

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL, MINSHULL VERNON, CREWE
ON 23 FEBRUARY 2015**

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

Councillor W T Beard Councillor Linda Horne
Councillor B Palin Councillor M Wilson
Councillor P Wright

APOLOGIES: Councillors I Baxter, N Bradley, R Lee and D Ridings

172 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.

173 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 January 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

174 POLICE MATTERS

There was no Police report on this occasion.

175 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public in attendance.

176 CASUAL VACANCY

It was reported that Derek Bebbington had resigned from the Parish Council with effect from January 2015.

177 CLERK'S REPORT

Members received the Clerk's report which included the following items:

- Arrangements for the elections on 7 May 2015.
- Cheshire East Council matters.
- Cheshire Association of Local Councils meeting to be held on 26 February 2015.

178 REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

There were no Borough Councillors in attendance.

179 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: That the following payments be authorised:

£84.20	HM Revenue & Customs -Tax on Clerk's salary
£840.00	(£700 plus £140 VAT) Mercia Tree Care

In approving expenditure for Mercia Tree Care, it was recalled that the quotation accepted at the Parish Council meeting on 26 January 2015 was in the sum of £600. However, when the

work was carried out by Mr D Evans (proprietor of Mercia Tree Care), additional work on the Ash tree adjacent to the 'Coach and Horses' had been identified. In the interests of safety to the public, the Clerk had authorised this additional expenditure. (Financial Regulation No. 3.4), viz:

The Clerk may incur expenditure on behalf of the Council which is necessary to carry out any repair, replacement or other work which is of such extreme urgency that it must be effected at once, whether or not there is any budgetary provision for the expenditure, subject to a limit of £500. The Clerk shall report the action to the Council as soon as practicable thereafter.

As the additional work was under the £500 this fell within the regulations.

180 TREE SURVEY WORK

At the November 2014 meeting, the Clerk had been authorised to arrange for a survey of those trees in the parish which were the responsibility of the Parish Council. Members had approved a sum up to £500 on the understanding that as the work was likely to be less than £500, Financial Regulation 11.1 (k) applied and there was no requirement to seek other quotations.

The tree survey had now been carried out by Charlie Ashworth of Tree Care. Her report would be available at the March meeting.

181 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council was invited to comment on the following planning applications:

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|----------|---|
| 15/0209N | Leighton Hospital, Middlewich Road
Proposed extension to existing MRI Area within the existing X-Ray Department to house a second MRI scanner. The scheme included the demolition of the existing storage building within the service yard to allow easier access for deliveries upon completion of the extension. |
| 15/0149N | 35 and 41 Mablins Lane, Crewe
Outline application for demolition of existing properties 35 and 41 Mablins Lane and erection of 19 dwellings. |

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised on planning applications Nos. 15/0209N and 15/0149N.

182 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

At the previous meeting, Members considered the Clerk's report which outlined the process for preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. At that time, it was agreed to defer this item for consideration at this meeting.

During discussion, Members acknowledged that the work involved for individual councillors could be significant. The Clerk was asked to invite Tom Evans (CEC Spatial Planning Team) to attend either the March or April meeting to outline the process for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and to advise on the availability of funding for the process.

RESOLVED: That Tom Evans (CEC Spatial Planning Team) be invited to the March or April meeting of the Parish Council to advise on the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

183 ADDITION OF NAMES TO THE WAR MEMORIAL

The Parish Council was invited to give further consideration to arrangements for the special ceremony to mark the deaths of the 22 air crew who lost their lives in air crashes in the parish during WWII. The Clerk reported progress.

St Peter's Community Hall had been booked for Saturday, 4 June 2016 between the hours of 10.00 pm and 4.00 pm and the Bookings Clerk had confirmed the reservation.

The Clerk had contacted Oxleys to enquire into the availability of the green slate. A response was awaited. Funding for the cost of the slate would be released by Cheshire East Council upon submission of the paid invoices.

