

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL, MINSHULL VERNON
ON 28 APRIL 2014**

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

Councillor W T Beard Councillor M Bromhead
Councillor I Baxter Councillor D N Bebbington
Councillor N Bradley Councillor Linda Horne
Councillor R Lee Councillor B Palin
Councillor M Wilson Councillor P Wright

APOLOGIES: Councillor I Chenery

1067 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.

1068 MINUTES – 24 MARCH 2014

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 March be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

1069 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Lawrence Price was not in attendance and there were, therefore, no matters to report.

1070 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 MINUTES)

There were no members of the public in attendance.

1071 ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

At the previous meeting, Councillor Chenery had requested an electronic copy of a grant application form to enable Mablins Lane School to submit a grant to the Parish Council for funding to mark the 25 year anniversary of the school.

The form had not yet been received. In the absence of Councillor Chenery, there was no update.

1072 FINANCIAL MATTERS

1072.1 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: that the following payments be approved.

£84.10	HMRC – Tax on Clerk's salary
£1,196.87	Zurich Municipal – insurance cover with effect from 1 April 2014.
	There was no VAT; the sum included £67.75 insurance premium tax at 6%.

1072.2 Balance Sheet: Financial Year – 1 April 2013-31 March 2014

A balance sheet for the period 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014 was submitted. This would form part of the end-of-year documents which would be submitted to the Parish Council at its annual meeting in May for approval.

1072.3 External Audit – 2013-2014

The external audit had been called for 30 June 2014. The annual return and supporting documentation would be submitted to the Parish Council's Annual Meeting on 19 May for approval.

1072.4 War Memorial – Slate for the Addition of New Names

The application for a grant to add names to the war memorial at Bradfield Green had submitted to Cheshire East Council by the due date of 28 March. It is expected that the Parish Council would be informed of the outcome by mid-May. In the meantime, the Parish Council was invited to consider proceeding with the purchase of the two pieces of green slate for the war memorial, at a cost of £228 (plus VAT). As the scheme was not due to be commissioned until 2016, it would be prudent to purchase the slate at this stage to avoid paying additional increased costs in two years. The issue of storage of the slate would also need to be considered.

RESOLVED: (a) That an order be placed with Oxley's of Crewe for the purchase of two pieces of green slate, as identified on the official quotation, at a cost of £228 (plus VAT); and

(b) That the slate be stored, as agreed at the meeting, until it was required for the project.

1073 PLANNING MATTERS

1073.1 Planning Applications

Paper copies of the following planning applications had been received and the Parish Council is invited to comment:

- 14/1171N 6 Dillors Croft, Leighton, CW1 4UB
First floor extension to front of building
- 14/1418N Leighton Lodge, Flowers Lane – change of use of barn and
cow-shed to a dwelling together with a link extension
- 14/1043N Hole House Gas Storage Facility, School Lane, Warmingham
Deed of Variation of S.106 Agreement in relation to application
No. 10/3108N

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised to planning applications Nos. 14/1171N, 14/1418N and 14/1043N.

The following planning applications were notified electronically under the new system introduced by Cheshire East Council.

- 14/1892C Greenacres, Nantwich Road, Minshull Vernon
Rear extension and alterations
- 14/1510N Proposed Base Station – footpath of Coppenthal Lane, Crewe

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised to planning applications Nos. 14/1892C and 14/1510N.

1074 USE OF ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was reported that, as requested by Members (Minute No. 1062) the Clerk had asked the Bookings Clerk (St Peter's Community Hall) if he would arrange for herself, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to address the full Community Hall Management Committee to discuss the issue of the calendar of Parish Council meetings, in general terms. The request had been declined, but the Bookings Clerk had agreed to present any written information to the Committee.

Subsequent to this, following a request by the Chairman, the Clerk had asked for a copy of the Community Hall's governance document which would either be a trust deed or a charter. The response was to the effect that the Committee itself would need to approve the release of this information.

The Chairman updated the Parish Council on further matters.

