

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2016 AT CHURCH LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Chairman Roger Young; Vice-chair Barbara Adams;
Councillors Mike Hall; Neil Harper; John Atkins; Keith Cartwright; Cheshire East Councillor, Rhoda Bailey

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

133/15 Apologies for Absence

None received

134/15 To receive any Declaration of Interests regarding Agenda Items

None

135/15 To approve Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 20th January, 2016

The minutes of 20th January were approved as a correct record.

136/15 To co-opt Mr Mike Dawson onto the council

The chair welcomed Mr Dawson to his first meeting as Parish Councillor. The Acceptance of Office was signed by Mr Dawson.

137/15 Introduction of Mrs Susan Owen, who is interested in becoming a councillor in Church Lawton and who is attending the meeting as an observer.

The chair introduced Mrs Susan Owen, who has expressed an interest in becoming a councillor.

138/15 Resignation of Councillor Kay Stark.

The clerk read out the resignation of Cllr Kay Stark.

139/15 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of 17th February 2016

139/15/1 Brown Avenue, cost of Grasscrete

Cllr Bailey reported that she has discussed this further with Stuart Bateman at Cheshire East. The possibility of removing some of the verge to widen and leave parking spaces has been considered.

139/15/2 Drainage Work, Old Knutsford Road, and Removal of Trees

Cllr Hall reported that this work is now completed. Church Lawton School have been approached with a view to organise bulb planting.

139/15/3 Activity in Lawton Woods

The clerk reported that investigations by Planning Enforcement at Cheshire East and by the Forestry Commission are still continuing.

139/15/4 Fly Posting

It has been confirmed by Cheshire East Enforcement that an Advertisement Consent is required for the sign at the junction of Dairylands and Crewe Road. The matter is being pursued.

139/15/5 Street Lights and Pavement – A50 towards Rode Heath

Odd Rode have not yet replied regarding the hedge.

139/15/6 Lighting Issues

Cllr Hall updated the council on the progress of getting faulty lights back on. Cllr Harper also has reported a faulty light on Liverpool Road East.

139/15/7 Parking Damage to Grassed Areas by Rutland Cottage

The clerk informed that she had received verification from Cheshire East that this piece of land is not registered and will come under the control of Highways. The clerk was asked to contact John Tickle to pursue the matter.

139/15/8 Damage and removal of Hedge at EE Mast

Thee clerk informed that she is in contact with the contractors regarding the issue and that a letter has been sent to EE.

139/15/9 Litter Clean Up

It was suggested that a suitable location for a litter clean up would be along the canal away from traffic. Cllr Bailey informed that cleaning kits (hi-viz jackets etc) could probably be borrowed from the Scouts in Odd Rode. Cllr Bailey also informed that she could assist in the disposal of the bags of litter. The clerk agreed to pursue this.

139/15/10 Repair of Cheshire Railings

Cheshire East Highways have informed that repair of these railings is very costly and, since the condition of them is not dangerous, they will supply paint. It was agreed unanimously that the Parish consider paying for the repairs. The clerk and Cllr Hall will pursue this and three quotes will be required.

139/15/11 Gritting of the School Route

The route to the school is not being gritted because of safety problems regarding the vehicles reversing. Cllr Bailey agreed to enquire about this.

140/15 To receive Cheshire East Matters from Rhoda Bailey`

Cllr Bailey reported that the Greenacres Planning appeal was attended by six people including the Inspector and Cllr Bailey had opportunity to speak. The altered access could not be considered because it was submitted after the planning application to which the appeal relates. The decision from the Inspector is pending.

141/15 Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting

The clerk was asked to confirm that the hall will be free to use on the 4th Wednesday of April.

142/15 Arrangements and Date of the Civic Service

The clerk was asked to approach All Saints' Church and suggest the 2nd Sunday in June. If the date is confirmed, the clerk was asked to write the invitation to Fiona Bruce.

143/15 Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

It was agreed to collect a list of various local events that are planned to advertise them in the Parish Boards and Website once it is complete.

144/15 Appointment of an Internal Auditor

The clerk reported that, since, A P Accountancy provide Payroll Services, they shouldn't also be the Internal Auditors. The clerk agreed to get some quotes from other potential Internal Auditors. It was agreed by all that for the 2016/2017 year, the CVC Service will be asked to conduct the Payroll.

145/15 Review of the Asset Register

The clerk informed that the asset register requires reviewing and asked all to check it and report to her such that she can produce an update.

146/15 Website Progress

The clerk and Cllr harper reported that the website is now almost complete.

147/15 Use of Email by the Parish Council

The clerk reminded the Council that whilst email communication has its value, it should not be used to debate matters that can wait until a full Council Meeting.

148/15 Training requirements 2016

It was agreed that the Council pay for Cllr Dawson to attend an induction course on 30th June (Middlewich). The clerk agreed to book the course for Mr Dawson.