The following actions were **AGREED**:

- Programme and approximate timings for the event:
 - 12 noon Guests assemble in St Peter's Community Hall for tea and coffee prior to the ceremony.
 - 12.45 pm Guests make their way to the War Memorial
 - 1.00 pm Dedication Ceremony
 - 2.00 pm Guests re-assemble at the Community Hall for a buffet.
 - 4.00 pm Conclusion of the event
- The names of the two Police Officers who had attempted a rescue would not be included on the new plaques as both had survived and had received a commendation for their bravery.
- The names of the 22 air crew would be listed on the plaques as follows:
 - All to be listed in order of rank
 - First name, followed by middle initials, surname and nationality in brackets, abbreviated: Aus, NZ and PL.
- Members were mindful of the fact that Poland was a predominantly Roman Catholic country and it might not be appropriate for an Anglican Vicar to conduct the ceremony. As the air crew who perished were RAF personnel, it was agreed that it would be appropriate for an RAF Chaplain to conduct the dedication ceremony.
- The Clerk would notify the following organisations of the date of the event:
 - Cheshire Constabulary
 - Cheshire East Highways
- The draft invitation letter now submitted for approval allowed for the insertion of a deadline date for a response. Members agreed that the letter be sent out without a response date. Follow-up letters would be issued to non-responders early in 2016.
- Invitation letters to be issued to the following guests.
 - His Excellency Mr Alexander Downer, High Commissioner – Australian High Commission
 - His Excellency, the Rt Hon Sir Alexander Lockwood Smith, High Commissioner – New Zealand High Commission
 - His Excellency Mr Witold Sobków, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Poland
 - The Mayor of Cheshire East Council
 - The Leader of Cheshire East Council
 - MP for Eddisbury Constituency
 - Royal British Legion representatives
 - RAF representative (and/or local cadets)
 - Representatives of various (yet to be identified) WWII organisations
 - Hon Freeman of the Parish
 - Relatives of the deceased air crew.

Members discussed the travel arrangements for the High Commissioners (Australia and New Zealand) and the Ambassador (Republic of Poland). It was likely that they would travel in Embassy cars from London. In the meantime, it was agreed that enquiries be made of Bentley Motors to establish if they would be able to offer transport to collect any dignitaries from Crewe Station and then return them to the station at the conclusion of the event.

RESOLVED: That action be taken as detailed above.

184 SPEED WATCH

184.1 There were no specific speed watch activities to report.

184.2 New Batteries for Trailer-Mounted Unit

The Parish Council was invited to consider purchasing four new batteries for the trailer-mounted unit. TWM Traffic Control Systems had quoted £115 for each battery (excluding VAT). In the meantime, Councillor McGlone had been able to effect adjustments to the unit which had enabled the battery-life to be extended. In addition, Councillor McGlone had identified another supplier of the 12 volt/75 am/hr deep cycle lead/acid batteries and the cost for four would be less than £200.

RESOLVED: (a) That the matter be left in abeyance pending a review of the performance of the trailer-mounted unit following Councillor McGlone's intervention; and

(b) That in the event of new batteries being required, Councillor McGlone be authorised to purchase four 12 volt /75 amp/hr deep cycle lead/acid batteries at a cost which did not exceed that quoted by TWM Traffic Control Systems.

185 SHARED INFORMATION

Members shared information which included the following:

- Flood alleviation scheme, Bradfield Green. The work appeared to have been brought to a stand-still as there was no evidence of Borough Council engineers on site. It was understood that funding for the scheme was only available until April 2015.
- The notice-board on Parkers Road had been damaged by vandalism; the clear plastic pane had been broken. Members agreed to arrange for the notice-board at Walleys Green to be moved to Parkers Road, with the notice-board at Parkers Road being removed, for the time being.
- PCSO Price had arranged two engagement days with both Leighton Academy and Mablins Lane School during February.
- Smithy Lane was to be closed on 20 April.
- The lay-bys on Minshull New Road were to be installed on 20 April 2015.

186 MAY MEETING

St Peter's Community Hall was not available for the Parish Council's annual meetings on 18 May 2015. The Principal of Leighton Academy had confirmed that the meetings could be held at the school.

187 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

23 March 2015

.....Chairman