

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 18th MAY 2016 AT CHURCH LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL
Present: Chairman Roger Young; Vice-chair Barbara Adams.
Councillors Neil Harper; John Atkins; Austin Fernihough Mike Dawson
Cheshire East Councillor, Rhoda Bailey

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

1/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received Cllr Cartwright. Cllr Bailey had previously informed the clerk that due to a previous meeting, she would be arriving late.

2/16 To receive any Declaration of Interests regarding Agenda Items

Cllr Fernihough declared an interest in item 17-b of the agenda (17/15/1 of the Minutes, Planning application, 16/2295C).

3/16 To appoint a chairman to serve until the next General Meeting

Cllr Young was nominated by Cllr Adams and seconded Cllr Fernihough. No other nomination was received. Cllr Young was unanimously voted in as the Chairman for the coming year.

4/16 To appoint a vice chairman to serve until the next General meeting

Cllr Adams was nominated by Cllr Young and seconded Cllr Hall. No other nomination was received. Cllr Adams was unanimously voted in as the Vice-Chairman for the coming year.

5/16 To approve Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 20th April, 2016

The minutes of 20th April, 2016 were approved as a correct record.

6/16 Roles and Responsibilities Review

The following roles and responsibilities were agreed:

Highways – Cllr Hall

Planning – The Clerk to co-ordinate with the Council

ChALC Representative – Cllr Young

Website – The Clerk and Cllr Harper

Council Audit of Finances (at least quarterly) – Cllr Owen

7/16 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of 20th April 2016

7/16/1 Brown Avenue and Greengate – Grasscrete and Parking Issues

The clerk informed that the garages are not currently managed. Any empty ones are not able to be rented at present. This issue is still continuing to be pursued by Cllr Bailey.

7/16/2 Building work and tree felling in Lawton Woods

The clerk reported that investigations by Planning Enforcement at Cheshire East and by the Forestry Commission are still continuing. It was commented on that the site is now becoming untidy.

7/16/3 Street Lights and Pavement – A50 towards Rode Heath

Deferred to the June meeting.

7/16/4 Damage and removal of Hedge at EE Mast

The clerk informed that she has established that the land behind the masts is not registered. Communication to EE/WHP is continuing with little response.

7/16/5 Repair of Cheshire Railings other than Financial aspects

Cllr Hall updated the Council. Cheshire East have informed that the bad state of repair of the railings is not considered a safety issue.

7/16/6 Alsager Tree

The poor state of health of the tree has been reported to Cheshire East Highways.

7/16/7 Speed Limit Issues in the Parish

Cllr Bailey reported that Sandbach Road and Lawton Heath End Road are both on the list for assessment.

7/16/8 T Junction Problems (Sandbach Rd) and the verges

It was agreed that Cllr Hall, Cllr Dawson and the clerk prepare a report to highlight the Council's concerns and requesting a meeting with representatives from Cheshire East.

8/16 To receive Cheshire East Matters from Rhoda Bailey`

Cllr Bailey Informed that the new Mayor is Olivia Hunter, and the deputy Arthur Moon.

Cllr Bailey also reported that the Tour of Britain Stage 3 from Congleton and Tatton Park will be on the 6th September.

Cllr Bailey informed about the Standing Advisory Council for RE in schools of which she is a part as a Cheshire East representative.

9/16 To review and discuss matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting

Various issues were raised by residents at the APM:

Signage on Cherry Lane to discourage heavy vehicles from using the lane. The clerk was asked to write to Highways.

An issue of bin wagons driving over the green at Greengate was raised. The clerk was asked to write to ANSA and Cllr Bailey is already looking at ways to alleviate the congestion.

The issue of the grass cutting occurring on the following day to road sweeping was highlighted. This will be monitored.

Other issues raised were: Neighbourhood Planning, Stoke-on-Trent postcode, switched off lighting issues, the need for a crossing on Congleton Road South, Rural Housing needs requirements, Air pollution figures due to increased traffic on the M6 motorway and 20mph signage on Brown Avenue.

10/16 Neighbourhood Planning

The questionnaire draft was approved by all present with a few agreed modifications. The clerk was asked to arrange printing once each of the contact points was agreed with the premises owner.

11/16 Attendance at Civic Service

The clerk confirmed the attendance of councillors to the Civic Service of the 12th July and agreed to pass the number to the Church along with the names of other attendees.

