

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL, MINSHULL VERNON, CREWE
ON 23 OCTOBER 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor Les Horne Chairman
Councillor M McGlone Vice Chairman

Councillor Linda Horne Councillor S Kay
Councillor D Street Councillor C Stringer
Councillor K Stringer Councillor J Weir
Councillor P Wright

IN ATTENDANCE: Two (2) members of the public

APOLOGIES: Councillor D Ridings and Councillor R Lee

ABSENT: Councillor B Palin

73 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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.

74 MINUTES – 25 SEPTEMBER 2017

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2017 be approved as a correct record. The Chairman signed a copy of the minutes as a record of such.

75 MEMBERSHIP and CLERK ISSUES

Cllr K Stringer, in the capacity of Clerk/ RFO, updated Councillors on the discussion at the previous meeting relating to a suitable training course for Clerk duties. A course offered by CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) was deemed suitable and the details and cost were to be presented at the November meeting.

76 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

77 FINANCIAL MATTERS

77.1 Accounts Management

The Clerk/ RFO presented a summary of the reconciled Reserve Account and an update of the Current Account status.

77.2 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payment be approved:

£540.00 TWM Traffic Control Systems - repair work to Parkers Road DSD sign
£7.99 Mr M McGlone - purchase of strimmer cord.

77.3 Report of the Responsible Financial Officer

At the September meeting, it was discussed whether the PC was required to retain Shires Pay Services, as there was no paid Clerk. Subsequent contact with Shires confirms that their services need not be retained, and could cease with notice (via email) at the beginning of November. Any future recommencement could be made by similar notification.

RESOLVED: No further invoices will be received after one (1) month notice period.

77.4 Grant Request - Mabllins Lane Primary PTA

A grant application to the value of £189, for the purchase of a table-top popcorn machine for use at fetes and events, to assist fundraising, was discussed.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £189 be made as detailed, for purchase of the machine.
Cllr C Stringer proposed, Cllr Street seconded

78 PLANNING MATTERS

78.1 Planning Applications

17/3272N 41 Mabllins Lane, Crewe, CW1 3RF

Proposed demolition of Sunnyside Farm and 41 Mabllins Lane, and erection of 20 dwellings (4x 2-bedroom and 16x 3-bedroom), new access road, car parking and landscaping.

RESOLVED: This is a repeated notification of planning applications. It was resolved to advise CEC of the previous comments from the *July 2017* meeting.

17/4927N 15 Parkfield, Leighton, CW1 4TT

Conversion of garage/ storage area to living space, and internal alterations.

RESOLVED: That no comments be made in relation to this planning application.

17/4927N Leighton Hall Farm, Middlewich Road, CW1 4QH

Development of a battery energy storage system, up to 20MW maximum export capacity for a temporary period of 25 years. Comprising 14 battery energy storage units and inverters within containers, 4 transformer cabinets, 1 DNO substation, 1 customer substation, 1 storage container, 1 communications cabinet, CCTV cameras on site boundary with a boundary fence 2.5m in height.

RESOLVED: That no comments be made in relation to this planning application.

79 POLICE MATTERS

There were no PCSOs in attendance. The Chairman reported that PCSO Carol Ball is leaving and there is no replacement for her at present.

A 'beat' officer/ Police Constable has been assigned to the Leighton and Coppenhall areas.

The Merlin Public House site continues to be a hot-spot for ASB and problems in the area.

The Chairman delivered updates on crime data to the Council meeting.

80 SPEED-WATCH

- Cllr Les Horne reported that he had recently undertaken speed enforcement activities with Cheshire Police.
- The condition of the batteries in the 'trailer' speed display unit was brought to the attention of the PC. Cllr Les Horne reported that three (3) batteries required replacement. It was noted that the purchase, and likely cost, of these had been agreed at a previous meeting Cllr Les Horne agreed to procure the batteries, with subsequent reimbursement by the PC.

81 ANNUAL REPORT – 2016/ 2017

The first draft of the Annual Report was submitted and amendments and other information were agreed as follows:

- Article on Facebook (to be provided by Cllr K Stringer)
- Some telephone contact numbers for Parish Councillors required amendment or addition
- The list of noticeboards required correction to include the noticeboard on Minshull New Road and deletion of the board at Walleys Green
- Article on the ex-BT telephone kiosk at Bradfield Green was to be added
- Reference to the provision of benches in the parish to be made.

