

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 15th JUNE 2016 AT CHURCH LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Chairman Roger Young; Vice-chair Barbara Adams.

**Councillors Neil Harper; John Atkins; Austin Fernihough; Mike Dawson; Keith Cartwright; Susan Owen
Cheshire East Councillor, Rhoda Bailey**

Prior to the meeting, at 7:20pm, William Young, an applicant for the vacant councillor position, introduced himself to the Council and remained as an observer for the subsequent meeting.

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

20/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received Cllr Hall. Cllr Bailey had previously informed the clerk that she would be arriving late. Items which involved her input were left until her arrival.

21/16 To receive any Declaration of Interests regarding Agenda Items

Cllrs Roger Young and Keith Cartwright declared an interest in agenda item 17 by virtue of being related to the applicant. It was agreed that they should take no part in the discussion of this item and should leave the room.

22/16 To approve Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 18th May, 2016

The minutes of 18th May, 2016 were approved as a correct record with the amendment that Cllr Owen was added to the list of attendees.

23/16 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of 18th May 2016

23/16/1 Brown Avenue and Greengate – Grasscrete and Parking Issues

This is still being pursued by Cllr Bailey and is on the list of Minor Improvements.

23/16/2 Building work and tree felling in Lawton Woods

The clerk reported that there are signs that bonfires are being lit at the site by persons unknown. A photograph was shown of a used fire-pit. It was agreed that this is hazardous and should be reported by the clerk to Anne Donkin.

23/16/3 Street Lights and Pavement – A50 towards Rode Heath

The verges have now been cut. It was commented on that there seems to be inconsistency in the approach taken by Cheshire East on leaving a strip for wildlife and the clerk agreed to write to ask what the policy is.

23/16/4 Damage and removal of Hedge at EE Mast

The contracting firm, WHP, have put right the fence and replanted saplings at the site of the EE mast. In addition, the Vodafone plans have been amended to stipulate that all damage must be rectified after the work is complete. The clerk was asked to write a thank you letter.

23/16/5 Repair of Cheshire Railings other than Financial aspects

It was agreed that three quotes should be requested to get an idea of the cost involved. It was also agreed that the clerk should discuss with English Heritage and research the matter further. It was noted that there are other damaged Cheshire Railings in the Parish

and Cllr Adams agreed to talk to Mr Giltrap who had involvement with the railings during his time on the council.

23/16/6 Speed Limit Issues in the Parish

Cllr Bailey informed that improved signage is required. It was noted that the Parish has still not had a SID to collect data. It was agreed that Cllr Bailey would request this as an agenda item once she has something to report. The clerk was asked to write to the Police to request some speed enforcement.

23/16/7 T Junction Problems (Sandbach Rd) and the verges

It was agreed that a meeting be arranged on site with Simon Wallis to discuss this issue.

23/16/8 Misuse of the One-way system on Cherry Lane, especially by cyclists.

The clerk has been in contact with Sustrans who have said they will investigate this. The clerk has noted that there is no sign coming out of Cherry lane at The Horseshoe to indicate that cyclists should turn right and that there is an old misleading sign implying use of the one-way. It was agreed that this could be included in the list of items for discussion with Simon Wallis on site.

23/16/9 Lack of signage on Cherry Lane to deter HGVs from using Cherry Lane from the Horseshoe to Knutsford Road by way of the small canal bridge.

This is being pursued by Cllr Bailey who has been trying to up the priority.

24/16 To receive Cheshire East Matters from Rhoda Bailey`

Cllr Bailey informed that a decision has been made to go ahead with the Congleton Relief Road and the planning application has been passed.

Cllr Bailey also reported that there is a review of the walking routes to school.

25/16 Position of Keep Left Bollard at the junction of Sandbach Road and Knutsford Road

Cllr Adams reported residents have complained that the keep left bollard at the junction of Sandbach Road and Knutsford road blocks vision for drivers pulling out of the junction. It was agreed that this should be raised with Simon Wallis and could be included in agenda for the request for an on-site meeting.

26/16 Overgrown Hedges and Trees in the Parish

Cllr Hall has passed on a complaint from a resident and also informed the clerk that he has reported a couple of problem areas which will result in notices being served on residents. In addition, it has been noted that many of the problems highlighted in the report compiled in the autumn have not been dealt with by Cheshire East. It was agreed that the clerk contact Richard Cooper and John Tickle to request a site visit to look at problem areas and prioritise them and to include Cllr Hall and Cllr Bailey.

27/16 To consider the request from Doug Smith – High visibility jacket with the Parish Council name on.

It was agreed by all present that it would be beneficial for Doug Smith to wear high-vis with the council's name on when conducting his work for us. It was also agreed that several vests be ordered in various sizes for use by councillors when required. A budget of £120 was agreed.

16/0699C 2, Greengate Road
Proposed Detached Garage
No decision to date

31/16/3 Update regarding contact with Cheshire east

The clerk reported that this is still outstanding

31/16/4 Enforcement of the fence at the Rectory on Liverpool Rd West.

A response has not yet been received.

32/16 Correspondence Received

The clerk reported correspondence including:

An invitation to Alsager Town Council Civic Service on the 26th June, 2016. Cllr Young offered to go on behalf of the Council.

Town and Parish Council Conference on the 19th July, 2016 at Sandbach Town Hall. Cllrs Susan Owen and Mike Dawson offered to go. The clerk also hopes to attend.

33/16 To report on meetings/training events attended

It was agreed by all that the Civic Service was a success. Cllr Adams has provided the clerk with a small write up for the website/Chronicle. Cllr Adams also asked the clerk to write a thank you letter for the lovely buffet provided by the Church.

34/16 Members reports

34/16/1 Cllr Harper queried whether Lottery funding may be available for the Cheshire Railings work. The clerk agreed to investigate this.

34/16/2 Communication with the school was raised as the Parish Council would like to maintain close links. Cllr Bailey is now a governor and agreed to raise this.

34/16/3 The building work in fields behind Sandbach Rd is progressing. The clerk was asked to query if any planning permission is in place or required.

35/16 To review the clerk's salary and working hours

The clerk left the room for the discussion of this item. It was resolved to increase the clerk's working hours to 8 per week to reflect changes in the job such as website maintenance. It was decided that the clerk remain on her current grade and that the hourly rate be increased in line with SLCC and NALC guidelines for that grade.

36/16 To discuss the co-option to fill the Councillor Vacancy

Cllrs Roger Young and Keith Cartwright left the meeting prior to this item along with William Young who had been observing the meeting.

It was agreed by all present that Mr William Young be offered the position of councillor to fill the vacancy.

The meeting concluded at 9:15pm.

To agree Date of Next Meeting : Wednesday 20th July at 7:30pm