



MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL SUMMONS

Dear Councillor

You are HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on **TUESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2022** at **8.00pm** in **THE FIVE VILLAGES HALL, STATION ROAD, BACKFORD** for the purpose of transacting the business set out on the agenda below.

Parish Clerk

6 September 2022

Members of the public and the press are welcome to attend for the “Part 1” section of the agenda. Any reports in “Part 2” contain confidential information and only Councillors and the Parish Clerk can be present.

If you have any general enquiries about the meeting, please contact Pauline English, Clerk to the Parish Council (Tel: 0151 339 1405, Mob: 07890 140412, email: pauline.english2@btinternet.com)

AGENDA

Part 1 – Matters to be considered in the presence of the press and public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/RESIGNATION

To receive apologies for absence.

The Chairman has received the resignation of Cllr Cathryn McKeagney due to pressure of work. The Clerk has initiated the process of co-opting a replacement.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To note any declarations of interest in items on the agenda

3. BROADBAND FOR THE PARISHES

Mike Dugine, Digital Sector Specialist, Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWaC) will attend the meeting to update the Parish Council on progress with the project.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

To hear from members of the public about any issues relating to Mollington that they wish to raise. The maximum time allocated for public speaking is 30 minutes and individuals are restricted to a maximum of three minutes each, subject to the Chairman’s discretion. Questions to the Council should be submitted to the Parish Clerk 10 days before the meeting. It may not be possible to answer questions put to the meeting without notice, in which case the Council will offer a written reply or advise contacting the Parish Clerk to request that the item be discussed at a future parish council meeting. Questions outside the remit of Mollington Parish Council will be referred to CWaC.

5. MINUTES

RECOMMENDED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 August 2022 be approved as a correct record.

6. UPDATE REPORTS

(1) **Planters:** The Clerk has contacted Elton Gardeners Association regarding the provision of planters for Mollington village but has not received any reply.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Clerk has drafted initial proposals for the following areas of responsibility for further discussion: Finance & Audit; Five Villages Hall; Highways & Rights of Way; Planning; Police Liaison; School; Website and Social Media. (To follow)

8. FINANCE

To note receipts and payments since the last meeting in August:

(1) **Receipts:** None

(2) **Payments**

10.08.22	BACS	Parish Clerk-expenses	68.36
16.08.22	BACS	Five Villages Hall-Room Hire	20.00
30.08.22	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages	205.92
30.08.22	SO	Parish Clerk-salary	203.42
30.08.22	BACS	John McDonald (Grasshopper Landscapes)	65.00
30.08.22	BACS	ChALC-Training-Parish Clerk	25.00
			Total 587.70

Reconciliation	Brought forward	14,393.25
	Add: Receipts	0
	Less: Payments	<u>587.70</u>
	Carried forward	<u>13,805.55</u>

- (3) **Bank Signatories:** The change of signatories form has been completed and sent to Unity Trust Bank. By now the nominated signatories should have received acknowledgement from the Bank.

9. EXTERNAL AUDIT

Every five years the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA) is responsible for appointing external auditors to all opted-in smaller authorities. The next 5-year appointing period runs from 2022-23 until 2026-27. Smaller authorities are invited to remain in the SAAA sector led auditor appointment regime or to opt-out and make their own arrangements for external audit. It should be noted that in the last 5-year period no smaller authority chose to opt-out. If the Parish Council chooses to remain in the SAAA regime, no action is required. If the Parish Council decides to opt-out and choose its own auditor for the next five years they must formally notify SAAA by 28 October 2022. Further information on opting-out is contained in the attached appendix.

RECOMMENDED: That the Parish Council remains opted-in to the SAAA sector led auditor appointment regime for the five years 2022-23 to 2026-27.

10. PLANNING

- (1) To note applications received by CWaC relating to Mollington since the last meeting
22/03138/FUL Creation of one pond on land adjacent Butler Green, Overwood Lane, Mollington, Chester
22/03189/FUL Creation of one pond on land rear of Butler Green, Townfield Lane, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LB
- (2) To note decisions taken by CWaC since the last meeting: None
- (3) To note applications awaiting decision by CWaC
22/00873/OUT Conversion of an existing two storey barn into a residential dwelling and conversion of an existing detached barn into a residential dwelling at Rose Farm, Townfield Lane, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6NJ

11. HM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

To receive feedback from the Parish Council's Jubilee celebrations.

12. CIVILITY AND RESPECT

There are growing concerns about the impact bullying, harassment and intimidation is having on councils, councillors and staff and the resulting effectiveness of local councils. The Civility and Respect Project has been founded by the Civility and Respect Working Group and is supported by representatives including the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC), National Association of Local Councils (NALC), County Associations and One Voice Wales (OVW). To support this, Councils are being asked to sign up to the Civility and Respect pledge. More information on the Civility and Respect Project is in the attached Annex.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) The work of the Civility and Respect Project be noted; and
- (2) the Parish Council agrees to sign up to the Civility and Respect pledge

13. DIGNITY AT WORK POLICY

Having agreed to sign up to the Civility and Respect pledge the Parish Council is invited to adopt the attached Dignity at Work policy.

