

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MINSHULL VERNON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ST PETER'S CHURCH, MINSHULL VERNON
ON 17 DECEMBER 2012**

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

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors D N Bebbington and I Chenery

DEATH OF FORMER COUNCILLOR LES STUBBS

It was reported, with sadness, that former parish councillor Les Stubbs had recently died following a long illness. Members stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

746 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI) which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and to leave the meeting prior to discussion of the item.

Dispensations had been granted at the previous meeting to eight Members in respect of discussion and voting on the budget proposals and setting a precept. Members were invited to declare those DPIs at this point in the proceedings.

No declarations were made.

747 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2012

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 November 2012 be approved as a correct record subject to the following:

Minute No. 728.2 Remedial Work – Jubilee Footpath and Plinth

Amend the first sentence to read "Councillor McGlone had spoken with Ben MacDonald"

Minute No. 742 Shared Information

Add: "Councillor M McGlone reported on flooding in Bradfield Green on 24th and 25th November 2012."

748 MATTERS ARISING (Not detailed elsewhere on the agenda)

The following were noted as the action points from the previous meeting; however, as only three weeks had elapsed since the last meeting, there was little information which could be reported. Updates would be provided at the January 2013 meeting.

- (i) Bus Shelter – Smithy Lane – ownership to be established

It was reported that the bus shelter had recently been hit by a vehicle.

- (ii) Removal of CEC notice-board from Co-op on Parkers Road
(iii) Adoption status of street lights at Whalleys Green
(iv) "Woolstanwood" sign to be repaired
(v) Dumping of food waste – follow-up with Wulvern Housing

The Clerk had received information which would be reported in Part 2 of the meeting.

- (vi) Posts around war memorial and parish field (Willis's Drainage)

- (vii) Location of Honorary Freeman Board in Parish Hall. The Parochial Church Council was due to discuss this at its January meeting.
- (viii) Local Service Delivery – transfer of non-statutory services from the Borough Council to the Parish Council
- (ix) Clarification of arrangements for the additional electors in Leighton Urban (awaiting the outcome of the CEC Community Governance Review Sub-Committee at the full Council meeting)

749 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.

750 BUDGET PROPOSALS 2013-2014

750.1 At its meeting held on 26 November, the Parish Council gave initial consideration to its budget for 2013-2014. The Clerk's report and appendices had been amended to reflect the discussions in November and the following documents were now enclosed for consideration.

- Clerk's report
- Appendix 1 Draft budget proposals
- Appendix 2 Explanation of variances in levels of expenditure and balances for the budget year 2012-2013

It was reported that subsequent to issue of the agenda, Cheshire East Council had notified town and parish councils that a grant was to be made to town and parish councils to offset the effects of the revised regulations in respect of Council Tax support. For Minshull Vernon & District Parish Council this amounted to £1,713 and was factored into the calculations.

	£	£
The budget proposals, as amended at the meeting amounted to		29,462
<u>Add</u> Working balance	3,000	32,462
<u>Less</u> Estimated balance available on 1 April 2013	(18,142)	14,320
<u>Less</u> Council Tax Support (CEC) payable after 1 April 2013	(1,713)	12,607
Precept required (rounded up)	<u>13,000</u>	

RESOLVED: (a) That the budget proposals 2013-2014, as amended at the meeting and attached as an appendix to these minutes, be approved;

(b) That the Clerk be authorised to request a precept of £13,000 from Cheshire East Council; and

(c) That the Clerk's salary remain unchanged at £4,797.

750.2 Strimmer/Landscape Maintenance Tools

Councillor McGlone stated that although he had previously provided information in respect of a Stihl strimmer to enable funding to be included in the budget for 2013-2014, the Parish Council had yet to give formal consideration to an appropriate specification for such equipment. It was agreed that this be included as an agenda item for the January meeting.

