

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL, MINSHULL VERNON
ON 28 OCTOBER 2013**

PRESENT:

Councillor M McGlone (Vice-Chairman)	In the chair (Minutes 954 – 964)
Councillor Les Horne (Chairman)	In the chair (Minutes 965 – 970)
Councillor W T Beard Councillor D N Bebbington	Councillor M Bromhead (Minute Nos. 965 – 970)
Councillor I Chenery Councillor Linda Horne Councillor B Palin Councillor P Wright	Councillor K Halford Councillor R Lee Councillor D Scott

ABSENT: Councillor M Wilson

APOLOGIES: Councillor D N Bebbington's apologies were reported, but he attended later in the meeting.

954 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.

Whilst the Clerk could advise on the Code of Conduct and its interpretation, the decision to declare, or not, was the responsibility of the Parish Councillor, based on the particular circumstances.

955 MINUTES

955.1 23 September 2013

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 September 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by Councillor M McGlone as chairman of the meeting.

955.2 Matters Arising

Bloor Housing Development – Parkers Road

At the previous meeting, the Clerk had been asked to write to Cheshire East Council objecting to any reduction in the number of affordable homes on land at Parkers Road.

A copy of a report which had been intended for submission to the Strategic Planning Board on 14 August 2013, but had been withdrawn from the agenda was provided by way of explanation of the proposal.

It was **AGREED** that this item be deferred until later in the meeting when it was expected that Councillor Les Horne would be in attendance.

956 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Lawrence Price was unable to be present but had sent a written report in respect of criminal activity in the parish. The following were noted:

- One theft of bicycle from insecure garage (Thorpe Close)
- Two damage to vehicles (Beltony Drive and Healy Close)
- One drugs warrant
- 15 theft from motor vehicles
- No recorded road traffic collisions (RTCs)

A press release had been issued in respect of the theft from a motor vehicles and an alert added to the Cheshire Police website and `Twitter feed`. Mabllins Lane and Leighton Schools have issued a newsletter outlining crime-reduction advice. In addition, plain-clothes Officers had been deployed in the neighbourhood. Intelligence had identified a suspect and an imminent arrest was expected.

957 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. There were no members of the public in attendance.

958 DEVELOPMENT IN THE PARISH – BRADFIELD GREEN

Prior to the start of the last meeting, a local land developer had made a presentation to Members outlining proposals for the development of land at Bradfield Green. Members had requested that this be included as an item on the October agenda for discussion.

Members were mindful of the need not to express specific opinions which might jeopardise the Parish Council's ability to comment on the application when it was eventually submitted for formal consultation.

Comments were made, and Members confirmed that when a formal application was submitted, it would be considered on its merits.

959 OUTSTANDING MATTERS

959.1 Diamond Jubilee Footpath – Plinth

It was reported that the remedial work on the plinth had now been completed by Ben MacDonald at no charge. The Clerk was asked to send a "thank you" letter to Mr MacDonald expressing appreciation for the work and his waiving of the charge.

959.2 Verge Master Markers

In November 2012, the Parish Council accepted a quotation from Willis's of Sandbach for the installation of verge master road markers, as follows:

Parish Field, Moss Lane, 34 yards at 3m centres	11 Verge Master road marker posts @ £27.00 each	£297.00
Plant and labour	£1.00 per post	£11.00
		£308.00
Eardswick Lane, 64 yards	21 white marker bollards @ £11.19 per post	£234.99
Plant and labour	£2.00 per post	£42.00
		£276.99
	GRAND TOTAL	£584.99

Owing to pressure of work, the company had been unable to carry out the project. The Parish Council was invited to consider if the posts should be purchased, with the work being carried out by another contractor or by parish councillors themselves.

During discussion, Councillor Lee offered to arrange for a surveyor to check underground cabling, and also offered to collect the posts from Willis's.

RESOLVED: (a) That Willis's of Sandbach be asked to supply the materials, which would total £531.99;

(b) That Councillor Lee's offer to collect the materials be accepted with thanks; and

(c) That Councillors Horne, Lee and McGlone be thanked for their offer to install the posts.

960 ITEM REQUESTED BY PARISH COUNCILLOR LES HORNE

As Cheshire East Council no longer offered free Spring bulbs to town and parish councils, the Chairman had made enquiries and sought approval for the purchase of 400 Daffodil bulbs at an estimated cost of £30.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Les Horne be authorised to purchase 500 Spring bulbs at a cost of £30.

961 STRIMMING EQUIPMENT

At the previous meeting, it was reported that a hedge-cutting attachment was required for the Stihl Equipment. F R Sharrock Ltd, the company which supplied the original equipment, had quoted £228.00 (incl VAT) for the provision of a Stihl KM-HL 135 degree long-reach hedge trimmer (Part No. 4230 740 5000). Payment was required before the goods could be collected.

There was an urgent need for this equipment and as F R Sharrock required payment before the equipment could be released, Councillor McGlone offered to collect it and pay for it himself. Councillor McGlone would be reimbursed at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That Councillor M McGlone's offer to purchase the Stihl attachment, as detailed above be accepted; and

(b) That Councillor McGlone be reimbursed for the expenditure of £228 at the next meeting.

962 FINANCIAL MATTERS

962.1 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payments be authorised:

£80.00	HMRC – Tax on Clerk's salary
£228.00	F R Sharrock Ltd. (cheque to be made out in favour of "M McGlone" and payment to be deferred to the November meeting.) (see also Minute No. 961 above)

**962.2 Receipts and Payments Statement/Budget Monitoring
1 April 2013 – 30 September 2013**

The Parish Council received a Receipts and Payments Statement for the period 1 April to 30 September 2013. An amended copy was tabled at the meeting.

