

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL, MINSHULL VERNON
ON 25 NOVEMBER 2013**

PRESENT: Councillor Les Horne Chairman
Councillor M McGlone Vice-Chairman

Councillor W T Beard Councillor D N Bebbington
Councillor Ian Chenery Councillor Linda Horne
Councillor R Lee Councillor B Palin
Councillor M Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Lawrence Price
Dawn Yeadsley
Ian Baxter Candidate for Co-option

APOLOGIES: Councillors M Bromhead and P Wright

971 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

No declarations were made.

972 MINUTES – 28 OCTOBER 2013

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 October 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

973 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Lawrence Price reported on criminal activity in the parish which included arrests and convictions and restorative justice action taken for some of the reported crimes. The crimes included –

- Theft from a motor vehicle
- Anti-social behaviour problems associated with Halloween
- Theft of motor scooters
- Road-rage incident in the vicinity of Mablins Lane School

Following his report, PCSO Price reported that owing to re-deployment of PCSOs generally, he was likely to be transferred to Congleton in the near future, for a period of 6 months.

974 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 MINUTES)

In accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, a period of 10 minutes was allocated for members of the public to ask questions. A member of the public asked two questions on the following topics:

- i. Re-naming of the Parish Council to give greater prominence to "Leighton" which was one of the larger parishes within the administrative area of "Minshull Vernon and District";
- ii. Change of parish boundaries.

The Clerk reported that Cheshire East Council would be considering whether to conduct a parish boundary review when the current community governance reviews were completed.

AGREED: That an item be placed on the next agenda to discuss this matter.

975 FINANCIAL MATTERS

975.1 Budget – 2014-2015

The Parish Council considered the Clerk's report and draft budget proposals for 2014-2015. To assist in the discussion, a budget monitoring statement was also submitted, showing the position at 30 September 2013, together with revised estimates to 31 March 2014.

Amendments were agreed as follows:

Line 1	Postage	Increase from £100 to £500 to cover the cost of printing an annual newsletter.
Line 10	Memorials	Reduce from £500 to £300
Line 11	Parish land maintenance	Reduce from £500 to £300
Line 19	Website support	Reduce from £100 to £50
Line 27	Family Day Event	Increase from £1,500 to £5,000
Additional Projects	Play Equipment	£10,000 – play equipment at Thorntree Drive and Perryfields Way.
	Litter Bin	£700 – additional litter bin, subject to CEC confirming that emptying of the bin could be included as part of the waste collection round.

RESOLVED: (a) That the detailed budget proposals be amended and submitted to the Parish Council at its December meeting for finalising;

(b) That the Clerk contact The Printing House, Marshfield Bank to enquire into the possibility of sponsorship for printing of the newsletter; and

(c) That in due course, enquiries be made of WREN about the possibility of a grant towards the cost of play equipment.

975.2 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payments be approved:

£80.00	HMRC – Tax on Clerk's salary
£48.00	CVS Cheshire East – second half of fee for payroll service
£22.50	Councillor Les Horne – Bradfield Green-Macclesfield return (50 miles) Attendance at Strategic Planning Board
£20.00	Councillor Les Horne – purchase of wreath for Remembrance Sunday
£30.00	Councillor Les Horne – purchase of daffodil bulbs

It was noted that a cheque for £228.00 which had been authorised at the previous meeting (payee M McGlone – reimbursement for purchase of ancillary equipment for the Stihl equipment) was now presented to Councillor McGlone. The equipment had been collected and the Clerk had received the invoice.

975.3 Diamond Jubilee – Remedial Work on Plinth

At the previous meeting, it was reported that Ben MacDonald had waived the additional charge of £720 for remedial work on the plinth. He had subsequently contacted the Clerk to clarify that he had waived the cost of materials purchased, but the original amount of £720 remained outstanding and should be paid.

RESOLVED: That payment of £720 be authorised in favour of Ben MacDonald for completion of the remedial work on the plinth.

975.4 Grant Application – James Atkinson Way Community Group

The Parish Council was invited to consider a request from the James Atkinson Way Community Group (JAW) for a grant of £317.00 in accordance with the submitted grant application form.

Dawn Yardsley who was the Treasurer, spoke to the item. The group had been formed in July 2013 “to create opportunities and bring together the residents of the estate so that they could enjoy the benefits of a happy and safe neighbourhood”. The grant would be used to purchase items such as a gazebo, folding tables and arts and crafts box.

RESOLVED: (a) That a grant of £317 be made to the James Atkinson Way Community Group; and

(b) That the cheque be issued following details of the bank account being provided to the Clerk.

976 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

976.1 Councillors Keith Halford and David Scott had both resigned from the Parish Council. Keith Halford (representing Minshull Vernon parish) had resigned owing to pressing business and personal commitments. David Scott (representing Leighton Urban parish) had resigned as he was moving away from the county.

The Chairman reported that although he had received a formal resignation from Keith Halford, David Scott had yet to submit a formal notification. The seat could not be declared vacant in the absence of a written resignation.