Councillor McGlone explained that he currently used his own equipment for strimming and other similar-type grounds maintenance work on the parish field and in other areas of the parish. The intention was that if the Parish Council purchased a strimmer, Councillor McGlone would be the custodian of the equipment and would continue with the work which was additional to that undertaken by the late Alan Bennion.

751 FINANCIAL MATTERS

751.1 Authorisation of Payments

At this point in the proceedings, Councillors W T Beard and Les Horne each declared a personal interest in the item on the basis that they were recipients of payments.

RESOLVED: That the following payments be authorised:

£372.00	Audit Commission (£342.00 + £30.00 vat)
£80.00	HMRC – Tax on Clerk’s salary
£14.00	Councillor W T Beard – ink cartridges
£17.00	Councillor Les Horne – reimbursement for wreath (Remembrance Sunday)
£12.47	Purchase of hazard tape for taping-off the Diamond Jubilee footpath

751.2 Parish Council Vacancies – Flyer Advertising Vacancies (Clerk’s Action)

At the meeting held on 22 October, Councillor Bebbington had undertaken to hand-deliver 2000 A5 flyers if they could be provided for him at the December meeting. These flyers were available at the meeting. In the absence of Councillor Bebbington other Members volunteered to deliver some of the flyers.

The Parish Council noted that the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, had authorised payment for these flyers, as indicted below, in accordance with Financial Regulation 6.5.

£169.00	Johnsons Printers – Printing of 2000 flyers for hand-delivery by Councillor Bebbington
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751.3 Grant to St Peter’s Church

The Reverend Philip Goggin had submitted a formal request for the £10,000 grant towards the community hall scheme; this funding had been ear-marked within the budget proposals for 2012-2013. A grant form had not been issued to the Reverend Goggin for completion as this request represented the final tranche of a continuing grant commitment by the Parish Council.

There was some doubt about the purpose of the grant, as detailed in the letter, and the Clerk was asked to seek clarification.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Clerk write to the Reverend P Goggin to clarify the purpose of the requested grant of £10,000; and

(b) That the matter be discussed at the January 2013 meeting.

752 PLANNING MATTERS

The Parish Council was invited to make observations on the following application:

12/4373N	Site adjacent Sunnybank Car Park, Pyms Lane, Crewe New build showroom with associated car parking for Bentley Motors
12/4685N	Hole House Gas Storage Facility – School Lane, Warmingham Minor amendment to carry out development without complying with condition (approved drawings) of permission 11/4557N.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Parish Council decline to comment on planning application No. 12/4373N on the basis that this was not in the parish; and

(b) That no objections be raised to planning application No. 12/4685N.

753 REPORT FROM MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillors Horne and Halford who had attended a Cheshire Association of Local Councils meeting on 6 December provided an update in respect of the Ringway Jacobs' contract (the highway contractor appointed by Cheshire East Council).

Councillor Horne briefly reported on the Planning Conference held on 12 December 2012.

Councillor McGlone reported on a recent meeting of the Hole House Local Liaison Committee.

Councillor Beard reported on highway priorities which had been agreed by the LAP.

754 DIAMOND JUBILEE FOOTPATH

754.1 It was reported that on 4 December, a slime-covering was evident on the Diamond Jubilee footpath. The Chairman contacted the Clerk and arrangements were made to put hazard tape around the footpath to close it to public access.

The Parish Council was now invited to consider arrangements for future protection of the concrete.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for the purchase of 1 tonne of grit-sand from P K Stubbs in Wistaston, to be dropped by the entrance to the footpath, as an immediate solution to the problem. In the longer-term, options would need to be considered.

754.2 Jubilee Footpath Plinth – update by Councillor McGlone

There was no further update.

755 SPEED WATCH SCHEME

Councillors Horne and Wright updated the Parish Council in respect of speed watch matters. It was reported that the trailer-mounted unit was currently at the premises of TWM Traffic Management Systems for minor repairs.