82 VICTORIA DIAMOND JUBILEE MEMORIAL CROSS

In relation to previously discussed renovation proposals, a visit to the Cross had taken place, attended by Cllrs Les Horne, Kay, and Lee, with Mark Woolley of All Stonemasonry Ltd, who had provided an estimate of renovation costs.

It was reported that the on-site discussion raised concerns on pricing and methods of work execution. The PC discussed alternative options, and the following actions were **RESOLVED**:

- a) That consideration be given to undertaking the works from localised sources, including Members completing some of the work.
- b) That a Working Group to be established to consider the scope of work, renovation solutions, and associated costs. The following volunteered their membership of the Working Group: Cllrs Les Horne, Kay, McGlone, Stanley, C Stringer, Weir, Wright.
- c) That no physical renovation work be commenced until Spring 2018 (improved weather conditions).

Additionally, improvements to the landscape and rear boundary of the Cross green were discussed, including the planting of 'colourful' scrubs or trees to brighten the area. Cllr Councillor Kay stated he had contacts at Reaseheath College that may be interested in this project, as an educational exercise.

Cllr Stanley asked who would subsequently maintain this area. It was stated that the PC would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the area.

Cllr McGlone stated that the neighbouring land owner should be contacted, and appraised of the intentions of the PC, including an indication of proposed improvements to the hedge boundary.

83 MABLINS LANE COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Chairman had met (29 August 2017) with Paul Carter of Cheshire East Council to discuss the intentions of the project. Mr Carter had suggested that as the location was recognised as a 'public open space', it would not be possible to secure planning permission for the intended building and structures.

The Chairman had subsequently spoken with the CEC Planning Department for clarification. It was understood that the aforementioned statement would normally be correct, however due to the exceptional nature of the proposal, ie, an enhancement to community provisions, planning permission may be granted.

The Clerk was requested to contact Mr Carter with details of the discussion with the Planning Department, with a view to re-establishing the project aims.

84 EX-BT TELEPHONE KIOSK (Bradfield Green)

Cllr C Stringer advised that the recently adopted telephone kiosk had been gifted with six (6) months free electricity (by BT). After this period it will be fitted with a meter.

The provision of a defibrillator in the kiosk had been agreed at a previous PC meeting. Cllr C Stringer had investigated such provision, and detailed those of the Community Heartbeat Trust, a **lottery** funded organisation. An accepted application from this organisation would provide distinct benefits including:

- Provision of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and support package
- Free of charge electricity for the duration of the AED fixture
- Free of charge signage and accessories
- Automatic registration of the AED onto response services listings.
(The Clerk would also ensure the details of the Parkers Road AED were included on such listings)

It was understood that the PC would be responsible for the cost of routine maintenance, such as periodic replacement of AED pads.

RESOLVED: That an application be progressed with the Community Heartbeat Trust for the provision of an AED for the telephone kiosk.
Cllr McGlone proposed, Cllr Kay seconded

85 BENCHES

The provision of benches at Bradfield Green and Walleys Green was discussed, with reference to supplier brochures provided from Cllr Lee and Cllr C Stringer. Preferred styles were identified.

Cllr C Stringer agreed to obtain details and prices, and to circulate the information to Members in advance of the November meeting to enable a decision to be made on potential purchase.

86 LEIGHTON BOUNDARY SIGNS

Members were invited to consider the procurement of new boundary signs for the Leighton parish.

Prices to be sourced with improved signage with decorative decals for approach/ welcome to the Leighton area.

The discussion included the requirement for permission to display and site the signs (CEC Highways).

87 SHARED INFORMATION

Members were able to share information or report on attendance at recent meetings of outside bodies. The following issues were raised:

- Cllr McGlone related details of trees that had fallen in the area during recent strong winds, and requested diligence by Councillors in identifying trees in the parish that may cause fall risk.
- Councillor Kay noted the LED speed sign on Minshull New Road was not displaying correctly. Cllr Les Horne confirmed that this was due to low battery power – it is recharged by a solar panel, but recent overcast weather conditions had not provided sufficient solar energy.
- Cllr Wright provided a report on the CHaLC AGM that he and Cllr C Stringer had attended. There were no issues that required discussion by the PC.

88 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 20 November 2017

The meeting commenced at 7.15 pm and concluded at 9.25 pm

Approval of Minutes (to be made at the subsequent meeting of the Parish Council)

Approved as a true record..... (Chairman).....(Date)

Approved