It was agreed that the council pay a part contribution for the clerk to attend the Finance Course being run by the SLCC on 15th March 2016 in Stoke-on-Trent.

149/15 Finance

149/15/1 Receipts

Interest 29 th February:	Reserve Account 1- 0.50p	Reserve Account 2- 0.10p
Total -		£0.60

149/15/2 Payments

The following payments were approved by the Council:

Clerk's Salary February (to be paid on the 25th)	£325.00
Clerk's working from home allowance January	£17.33
Total -	£342.33

150/15 Local Plan Update

Cllr Bailey informed that the Local Plan is to go to the Strategic Planning Board on the 18th February and then to the Full Council for Approval.

151/15 Neighbourhood Plan Updates

The clerk informed that Alsager Town Council have sent out notifications to residents regarding their neighbourhood plan. Odd Rode have also held some public meetings with a view to commencing theirs.

152/15 Planning

152/15/1 Update on the Rural Housing Needs survey

The results from the Rural Housing Needs Survey are now due towards the end of February.

152/15/2 To receive and discuss new Planning Applications since the meeting of 17th February:

16/0227C 150, Sandbach Road, Church Lawton, ST7 3RA

Resubmission of application ref; 15/0194C for Construction of 10 no dwellings.

Comments deadline: 3rd March 2016

It was agreed by all that the Parish Council object to this application for the same reasons as the original application.

16/0699C 2, Greengate Road, Church Lawton, Stoke-on-Trent, ST7 3EG

Proposed detached garage.

Comments deadline: 9th March 2016

It was agreed by all that the Parish Council object to this application. The proposed garage sits to the front of the property and is out of keeping and obtrusive to neighbouring properties. The proposed garage is high with a large footprint. In addition, Cllr Hall informed that complaints have been received from some affected properties that they have not received a notification and there is no site notice. The clerk agreed to contact Planning at Cheshire East.

16/0454D Sainsburys – Discharge of some conditions.

Councillor Hall raised some issues regarding this application but, since the Parish Council have not been consulted, it was decided not to pursue the matter.

152/15/3 Update on Existing Applications:

Greenacres Nursery

See 140/15

15/5280C Lawton Mere Nurseries, Cherry Lane

Demolition of existing glasshouse and the construction of six new dwellings.

Decision: Refused by virtue of its position in the South Cheshire Green Belt.

15/5589C The Cottage, Cherry Lane, ST7 3QZ

Reserved Matters for Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale following Outline Approval.

Decision: Refused

15/5378C 21, Lawtongate, Church Lawton, ST7 3ES

Proposed Extension.

Decision: Permission granted

153/15 Correspondence Received

The clerk reported on correspondence received including:

A letter from a resident has been received complaining of a high hedge blocking the view around the turning for Brown Avenue and of cars driving at excessive speeds. The clerk agreed to forward the complaint to Cheshire East Highways and the Police.

A further letter has been received from a resident asking why Church Lawton School doesn't have a 20mph speed limit. Cllr Bailey is investigating this although it once felt, that being a dead end road, speeding cars shouldn't pose too much a threat. The same resident also enquires about Rutland Cottage and the grass verge already being dealt with. (139/15/7).

The clerk read out a letter from Mr Richard Cooper introducing himself as the new Local Highways Officer for the area.

The clerk informed of a thank you letter that has been received from Kristina Wright thanking the Parish Council for our assistance.

The clerk informed of notification that Newcastle-under-Lyme are consulting on the Issues Consultation Document which will inform the preparation of the new Joint Local Plan.

The clerk informed that the updated edition of the Good Councillors Guide is now available at a cost of 5 for £8.75. It was agreed that 5 should be ordered as agreed in January.

The clerk informed that correspondence with Mr Doug Smith regarding the broken noticeboard has taken place. It was agreed that the board should be repaired immediately and that the clerk should discuss the issue with our PCSO.

154/15 To Report on Meetings/Training Events Attended

Cllr Hall reported on the Police Commissioners Meeting of 26th January, Crewe. It was agreed Chief Inspector Gareth Lee be invited to talk to the Parish Council.

155/15 To Receive and Discuss Matters Raised by Members

- 155/15/1** Cllr Adams commented on recent news that Cheshire East has been described as the happiest place to live.
- 155/15/2** Cllr Harper raised about cars being sold from a house on Liverpool Rd East. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- 155/15/3** Cllr Hall informed that there are problems with dogs fouling again and Cllr Fernihough reported that there was a load of bags that have been dumped over the fence by The Spinney.
- 155/15/4** Cllr Dawson informed that the improvement to the T junction on Sandbach Rd had resulted in a worsening of the problem. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Members of the Public were excluded from the discussion of the following item:

156/15 Discussion regarding the Vacancy Created by the resignation of Cllr Kay Stark.

To agree Date of Next Meeting : Wednesday 20th April 2016 at 7:30