

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE STAFF ROOM, LEIGHTON ACADEMY, MINSHULL NEW ROAD, LEIGHTON
ON 27 OCTOBER 2014**

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

Councillor I Baxter Councillor Linda Horne
Councillor R Lee Councillor M Wilson
Councillor P Wright

APOLOGIES: Councillors D N Bebbington, N Bradley, M Bromhead and B Palin

95 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.

96 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 September 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

97 POLICE MATTERS

There were no specific Police matters to report but the Chairman reported that he was arranging a meeting with PCSO Lawrence Price and his Sergeant to discuss various matters including speed enforcement.

(Note: Councillor I Baxter joined the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

98 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public in attendance.

99 CLERK'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2014

There was no Clerk's report on this occasion; all items due for inclusion in the report had been added elsewhere on the agenda.

100 OUTSTANDING MATTERS

100.1 Automated Defibrillator Unit (AED) Location

Bargain Booze had responded to the request to locate an AED on the wall of its store. Whilst it would be willing to assist, the Manager was concerned that the unit would be vandalised.

The Clerk was asked to (a) make an appointment to discuss this matter with the Manager; (b) write to the Eight Farmers Public House as an alternative location; and (c) write to the named Manager of The Farmhouse regarding location of an AED on their premises.

101 CASUAL VACANCY

It was reported that following the notice of vacancy, no election had been called and the Parish Council was now able to co-opt to the vacancy.

As there were currently 10 vacancies on the Parish Council, Members were invited to consider if any extra-ordinary measures should be taken to fill this particular vacancy.

RESOLVED: That no extra-ordinary measures be taken to advertise this one parish councillor vacancy.

102 FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLVED: That the following payments be authorised:

£17.00	Mr Les Horne – reimbursement for purchase of a wreath for Remembrance Sunday.
£84.20	HM Revenue & Customs – Tax on Clerk's salary
£48.00	CVS Cheshire East – half-year payroll service.

Note: A further invoice for £775.20 (ANSA Environmental Services) for the purchase of two litter-bins, was withheld pending confirmation that a litter-bin had been installed at both Thorn Tree and Perry Fields playgrounds.

103 BLOOR HOMES DEVELOPMENT – LAND NORTH OF PARKERS ROAD

At the previous meeting Councillor Les Horne had requested the inclusion of this item on the agenda with a view to submitting a letter of complaint to Cheshire East Council that the Parish Council had not been consulted on the change in access.

The Clerk had researched this matter and the following were the only applications listed on the Cheshire East Council planning portal. Contact had also been made with the CEC Planning Team which confirmed that there were no planning applications other than those listed.

11/1879N Hybrid application - Residential Development for up to 400 New Dwellings with Open Space; Comprising a full planning application for Phase A of 131 Dwellings and Phase B which seeks outline planning permission for up to 269 Dwellings with access and associated infrastructure. In respect of the outline element (Phase B), only access is sought for approval and all other matters are reserved for determination at a later date.

The Parish Council considered this application on 4 July 2011 and made observations.

14/3146D Discharge of conditions 1-22 and 25-37 on application 11/1879N

The Parish Council was not consulted on this application.

14/3389N Application to vary condition 4 to vary the approved house types of permission 11/1879N; hybrid planning application seeking residential development for up to 400 new dwellings with open space; comprising a full planning application for Phase A of 131 dwellings and Phase B which seeks outline planning permission for up to 269 dwellings with access and associated infrastructure. In respect of the outline element (Phase B), only access is sought for approval and all other matters are reserved for determination at a later date.

The Parish Council considered this application on 22 September 2014. There had been a breakdown in communication and the Council was not consulted until after the Strategic Planning Board (at its meeting held on 17 July 2014) had delegated this to an Officer for determination and this provided the Parish Council with the opportunity to comment.

The issue for the Parish Council was that the original access at Flowers Lane had been intended for emergency vehicles only (and pedestrian and cycle access) and was now a fully defined junction. At no stage had the Parish Council been consulted on this change and although it was evident that decisions had been taken to make significant changes to the access, there were no planning applications to support this.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Adrian Fisher [Head of Strategic and Economic Planning] seeking responses to the following:

- When was the access changed from emergency use to a fully defined junction at Flowers Lane?
- Who made that decision?
- Was it an Officer delegation or Committee decision?
- Why was it changed?
- Why was the Parish Council not consulted?

104 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

At the previous meeting, Members were informed that November was the deadline date by which any proposed highway improvement schemes for the area should be submitted to the appropriate Ward Councillor. Any such schemes should be issued to Borough Councillors M E Jones and D N Bebbington as the Ward Councillors who would take these forward through the LAP Highways Group.

