

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT
ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL, MINSHULLVERNON
ON 15 AUGUST 2011**

PRESENT: Mr D C Forrest Mr W T Beard
Mr W Barnes Mr K Halford
Mr B Palin Mr R Hollinshead
Mr L Horne Mrs L Horne
Mr M Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillors M Jones and M J Simon
Mr I Williamson Candidate for co-option

APOLOGIES: Messrs D N Bebbington, D Preece and M McGlone

430 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests which they had in any item of business on the agenda and leave the meeting prior to discussion of that item, if appropriate. No declarations of interest were made.

431 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 July 2011 and the Special Meeting held on 18 July 2011 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

432 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

433 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, a period of 10 minutes was allocated for members of the public to ask questions or address the Parish Council. There were no questions from members of the public.

434 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO V McKenna was on Police duties and was unable to attend the meeting.

435 CO-OPTION TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr I Williamson, who was in attendance, had expressed an interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council, representing Minshull Vernon. Mr Williamson briefly addressed the Parish Council on his reasons for wishing to enter public life, following which it was –

RESOLVED: That Mr I Williamson be co-opted onto the Parish Council to represent Minshull Vernon.

Note: Mr Williamson signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was then able to participate in the meeting.

436 PLANNING MATTERS

436.1 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications for consultation.

436.2 Local Development Framework – Place Shaping Consultation

The Parish Council was invited to participate in the first stage of consultation in drawing up new development plans for towns and villages in Cheshire East. This was marketed as an

opportunity for Parish Councils to notify the Borough Council of their requirements for their parishes in 2030. Comments are requested by 30 September 2011.

To ensure that comprehensive feedback was given, the Parish Council was invited to consider the most appropriate arrangements to discuss the documents in detail. It was suggested that the Planning Sub-Committee meeting date of 5 September be used to discuss this item, together with any planning applications which were received.

The Borough Council had arranged a number of “drop-in” exhibitions during the consultation period and these were noted.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council discuss the Local Development Framework at a meeting to be held on 5 September 2011 to enable timely comments to be submitted to the Borough Council.

437 FINANCIAL MATTERS

437.1 Receipts and Payments Statement – 1 April – 30 June 2011

A Receipts and Payments statement showing the position at 30 June 2011 was submitted, together with a budget monitoring statement which indicated spend to date, against budget-heads and expected spend to 31 March 2012.

RESOLVED: That the Receipts and Payments Statement showing the position at 30 June 2011 be approved.

437.2 Budget Proposals 2012-2013

The Parish Council was asked to give initial consideration to budget proposals for the year 2012-2013. These would be considered in more detail at the Budget Meeting in November.

The Clerk’s report, together with a skeleton budget proposals list was submitted.

It was noted that there had been slippage in the timetable for the Borough Council’s Local Service Delivery Model which was a re-design of all services on a locality basis. This had originally been presented to town and parish councils in October 2010; it had been deferred to 2013 and there would, therefore, be no requirement to make additional budgetary provision for any devolved or transferred services.

It was recalled that there were transferable services and devolved services. Where the Borough Council had a statutory duty to deliver a service, these could be devolved to town and parish councils, subject to the appropriate town or parish council being able to undertake them and deliver them to the same standard. If they were unable to deliver to a satisfactory standard, the appropriate service would not be devolved.

Transferable services were those where the Borough Council had no statutory duty to provide and these could be transferred to town and parish councils. When the Borough Council identified those services for which it had no statutory duty to provide, these would be transferred as appropriate to town or parish councils; if not transferred, they would cease.

437.3 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payments be approved:

£783.55	TWM Traffic Management Services – payment for repair of trailer-mounted unit following theft of battery and damage to the unit (£652.96 + £130.59 vat)
£90.00	Cheshire Association of Local Councils – training for three Members 19 July 2011 [S.143 LGA 1972]

£30.54 Mrs C M Jones – expenses
£16.56 – 36 x first-class stamps : £13.98 – ink cartridges for printer
[S.111 LGA 1972]

437.4 Internal Audit – 2010-2011

The report of the Internal Auditor was received and it was noted that there were no points for action.

438 STANDING ORDERS/FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Parish Council is invited to review its Standing Orders and its Financial Regulations. Since their adoption, changes in legislation had rendered them out-of-date.

The Financial Regulations governed the conduct of financial management by the Parish Council and are prepared in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations. The Standing Orders regulated the proceedings of Parish Council meetings and were in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

It was suggested that discussion of the document be deferred to the September meeting to allow Members the opportunity to scrutinise the documents fully.