976.2 Co-Option

Ian Baxter, who lived in Minshull Vernon and was a registered elector for the parish, had declared himself to be a candidate for one of the current 11 vacancies.

Mr Baxter made a brief presentation explaining his reasons for wishing to enter public life, following which, it was –

RESOLVED: That Ian Baxter be co-opted onto the Parish Council to represent the parish of Minshull Vernon.

(Note: Mr Baxter signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, following which he was able to participate in the meeting.)

977 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESILIENCE PLAN

Councillor Les Horne had requested the inclusion of this item on the agenda. He invited Members to consider preparing a community emergency resilience plan for the parish. A template, provided by Cheshire East Council, was submitted. This could be adapted for use by parish councils.

RESOLVED: (a) That a Working Group be established comprising Councillors Baxter, Bebbington, Les Horne and McGlone;

(b) That the Group consider how an emergency plan could be formulated for application in the parish; and

(c) That the Group report its suggestions to the Parish Council, in due course.

978 ADDITIONAL LITTER-BIN – MERLIN COURT/JAMES ATKINSON WAY

At the previous meeting, Members asked about the possibility of installation of an additional litter bin to be located at Merlin Court/James Atkinson Way.

Cheshire East Council waste collection department had advised a number of options which were now presented to the Parish Council.

Councillor Bebbington, as Ward Councillor, had subsequently agreed to discuss the options with residents affected and make a decision. There was no requirement, therefore, for the Parish Council to consider this matter.

979 SPEED WATCH SCHEME

Councillor Les Horne reported that some of the speed watch equipment was faulty and was due to be inspected by TWM Traffic Control Systems (the suppliers of the equipment).

The Parish Council was invited to authorise the purchase of new batteries (@ £72.00 each). If three batteries were purchased, a battery charger would be provided free-of-charge (from TWM Traffic Control Systems).

RESOLVED: (a) That three batteries be purchased from TWM Traffic Control Systems (TWM);

(b) That it be noted that a free-of-charge battery charger would also be provided; and

(c) That TWM be asked to inspect the faulty speed watch equipment and carry out necessary repairs.

980 PLANNING MATTERS

980.1 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications at the date of publication of the agenda.

980.2 Pre-Submission Core Strategy and Non-Preferred Sites Documents

The Parish Council was invited to comment on the Pre-Submission Core Strategy and Non-Preferred Sites Documents on which consultation was currently being undertaken. Hard copy of the document was not available; Members had been asked to view the document on-line. The date by which comments were requested was 16 December 2013.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council support the proposals contained in the Pre-Submission Core Strategy and Non-Preferred Sites Documents.

981 OUTSIDE BODIES

981.1 Members appointed to outside bodies were invited to report on recent meetings. There were no matters to report on this occasion.

981.2 Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC)

Former Councillor Keith Halford had been the Parish Council's representative on ChALC. Members were invited to nominate a replacement.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Les Horne be appointed as the Parish Council's representative to attend meetings of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

982 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Borough Councillor D N Bebbington reported briefly on matters within the parish.

983 NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council was invited to consider reinstating the publication of a newsletter as a means of communicating with parish residents. This would be an additional communication to the annual report which was published in May each year.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council prepare a newsletter; and

(b) That the newsletter be published annually, initially, following which a review would be undertaken to establish if there was merit in issuing it more frequently.

984 HONORARY FREEMEN – REVIEW OF CRITERIA

The Parish Council was invited to consider the criteria which were taken into account when deciding if a former parish councillor should be admitted to the Roll of Honorary Freemen.

The law did not specify criteria which should be taken into account and the Parish Council was asked to reach a view on what exceptional service should be performed before it could be recognised by the award of such an honour.

No decision was taken, other than to **AGREE** that the matter be discussed at the December or January 2014 meeting.

RESOLVED: That this matter be discussed at the December or January 2014 meeting.

985 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received:

Cheshire East Council:

Traffic management reports – work in progress and planned.

Cheshire Association of Local Councils:

Invitation to attend a meeting with the Police Commissioner on Monday, 9 December.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Les Horne attend the meeting hosted by the Police Commissioner on 9 December 2013.

986 SHARED INFORMATION

Members shared information as follows:

- Daffodil bulbs had now been purchased and would be planted around the parish.
- Councillor McGlone would be attending the 6-monthly EDF meeting on Thursday, 28 November.
- Councillor Beard raised an issue about Crewe Town Centre boundary signs. As this was not an item on the agenda, no decision could be made. This would be added to the agenda for the December meeting.
- Bloor Homes (Application 11/1879N - Parkers Road).
Councillor Les Horne had attended the Strategic Planning Board meeting on 6 November and had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council in respect of the retention of affordable homes as outlined in the original S.106 Agreement. The application had been approved by the Board, subject to the completion of a S.106 Agreement and conditions.
- That an item be added to the next agenda "Winter Plan".

987 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 18 December 2013

.....Chairman