No new schemes were suggested.

Arising out of discussion, the Chairman reported on the following:

- A 20 mph advisory speed limit was to be installed on Minshull New Road and the Chairman had explored with CE Highways the possibility of this being incorporated within the two vehicle-speed display units. There was an indication that Cheshire East Highways might be willing to adopt the units taking over responsibility for the maintenance costs.
- The Chairman had requested a meeting CE Highways Officers to consider possible traffic-calming measures which could be introduced on Parkers Road and the A530.
- Reference was made to a new type of disc which lit up when vehicles exceeded 30 mph. This was to be provided by CE Highways on the North side of Bradfield Green.

105 RISK ASSESSMENTS – ASSETS

105.1 The Parish Council was asked to approve risk assessment/management arrangements for various assets and the home-working arrangements for the Clerk.

RESOLVED: (a) That the risk assessment/management arrangements be approved for –

- Bradfield Green and Walleys Green
- Parish notice-boards
- Parish field and boundaries
- Mature trees
- Parish Clerk – home working
- Trailer-mounted vehicle speed display unit
- Stihl equipment

(b) That the risk assessment (Clerk's Home-working) be considered further by the Staffing Committee; and

(c) That Councillor Les Horne provide to the Clerk a list of electrical equipment which he held on behalf of the Parish Council and which would require periodic PAT testing.

105.2 Inspection of Assets

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had carried out an inspection of various assets on 9 September 2014 and the Vice-Chairman's report was now submitted.

RESOLVED: That the following actions be agreed:

(a) Memorial Green, Bradfield Green

Councillor I Baxter to re-point joints in the War Memorial.

(b) Victoria Monument, Walleys Green

Councillor I Baxter to inspect the bench seat and advise on the most appropriate action, i.e. (i) remove; (ii) replace with new bench; or (iii) craftsman repair original.

Councillor I Baxter to inspect the Victoria Monument with a view to repairing weather damage and re-pointing as necessary.

The Clerk to seek quotations from competent tree surgeons for the inspection of three potentially 'dead' trees and removal if necessary.

The Parish Council would consider planting of a new tree, at a future meeting.

(c) Parish Field and Verge Area, Moss Lane

The Clerk to seek quotations from tree surgeons for the lopping of lower branches on the tree.

106 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications for consultation.

107 REPORT OF MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chairman reported on his attendance at the recent Flood and Resilience Workshop organised by Cheshire East Council. Members recalled that they had previously set up a working group of Members with the aim of preparing a Community Resilience Plan ('a Plan'), but owing to other commitments, no action had been taken.

The Chairman undertook to e-mail to all Members the documentation which had been provided at the workshop. Members were invited to consider these documents and at the next meeting to suggest areas which could be included in a Plan. Further detailed work would then be undertaken with a final Plan being submitted to the Parish Council, and in due course to Cheshire East Council for adoption.

108 SPEED WATCH

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by a Police Officer from the Traffic Unit; he was intending to increase speed-enforcement action.

The Chairman also reported that Leighton Academy was seeking an 'engagement day' to be set up.

109 CHESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – CHARTER

The Parish Council was invited to comment on the Cheshire Association of Local Councils' (ChALC) draft charter, which was an update of its previous.

RESOLVED: That no comments be made on the ChALC Draft Charter.

110 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL – PACE NEWSLETTER

Cheshire East Council had invited articles for the next edition of its newsletter. The Clerk submitted the September issue and Members noted that the article on the funding of play equipment for the two playgrounds (Perry Fields and Thorn Tree) had been included.

111 DAFFODIL BULBS

The Parish Council was invited to consider purchasing a quantity of Daffodil bulbs for planting around the parish. The Chairman undertook to make enquires.

RESOLVED: (a) That Daffodil bulbs, costing no more than a total of £50 be purchased for planting around the parish; and

(b) That the Chairman be thanked for arranging the purchase.

112 SHARED INFORMATION

Members were able to share information.

113 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

114 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs)

Reason for exclusion: These matters were commercially-sensitive and the companies which had quoted would not wish their quotations to be made public.

Following the discussion at the previous meeting, the Clerk had contacted NW Ambulance Trust (NWAT) to ask for advice on the most appropriate AED to purchase. As reported previously, NWAT was not permitted to make recommendations. However, based on information from NWAT, the Clerk had made direct contact with two of the suppliers and provided information which was additional to that submitted to the meeting on 18 August 2014.

The information had not been provided to Members until 26 October and for this reason the item was deferred to the next meeting.

115 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

24 November 2014 – St Peter’s Community Hall.

.....Chairman