30.00	£30.00
	<b>£3,714.54</b>	<b>£7,350.00</b>	<b>£3,635.46</b>

**(iv) EXPLANATION OF VARIANCES**

In light of the recent and unexpected laptop purchase, Members agreed to transfer £279.00 from the Insurance Budget to the General Administration Budget.

**RESOLVED**

**That £279.00 be transferred from the Insurance Budget to the General Administration Budget.**

**(v) BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2024**

**RESOLVED**

**That the following Bank Reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024, be approved:-**

<b><u>Bank Reconciliation</u></b>		
<b>31st October 2024</b>		
<b>MOSTON PARISH COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Financial year ending 31 March 2025</b>		
Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO		
Balance per bank statements as at 31st October 2024		
<b><u>CASH BOOK</u></b>		
Opening Balances at 31st October 2024		
Current Account 07572433		£23,027.00
Reserve Account 96473193		£5,154.01
Less Payments not Cashed		£0.00
Add Unbanked Cash		£0.00

<b>Net bank balances as at 31st October 2024</b>		<b>£28,181.01</b>
<b>The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows</b>		
Current Account @ 01.04.2024		£18,884.84
Reserve Account @ 01.04.2024		£5,109.84
Add: Receipts in the year - Current Account	£7,856.70	£26,741.54
Add: Receipts in the year - Reserve Account	£44.17	£5,154.01
Less: Payments in the year - Current Account	£3,714.54	£23,027.00
Less: Payments in the year - Reserve Account		£5,154.01
<b>Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above</b>		<b>£28,181.01</b>

#### (i) **BANK STATEMENTS**

That the Bank Statements dated below and circulated with the Report, be received:-

- Current Account - 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Current Account - 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024
- Reserve Account – 06 June 2024 to 05 September 2024

#### **6. FORWARD PLANNING – BUDGET-PRECEPT 2025-2026**

Members considered a Report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on the Budget-Precept 2025-2026 (report circulated with the Agenda).

The Clerk circulated a number of examples and reported that if the Precept was increased to £9,500.00 for 2025-2026, the impact would be a cost per household in a Band D property of £50.79, which represented a 26.7% increase in the Precept; this would represent an increase of £8.54 per year, per Band D household (16.4p per week, per household) and a 20.21% increased cost per Band D household, due to the increased number of properties (Taxbase).

Members agreed that the total proposed Budget of £8,000.00 was sufficient and that the Precept request for 2025-2026 should be £8,020.70. This represented an increase to Band D properties of 1.5% or £0.63 for the year, which meant the Precept per household in Band D would be £42.88.

In light of recent suggestions that from 2027, Parish Councils would be required to pay for the cost of their own elections, Members agreed therefore, to defer requesting the Precept, until further information was released indicating the cost to the Parish Council for the recharge, so that if necessary, this charge could be factored into the Budget over the next two years.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) **That the Precept request for 2025-2026 is £8,020.70;**
- (ii) **That the request for the Precept is delayed until confirmation regarding the cost of the re-charge to Moston Parish Council, for the cost of the 2027 elections is received, to ensure that this charge does not impact on the Precept request.**

#### **7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES PAY AGREEMENT 2024**

- (i) Members considered the annual pay award to the Clerk, in accordance with her Contract of Employment, from Spinal Column Point 10 (£13.91 per hour) to Spinal Column Point 11 (£14.13 per hour).
- (ii) Members noted that the Local Government Services National Pay Agreement from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, has been agreed, and the increase equates to 2.5% per annum.

## RESOLVED

- (i) That the Clerk's annual salary increase from Spinal Column Point 10 (£13.91 per hour) to Spinal Column Point 11 (£14.13 per hour), from 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024, be approved.
- (ii) That the Local Government Services National Pay Agreement from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, and the increase to salaries in the sum of 2.5% per annum, be noted.

## 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Chair reported on the new Cheshire East Council planning portal, which was still in its infancy and was presenting lots of problems.

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

- **New Planning Application**

- (i) **Application Reference Number:** 24/3625N  
**Location:** Land Off Warmingham Lane, Moston, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW11 3PS  
**Proposal:** Erection of Agricultural Building

The previous application (Application 23/3408C) had been withdrawn and as the application was lacking in detail, the Parish Council submitted a non-committal observation on the basis that the applicant would contact his planning agent and the application would be amended. The previous application had since been withdrawn and a new application submitted (Application 24/3625N), which was for the erection of two sheds, which was a plan to combat an objection submitted from United Utilities relating to a mains water pipe which would run underneath the building. The applicant had submitted plans for 2 smaller Agricultural Buildings, one either side of the mains water pipe. The 2 buildings would be the same overall area as the original application which was for 6 bays, 36 metres long and 6.6 metres wide, but the new plans were for 4 bays and 2 bays.