RECOMMENDED: That the Dignity at Work policy be adopted and be added to the Council's Policies and Procedures.

14. 'ARE YOU OKAY'

Witnessing street harassment and not safely intervening sends the message to those experiencing it that it's okay and society normalises it. Ongoing acceptance of street harassment contributes to a toxic culture. The Neighbourhood Watch Network are launching a campaign that targets **bystanders** (those who witness street harassment). The campaign encourages those who see someone being harassed in public to ask the victim 'Are you Okay' when they feel safe doing so. Those three little words let them know that they stand by them, and that street harassment is never okay. Watch this [short video](#), or learn more about what is meant by street harassment, what else can be done about it, and reporting and support for victims by visiting ourwatch.org.uk/streetharassment. Visit ourwatch.org.uk/areyouokay to download all the resources you might need to support the Neighbourhood Watch campaign and share this message far and wide.

RECOMMENDED: That this message be put on the Parish Council's website

15. HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

To raise any issues relating to highways and/or public rights of way in Mollington. .

16. ADDITIONAL GARDENING WORK

CWaC are responsible for cutting the grass on the Village Green when they cut the verges in the Village, which should be on a monthly basis. During the summer months additional cuts are needed to keep the green looking tidy. John McDonald (Grasshopper Landscapes), who looks after the verges, has been approached and has agreed to carry out this additional work at a cost of £17 an hour plus removal of waste.

RECOMMENDED: That John McDonald be asked to do additional cuts on the Village Green when they are necessary to ensure it is kept tidy.

17. FIVE VILLAGES HALL

To review the Parish Council's representation on the Five Villages Hall Committee.

18. NEWSLETTER

The first Newsletter has been put together and a copy is attached.

RECOMMENDED: That the Newsletter be approved for distribution to residents of the five villages.

19. WEBSITES

(1) The three Parish Councils have been asked to take over the maintenance of the Five Villages website. This website was created as an adjunct to the Interpretive Panels situated opposite the School and at the Village Hall and highlights contact details for the school, church, hotels and village hall. It also gives a brief overview of the 5 villages' history and suggestions for activities which run through the village such as the annual half marathon and Chester 10K, Scarecrow festival, Jubilee, Sustrans route and walks. Ward Cllr Eardley has agreed to meet the cost of hosting the website this year from his Members' budget but has reminded the Parish Council that this may not always be an option. The site is currently registered in Canada and the annual cost is \$99 CAD

(2) Cllr Skupski has been having a conversation with Bob Hadfield, who hosts the Parish Council website and will report at the meeting.

19. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC)

(1) Refresh of Police and Crime Plan

John Dwyer, PCC for Cheshire, has launched a public consultation on his proposed refresh of the Police and Crime Plan, a copy of which is attached. When the Plan was first published last year, PCC Dwyer promised to refresh it based on people's feedback in other surveys, as well as key themes from conversations and correspondence with people, businesses and community groups across the county. A survey is available,

which can be accessed at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cpacp2022. PCC Dwyer wants to ensure the feedback truly reflects Cheshire's communities and would appreciate any help in sharing this survey with residents and relevant partners. The consultation survey will close at midday on Wednesday, 28 September and all responses received will be taken into account before the final Plan is published later this year

RECOMMENDED: That information relating to the refresh of the Police and Crime Plan be put on the Parish Council's website.

(2) Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Action Fund

The PCC's Community Action Fund has reopened, with money available for projects across Cheshire that will prevent and tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. The application window is now open from 1 September until 30 November 2022. £100,000 is available for projects which benefit their local community by improving the safety of individuals in the area. Individual bids of up to £5,000 can be submitted by applicants who are working with their local policing team to address their area's priorities. Applications are welcome from community, voluntary or third sector groups, including Parish Councils. Any bids to the Community Action Fund must be match-funded to provide the maximum benefit to the area, making the true value of the fund £200,000. Applicants are also asked to name a contact in their local policing team and Local Authority or volunteer centre when submitting their form. Projects supported by the Fund have included sports activities and youth engagement programmes to help prevent young people becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, the installation of CCTV at community premises, and engagement with Cheshire's rural communities. More information, including how to apply, is available at: www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/what-the-commissioner-does/commissioning-and-funding/community-funding/community-action-fund/

RECOMMENDED: That the Parish Council identifies any projects that might benefit from funding from the Community Action Fund and makes a bid for funding before 30 November 2022.

20. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT MEETING

To raise any items for information and/or items which might be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council

21. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15 November at 7.15pm in the Five Villages Hall

22. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RECOMMENDED: That, under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The Public Interest Test has been applied and favours exclusion.

Part 2 - Matters to be discussed in the absence of the press and public

23. OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE

Update