Councillor W T Beard, who was a member of the Management Committee, reported that the next meeting of the Committee was to be held on 12 May.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk -

- (a) Forward a report to the Secretary and Bookings Clerk (with Councillor Beard on copy) requesting the Committee to discuss it at its meeting on 12 May and to notify the Clerk of the outcome; and
- (b) Enquire if members of the public were able to attend the meeting..

1075 SPEED WATCH SCHEME

The speed data had not yet been downloaded. Councillor Les Horne undertook to issue this to Members under separate cover.

Councillor Horne also reported that the sign located on Parkers Road was currently at TWM Traffic Control Systems unit in Winsford for repair. It had been at the unit for a month and the diagnostic tests indicated that there were no problems with the equipment. The next stage would be for the TWM Engineers to make a site visit to establish if there were any variables between the two locations, which could explain the problems encountered.

1076 REPORT OF MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no matters to report.

1077 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of the following correspondence:

- Town and Parish Councils Conference – 1 May 2014. The Chairman had received separate notification of this event and would be attending.

1078 SHARED INFORMATION

Members were invited to share information or request the inclusion of items on the next agenda. Any Borough Councillors in attendance could also report on Cheshire East matters of interest.

The following matters were raised:

- Update on ownership of land at the rear of the Co-op Store on Parkers Road.
- Trees on Minshull New Road were to be surveyed prior to the commencement of any housing development in this location.
- Members were reminded about use of the title "parish councillor". The title could be used at all times but as Councillors could have blurred identities, it was important that unless specifically authorised to speak on behalf of the Parish Council, councillors must make it clear that anything they say in public was their own opinion as an individual. Councillors should also be mindful of giving the impression that they were acting as a councillor. The perception was important as the provisions of the Code of Conduct could apply.
- The Chairman had contacted Paul Reeves (Cheshire East Flood Alleviation Manager) in respect of an update on drainage/flooding.

1079 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting – 19 May 2014, followed “on the rising” by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, which would not take place before 7.15 pm

1080 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Paragraph 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, during consideration of the following items for the reasons given and the public interest would not be served in disclosing the information.

1081 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT – THORNTREE AND PERRYFIELDS

Reason for exclusion: The information was commercially sensitive and the companies which had quoted would not wish any preferential terms to be disclosed in public.

The Parish Council had included a sum of £10,000 in its budget for 2014-2015 to purchase replacement play equipment for both Thorntree and Perryfields playgrounds. Quotations had been forwarded by e-mail to Members ready for consideration at the previous meeting. However, owing to technical difficulties, councillors had not received the documents. These were sent out in separate tranches (four) on 25 March 2014.

Members now considered four quotations for playground equipment.

RESOLVED: (a) That the quotation submitted by Streetscape, as follows be accepted:

1 x STV01 Sturdy Delta play unit with one tower, stainless steel slide, fireman’s pole, access steps and themed play panel To be installed at Perryfields Playground	£5,754.00
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Delivery	£246.00
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TOTAL excluding VAT	<u>£6,000.00</u>
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1 x STV03 Sturdy Echo play unit, with two towers, link bridge, stainless steel slide, arched ladder, fireman’s pole, access steps and themed play panel. To be installed at Thorntree Playground	£3,727.00
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Delivery	£223.00
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TOTAL excluding VAT	<u>£3,950.00</u>
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(b) That the Clerk request a reduction in price, on the basis that two pieces of equipment were to be purchased, and for the company to reduce the delivery charges as both pieces of equipment would be delivered at the same time;

It was noted that Cheshire East Council would remove the old equipment at each playground and install surfacing for the new equipment.

1082 HONORARY FREEMAN

The Awards Criteria Policy Document stipulated that nominations for honour must be treated in confidence until the intended recipient had given an indication that they would accept the honour.

In accordance with the adopted Awards Criteria, the Parish Council was invited to give initial consideration to a nomination for Honorary Freeman status. Councillor Les Horne had made the nomination and his report was submitted.

RESOLVED: (a) That the candidate identified in the report was an appropriate member of the community to be awarded the status of Honorary Freeman of the Parish;

(b) That the Clerk contact the candidate to establish if he would be willing to accept the honour; and

(c) That in the event of a positive response to (b) above, arrangements be made for a special meeting of the Parish Council to be held.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and concluded at 8.30 pm

Approved