## RECOMMENDED

**Moston Parish Council does not oppose the application if it is correctly amended to Erection of 2 Agricultural Buildings and the 2 buildings measure no more than 36 metres in total length and 6.6 metres in width, 1 being 24 metres long and the other 12 metres long located either side of a United Utilities easement strip as per the submitted plans.**

*A note would also be added, stating that the Parish Council had been unable to comment earlier as the application was not showing up correctly on the new planning portal.*

- **Decided Application**

- (ii) **Application Reference Number:** 23/3570/0C  
**Location:** Location: Land south of Warmingham Lane.  
**Proposal:** Change of Use of land for use as a natural burial ground for the burial of coffins and urns with associated infrastructure  
**Decision:** Approved With Conditions 19-09-2024

- **Ongoing Applications**

- (iii) **Application Reference Number:** 24/0596C  
**Location:** Land North Of Junction With Mill Lane, Warmingham Lane, Moston, Cheshire East, CW11 3PT.  
**Proposal:** Full planning application for removal of concrete lagoons and structures and redevelopment of site to provide a single detached dwelling. General approval of the plans.

The Parish Council supported the application but the proposal was refused on 1st July 2024. It was understood that the applicant would appeal against the decision.

- (iv) **Application Reference Number:** 24/2627C  
**Location:** Brunello House Red Lane, Moston, Sandbach, Cheshire East, CW11 3PE  
**Proposal:** Proposed first floor extension and alterations

The Parish Council had considered this application under its Standing Orders (Urgent Business) and did not raise any objections.

- (v) **Application Reference Number:** 24/0275C  
**Location:** Stud Green House, Dragons Lane, Moston, CW11 3QB  
**Proposal:** Single Storey Side Extension.  
The Canal and River Trust had submitted a reservation. Work appeared to be continuing on the side extension.

- (vi) **Application Reference Number:** 24/0884C  
**Location:** Moston Garage, Booth Lane, Moston, Cheshire, CW11 3PU.  
**Proposal:** Change of Use from garage to vehicle storage with ancillary office and garage workshop with wash down area. Objections had been submitted by Flood Risk and the Environment Agency. Environmental Protection felt there was a lack of information submitted. Work continued with the laying of concrete on the site.

The Members expressed several reservations and concerns over this application including the lack of information available regarding the flood risk and loss of amenity; concerns over working hours and vehicles leaving the premises at 2.00 am.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the Clerk and Chair be authorised to draft and submit a response on behalf of the Parish Council.**

- (vii) **Application Reference Number:** 23/4026C  
**Location:** Thimsworra Farm, Dragons Lane, Moston, CW11 3QB.  
**Proposal:** Change of use of land to use as a residential caravan site for 7 gypsy families with a total of 16 caravans, including no more than 7 static/mobile homes, together with laying of hardstanding, erection of communal amenity building, erection of 5No utility buildings and erection of stable building. Comments had been received from the Environment Agency. The application would be considered by the Southern Planning Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024.
- (viii) **Application Reference Number:** 22/3244C  
**Location:** Fairacre, East Booth Lane, Moston, CW11 3PU.  
**Proposal:** Change of use of land for Showmans Yard with facilitating development (hardstanding, fencing, septic tank) retrospective. It was expected that Cheshire East Council would grant planning permission but the objection from the Environment Agency is still effective.

#### **9. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on the following matters that were pertinent to the Parish:-

- Five vehicles had driven off the road since the last meeting. Councillor Nixon had managed to speak to the relevant officer at Cheshire East Council regarding the traffic management project, and it was hoped that this would be completed by the end of January/February.
- There had been lots of incidents of fly tipping;
- Enforcement notices had been placed on 5 pitches on Meadow View. Pitch 12 had had its planning application refused, so an appeal had been submitted. Five pitches were to be removed by 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025
- Damage to the windows had occurred at Moston House;
- Mr Smith had sold his site and the owners of Lazarus Farm had also moved;
- A meeting had taken place with Dean Borrowes from Cheshire East Council regarding Fibre and a better internet. Various options available and another meeting would be held in a couple of weeks.

- Two CCTV warning signs had been erected, to monitor fly tipping.

#### **10. REPORT FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Wray reported on the following matters:-

- (i) Parish Councils would be required to pay for their own elections from 2027.
- (ii) There were significant problems with the new Cheshire East Council Planning Portal.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the report be noted.**

#### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted that the date of the next meeting on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.30 pm at St. Peter's Church Hall, Elworth, Sandbach, CW11 3HU