Much of what was contained in the Standing Orders might not be applicable to Minshull Vernon & District Parish Council itself, but as these were based on Model Standing Orders created by the National Association of Local Councils, by adopting a comprehensive approach, this would obviate the need to make further additions if and when a situation arose where there was no appropriate standing order available to guide the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be finalised at the meeting to be held on 26 September 2011.

439 RISK ASSESSMENT

The Parish Council had deferred discussion of this item from the July meeting.

Copies of schedules prepared by Councillor McGlone were submitted, together with a schedule of risks prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That this item be deferred to the meeting to be held on 26 September 2011.

440 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Borough Councillors Jones and Simon reported on Cheshire East matters of interest to the Parish Council.

- Update on the new Connect2 Greenway
- CEC was preparing information sheets for parish notice-boards with contact details for the local Borough Councillors
- The 50:50 funding towards the cost of the trailer-mounted vehicle speed indicating equipment had been absorbed within the highways budget.
- Councillor Jones had met recently with Adrian Fisher (Cheshire East Council Head of Planning Policy and Housing) to discuss the hybrid planning application (11/1879N).

441 SPEED WATCH SCHEME (INCORPORATING ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRAILER-MOUNTED VEHICLE DISPLAY UNIT)

Councillor L Horne reported on recent Speed Watch activities. Borough Councillor M J Simon, who was a member of the Road Safety Partnership, undertook to present the statistics to the next meeting of the Partnership.

442 LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIPS (LAPs)

Councillor Les Horne reported on the Nantwich LAP and tabled a sheet of proposed schemes from the Highway Sub-Group. Sharon Angus-Crawshaw, the LAP Manager, had expressed a willingness to attend a Parish Council meeting before Christmas.

The next meeting of the LAP was 12 October.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Crewe LAP Manager. Councillor W T Beard had not received any communication in respect of these LAP meetings.

443 ITEMS REQUESTED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

443.1 Extension of 30 mph Speed Limit

Councillor Les Horne requested the Parish Council to consider the extension of the 30 mph speed limit on the A530 in the vicinity of St Peter's Church to a point extending beyond the entrance to the church in a northerly direction.

The Clerk was asked to make enquiries about the feasibility of the proposal.

443.2 Parish Field

At the April 2011 meeting, the Parish Council had agreed to rent out the field to a Mrs Kaye, for the grazing of her horse(s). There was a strip of land, approximately 2 metres wide, between the electric fence erected by Mrs Kaye, and the field boundary. Local residents had complained that this strip had now become overgrown. At the Chairman's request, the Clerk had agreed to make arrangements for strimming of this area.

During discussion of this item, the Parish Council was saddened to hear that Mr A Micklewright, who was the Parish Council's contractor for grounds maintenance work, had died suddenly whilst at work.

The Chairman undertook to make arrangements for strimming of this area.

443.3 Budget Proposals – 2012-2013 – Diamond Jubilee

Councillor Richard Hollinshead asked the Parish Council to consider a proposal to fund the creation of a footpath to the rear of the war memorial, extending along Eardswick Lane for a length of 100 yards. Councillor Hollinshead's proposal was intended to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2012.

Councillor Hollinshead had made enquiries and the work was expected to cost approximately £10,000.

It was agreed that this be added to the budget proposals for 2012-2013, and that a specific item be added to the agenda for the 26 September 2011 to enable the Parish Council to give formal consideration to the quotation.

It was expected that Cheshire East Council would be required to give permission for the work to be carried out although the work was wholly within the curtilage of land owned by the Parish Council.

444 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of correspondence.

- Letter from HOW Planning regarding the Parkers Road application (11/1879N)
- Cheshire Association of Local Councils newsletter (also available on the ChALC website).

- Letter from CEC re. Fairtrade status for parish councils. The Clerk was making further enquiries.
- July edition of the Cheshire East Partnerships Newsletter (PACE)
- Graham Wood - Joint Co-ordinator of East Cheshire Community Transport (known as "Dial-a-Ride")
- Distraction crime (notice from Cheshire East Council)

445 SHARED INFORMATION

Parish Councillors were invited to share information and/or request items for inclusion on the next agenda.

The Clerk was asked to follow up the issue of the faulty street light at Whalleys Green.

446 NEXT MEETING

Special Meeting of the Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting

5 September 2011
26 September 2011

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.40 pm and concluded at 9.30 pm