A budget monitoring statement for the same period was also submitted.

RESOLVED: That the Receipts and Payments Statement, and the Budget Monitoring Statement for the period 1 April – 30 September 2013 be received and noted.

963 SPEED WATCH SCHEME

Councillor Wright reported on speed watch matters.

964 PLANNING MATTERS

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

13/4204N	Co-operative Store, Parkers Road. Installation of new shop front window and relocation of ATM machine. Deadline date for comments: 30 October 2013
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13/4261N Red Hall Farm, Middlewich Road. Single storey log cabin timber agricultural worker's dwelling with access.
Deadline date for comments: 13 November 2013

13/3956N Land adjoining St Peter's Church, Middlewich Road.
New access to The Old Vicarage
Deadline date for comments: 30 October 2013

RESOLVED: That no objection be raised to planning applications 13/4204N, 13/4261N and 13/3956N.

(Notes: (a) Councillors D N Bebbington and Les Horne joined the meeting during discussion of Minute No. 964;

(b) Councillor Les Horne assumed the chair following the conclusion of Minute No. 964.)

965 BLOOR HOMES – APPLICATION 11/1879N – LAND NORTH OF PARKERS ROAD, LEIGHTON

Members resumed their discussion of "Bloor Homes" (Minute No. 955.2).

Planning application 11/1879N was to be considered by Cheshire East Council's Strategic Planning Board (SPB) on 6 November 2013. The proposal (for 400 homes) was being referred to the SPB for consideration of a change in the S.106 agreement in respect of affordable homes (although the application as a whole was to be considered afresh). The original proposal had been for 140 and Bloor Homes wished to amend this to make provision for (i) reducing the overall amount of affordable housing to 10%; (ii) amending the tenure split of the affordable housing to 25% rented and 75% intermediate. In addition, it was seeking to make other amendments to the conditions.

At the previous Parish Council meeting, Members had been adamant that the affordable homes should remain at 140.

In accordance with the rules on public participation, the Parish Council was entitled to be represented, and to be heard, at the meeting on 6 November.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Les Horne attend the CEC Strategic Planning Board meeting to be held on 6 November 2013 to speak on behalf of the Parish Council in respect of this application.

966 REPORT FROM MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members appointed to outside bodies were invited to report on recent meetings.

- LAP Representatives – There were no matters to report.
- ChALC Meetings – Councillor Halford had been unable to attend the last meeting.
- Police Cluster - Councillor Les Horne reported on the Bunbury Police Cluster meeting at which time it had been noted that statistics were satisfactory across the whole of the cluster area.

967 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Borough Councillor Bebbington reported on a recent meeting with Nick Boles (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Planning). At the meeting, there had been emphasis on the importance of parish councils preparing Neighbourhood Plans. If these were put in place they would be regarded as robust supplementary planning documents and could influence Borough Council planning decisions.

It was **AGREED** that "Neighbourhood Plan" be placed on the agenda for the November meeting.

968 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of correspondence received since the last meeting.

Cheshire East Council

- Social isolation events – 8 November (Nantwich) and 15 November (Macclesfield)
- Cheshire East Highways Nantwich LAP reports
- Partnership Newsletter: Articles requested by 17 December

Cheshire Association of Local Councils

- October newsletter

CVS Cheshire East

- AstraZeneca is working with CVS to distribute toys and gifts to families in need across Cheshire East this Christmas. It is expected that 1600 gifts will be donated and organisations are invited to apply for the gifts which must be collected from Crewe on Thursday, 19 December between 12 noon and 4 pm.
- October e-bulletin
- Training and events update October

Other

- A local resident had contacted the Clerk to complain about the removal of the “Minshull Vernon” sign in the vicinity of The Verdin Arms.
Members reported that the sign had not been removed, but had been turned around. Councillor McGlone had now reported this on the Borough Council’s website and had received a report number.

969 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25 November 2013 (including initial consideration of the budget for 2014-2015).

970 SHARED INFORMATION

Members were invited to share information or request the inclusion of items on the next agenda.

- **Street Lighting¹**

Councillor Beard raised an issue about street lighting provision on new developments. It was understood that there was no statutory provision for either the Borough Council or a developer to provide such lighting. It was AGREED that this item be placed on an agenda of a future (unspecified) meeting.

- **Litter-bin – Merlin Court/James Atkinson Way²**

The Clerk undertook to make enquiries about the cost of a new litter-bin and whether its emptying could be added to the refuse collection round for this area. It was AGREED that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

- **Flooding in Bradfield Green**

It was reported that the Flood Manager (CEC) had nearly completed the survey in respect of drainage in the area. This was expected to be complete in the next week and Councillor McGlone would follow-up this matter.

- Councillor Les Horne reported on a meeting with the CEC Leader earlier in the day when the issue of flooding in the area had been discussed.

¹ This item was raised under “Borough Councillors’ Reports” but has been included here as the most appropriate location.

² This item was raised under “Borough Councillors’ reports” but has been included here as the most appropriate location.

- Councillor Les Horne had arranged to purchase a wreath for the war memorial for the Remembrance Service on Sunday, 10 November.
- Councillor Halford reported that he would be submitting his resignation from the Council at the end of this meeting. Members expressed their good wishes to him and thanked him for his contribution to the work of the parish over many years.
- Councillor Les Horne reported on a meeting with the CEC Leader earlier in the evening; it was this meeting which had caused his late arrival. Other parish councils had been represented at the meeting at which Councillor Michael Jones had outlined the implications of recent planning appeals where developers had won their case against the Borough Council.

The Local Plan was likely to be adopted in the summer of 2014.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and concluded at 8.40 pm

Approved