12/16 Misuse of the one-way system on Cherry lane

It has been reported by several residents that the one-way system is being ignored by some users, especially cyclists. Cllr Hall highlighted that the National Cycle Route signs do direct cyclists down Cherry Lane against the flow of traffic. The clerk was asked to contact both Highways and Sustrans.

13/16 Links between the Parish Council, Residents and Church Lawton School.

It was agreed that the parish Council should continue to encourage a strong link with the school. The clerk agreed to offer the School the opportunity to advertise its events in the notice-boards and on the website. It was noted that some residents have felt disappointed to have no response to offers of help.

14/16 Footpaths – Lawton Heath End Area

The clerk informed that the signs that have appeared in two fields in the Lawton Heath End area are Section 31 deposits by the land owner which protect against the claiming of a footpath through the land whilst allowing permissive access.

15/16 Training Requirements

It was agreed that Cllr Owen be booked onto the Chalc Induction Training Course on 30th June.

16/16 Finance

16/16/1 Feedback from the 2015/2016 Internal audit

The clerk reported that the 2015/2016 Internal audit has been completed by –JDH Business Services Ltd. The Financial Regulations are currently under review and the recommendations will be accounted for. In addition, the recommendations will be implemented in the accounting systems. The discrepancy in the asset register will be investigated.

16/16/2 Annual Governance Statement 2015/2016

The Annual Governance Statement was approved unanimously by the Council and duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

16/16/3 Accounting Statement for year ending 31st March 2016

The Accounting Statement was unanimously approved by the Council and duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

16/16/4 Draft Financial Regulations

A draft of the Financial Regulations had been circulated prior to the meeting. Some amendments were agreed. The clerk was actioned to produce a further draft for comment.

16/16/5 To agree the Financial Aspects and Procedure for the Cheshire Railings Repair

Deferred until the June meeting.

16/16/6 Receipts

Interest 30 th April:	Reserve Account 1- 0.50p	Reserve Account 2- 0.10p
Total -		£0.60

16/16/7 Approval of Payments

The following payments were approved by the Council:

Clerk's Salary May (to be paid on the 25th)	£325.00
Clerk's working from home allowance May	£17.33
Stamps	£11.00
Flower Passion	£20.00
ChALC Good Councillor's Guide	£13.40
ChALC Training for Cllr Dawson (Induction)	£30.00
Stationery and Ink Cartridges	£53.85
B Adams Refreshments at APM	£3.96
Lawton Computers	£626.22
JDH Business Services (Internal Audit)	£126.00
Total -	£1222.76

17/16 Planning

17/16/1 To receive new Planning Applications since the meeting of 16th March 2016.

16/1409C 84, Congleton Road North, Church Lawton, ST7 3BA Proposed detached dwelling, demolition of existing garage and new vehicular access.

It was resolved that the Parish Council have no comment to make.

16/2295C 10, Liverpool Road West, Church Lawton, ST7 3DA. Proposed replacement dwelling and associated parking and access arrangements.

It was resolved that the Parish Council have no comment to make.

15/5693C Land adjacent to 1, Congleton Road North, Scholar Green. Appeal to secretary of state.

It was resolved that the Parish Council have no comments to make to the appeal.

17/16/2 To Update the Council on Existing Applications

16/0227C 150, Sandbach Road, 10 houses

Due to go to committee on the 30th May.

16/0699C 2, Greengate Road

Proposed Detached Garage

No decision to date

17/16/3 Twyfords Bathrooms, Lawton Road

Cllr Hall informed the Council that it should be remembered that part of this site is in Church Lawton and partly provides the parish's rural housing needs.

17/16/4 Problems with contact with Cheshire East Planning

The clerk reported that this is still outstanding

17/16/5 Enforcement of the fence at the Old Rectory.

A response has not yet been received.

18/16 Correspondence Received

The clerk reported that she has no correspondence to report this month.

19/16 Members reports

19/16/1 Cllr Hall reported that there are ten bin bags outside Broughton Cottages which require removal

19/16/2 Cllr Hall reported that a Slimming World A-Board has been placed at the end of Sandbach Rd which has been locked onto the signpost.

19/16/3 Cllr Hall reported that the trees have been planted on Sandbach Road

19/16/4 Cllr Harper reported than an email sent to Cllr Jane Smith regarding the Barrows in Church Lawton remains unanswered.

The meeting concluded at 9:50pm.

To agree Date of Next Meeting : Wednesday 15th June at 7:30pm