756 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

There were no Borough Councillors in attendance.

757 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Nantwich LAP Highways Group – list of schemes

758 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

758.1 Date: 28 January 2013

758.2 Agenda Item: Review of Standing Orders to take into account the need for adding the procedure for dealing with dispensations

759 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, for the reason given, and the public interest would not be served by disclosing the information.

760 DUMPING OF FOOD WASTE

The Clerk had now received a letter from Wulvern Housing, following the provision to Wulvern of evidence in respect of the unauthorised disposal of food waste and other vegetation in the parish field. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator at Wulvern Housing had visited the tenant responsible and had been given assurance that this would not occur again.

Reason for exclusion:

Likely to reveal the identity of an individual

.....Chairman

Line No.	Items	Budget 2012-2013 £	Spend to 30 Sept 2012 £	Revised Estimates to 31 Mar 2013 £	Budget Proposals 2013-2014 £
	Administration				
1	Postage	100.00		30.00	100.00
2/5	Clerk's expenses (travel, stationery, printing etc.)	500.00	73.20	0.00	400.00
3	Clerk's net salary	2,569.00	1,370.29	1,924.00	0.00
	Clerk's gross salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,797.00
4	HMRC - tax on Clerk's salary (2012-2013)	631.00	342.80	475.00	0.00
5	Clerk's expenses (travel, stationery etc.)	450.00	258.71	150.00	0.00
6	Clerk's training	0.00	87.50	60.00	0.00
7	CVS Cheshire East - administration of payroll service	0.00	48.00	48.00	100.00
	Insurance/Audit/Subscriptions				
8	Internal Audit (C M Moulton)	50.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
9	External Audit	400.00		400.00	400.00
10	Cheshire Association of LCs (annual sub)	1,300.00	1,224.90	0.00	1,300.00
11	Insurance	3,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
	Maintenance				
12	Maintenance of memorials	500.00		0.00	500.00
13	Parish land maintenance	500.00	168.00	200.00	500.00
	Members				
14	Expenses	0.00	30.90	50.00	500.00
15	Training fees	300.00	30.00	0.00	100.00
16	Advertising in St Peter's newsletter	60.00			65.00
17	Chairman's Allowance	250.00	250.00		250.00
	Grants/Donations				
18	General	2,000.00	500.00	60.00	2,000.00
19	S.137 Donations	1,000.00			1,000.00
20	St Peter's Church	10,000.00		10,000.00	0.00
	Diamond Jubilee				
21	Footpath around war memorial	10,700.00	10,500.00	300.00	0.00
22	Diamond Jubilee family day	10,000.00	4,643.84	0.00	0.00

Line No.	Items	Budget 2012-2013 £	Spend to 30 Sept 2012 £	Revised Estimates to 31 Mar 2013 £	Budget Proposals 2013-2014 £
	Honorary Freeman				
23	Scheme completed in 2012-2013	0.00	568.00		0.00
24	Scheme completed in 2012-2013			500.00	0.00
25	Board and fixing in St Peter's Community Centre			0.00	500.00
26	Website support and development	50.00	64.00		80.00
	Speed Watch Scheme				
27	Scheme completed in 2012-2013	11,300.00	11,379.00	0.00	0.00
28	Scheme completed in 2012-2013	4,300.00	5,340.00	0.00	0.00
29	Incidentals associated with the scheme	1,000.00	162.33	0.00	1,000.00
30	New posts/display units (for 2013-2014)			0.00	6,000.00
31	Signs for location near Mablins Lane School Crossing				3,500.00
	Miscellaneous				
32	Wreath - Remembrance Sunday	50.00		20.00	20.00
33	On-the-Street Sports Programme	1,500.00		0.00	1,500.00
	NEW PROJECTS				
34	Strimmer for use on parish field				1,300.00
35	Family Day community event				2,500.00
	TOTALS	62,510.00	37,091.47	14,217.00	29,462.00