

# WINWICK

*Best Kept Village  
in Cheshire – 2000*

C/o Winwick Leisure Centre  
Myddleton Lane  
Winwick  
Warrington  
WA2 8LQ



# PARISH COUNCIL

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15 April 2024

To all Members of Winwick Parish Council and Local Electors

Dear Councillor/Elector

The **Annual Parish Assembly** (meeting of Electors) will be held on **Tuesday 23 April 2024 at 7.00 pm at Winwick Leisure Centre.**

The next Parish Council meeting will commence on the rising of the Annual Parish Assembly, but not before 7.30pm.

Julian Joinson  
Clerk to the Parish Council

## **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Code of Conduct - Declarations of Interest  
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare and disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when the item is reached.

The Clerk is available prior to the meeting to advise and/or to receive details of the interest and the item to which it relates.

Declarations are a personal matter for each Member to decide. Whilst the Clerk will advise on the Code and its interpretation, the decision to declare, or not, is the responsibility of the Member based on the particular circumstances.

3. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 23 May 2023.

4. Chairman's Report
5. Questions / Comments from the Public

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## Winwick Parish Council

Annual Parish Assembly held on 23 May 2023

**Present:** Councillors Warnock-Smith (Vice-Chair in the Chair), Herron, Iddon, McGinn and Secker

**Residents:** There were four residents of Winwick Parish present.

**Also in Attendance:** Ms C Jones, Operations and Finance Officer and Mr J Joinson, Clerk, Winwick Parish Council

The Chair announced the sad passing of Councillor Diana Friend, early on Sunday 21 May 2023. The announcement was marked at the meeting with one minute's silence.

The Chair commented that Diana had been Chair of the Parish Council from May 2021 until stepping down due to ill health in January 2023. Councillor Friend had served as a councillor for Poulton-with-Fearnhead Parish Council and for Warrington Borough Council serving the Poulton North ward. She had been a champion within the local community and was well respected. The union flag at Warrington Town Hall was now flying at half-mast as mark of respect.

The Chair invited all present to send their condolences to Diana's husband Councillor Graham Friend.

### **WPCPA.1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Abbey, E Abbey, G Friend and C Mitchell.

### **WPCPA.2 Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

### **WPCPA.3 Minutes**

Decision – That the minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 24 May 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### **WPCPA.4 Chair's Report**

Councillor Warnock-Smith indicated that although the Chair, Councillor Michell, was not in attendance, she had provided the following summary of key issues, to which he had made some additions:

- The sad passing of colleague Diana Friend as noted above.
- During the last year, the Parish Council had continued to work alongside the community, listening to concerns and acting upon them where it could. The

Chair thanked those present today and all those who had attended Council meetings for their enthusiasm and for challenging the Council to act, but in a cordial atmosphere.

- The Council had successfully launched the first edition of its newsletter, which would be a quarterly publication. The first edition had been well received and was an effective method of communicating with residents. Social media was not suitable for all information.
- The Council had provided financial support to the Save Peel Hall Group and had continued to provide support in other ways – sadly the Government had granted permission for the development after many years of local opposition, including from this Council.
- The Council had brought in-house its parish warden, John Rowley, who continued to work hard to keep Winwick tidy, working alongside the fantastic local volunteers.
- Members had recently arranged a meeting with highways officers from the Borough Council to allow local residents to speak about the problems with traffic. The meeting had been very well attended. The Parish Council had been asked not to consult yet with residents on the work that it had done in developing a “shovel ready” traffic management scheme for Myddleton Lane.
- To assist with traffic problems, the Council had recently purchased a smiley face traffic sign. This would be up and running soon.
- Work was ongoing to improve leisure facilities in Winwick. Councillors were collaborating with funding experts, Winwick CE Primary School and the Borough Council.
- A new Councillor, Lisa Marie Secker, had been elected for the Peel Hall ward with effect from 8 December 2022.
- All those present at the meeting were invited to support the Beer Festival, local litter picks and planting days, as they came up throughout the forthcoming year.
- On behalf of Councillor Mitchell, the Chair summed up by extend a huge thank you to the amazing volunteers locally, who worked tirelessly to improve the village. He also thanked fellow councillors, officers and Leisure Centre staff for their hard work.

Decision – To note the Chair’s annual report.

### **WPCPA.5 Questions / Comments from the Public**

Members of the public raised the following matters:

Police and Crime Commissioner

A member of the public asked if the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire had been invited to attend a Parish Council meeting yet.

*Response:* The Clerk replied that the invitation had not yet been sent

Smiley-Face Speed Monitor

A resident asked when the speed monitor was likely to be operational.

*Response:* Ms Jones, Operations and Finance Officer, reported that Nick Iddon, Highways Officer, had replied that the proposed locations were suitable, but that the Council should check its public liability insurance to see if accidents arising from the device would be covered. Ms Jones intended to speak to PCSO Tomy Spruce next week to select the first location for deployment of the monitor. The Council also needed to purchase a heavy duty chain to deter theft of the device.

There was no formal date yet for the installation of the monitor, but Ms Jones would keep residents informed.

Battle Site

A resident of Hermitage Green Lane reported that he had encountered an individual carrying out a historical survey in the vicinity of the Winwick Pass battlefield site. The resident noted that the land was covered by Local Plan Policy OS6 – Land to the north of Winwick. Any development in the vicinity should be designed to respect the site of the Battle of Winwick, which was a Registered Battlefield. The Battlefields Trust had not been informed of any survey, but should have been consulted.

*Response:* A second member of the public commented that he understood that this was part of a desk top survey on behalf of Worcestershire University.

Traffic on Hermitage Green Lane

A member of the public reported that Hermitage Green Lane was regularly used by walkers and horse riders. However, traffic was frequently observed to be speeding. It was suggested that a 30mph speed restriction should be imposed. The road was also likely to be used by walking tours of the Battlefield site. A second resident noted that there was no pavement. It was suggested that warning signs should be installed to advise about walkers and horse riders. Residents often witnessed 3 or 4 near misses every day.

HGV tractor and trailer units often forced other motorists to reverse to make way for them. The road was only 3.2m wide in places and a crack had appeared along the edge of the road surface, as the verge was subsiding.

*Response:* It was suggested that the matter be brought to the attention of Warrington Borough Council.

Decision – To note the questions and comments raised by members of the public and the responses given.

**WPCPA.6 Long Service**

Ms Jones reported that Councillor Iddon was approaching her 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a parish councillor. Those present offered their congratulations and thanked Councillor Iddon for her dedicated service.