

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2016 AT CHURCH LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL

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

**Councillors John Atkins; Mike Dawson; Susan Owen; Austin Fernihough; Mike Hall
Cheshire East Councillor, Rhoda Bailey**

The Council Meeting commenced at 7:00pm.

58/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Neil Harper and Keith Cartwright.

59/16 To receive any Declaration of Interests regarding Agenda Items

Cllr Fernihough informed the council that his family own farm land which adjoins the site of the Planning application 16/4152C on Liverpool Road West. It was agreed that Cllr Fernihough still participate in discussions due to his extensive local knowledge of this area.

60/16 To approve Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 20th July, 2016

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

61/16 Co-option of Mr William Young

The Council formally co-opted Mr William Young to be a member of Church Lawton Parish Council. Mr Young was greeted by the chair and signed his acceptance of office. The clerk also handed him the Register of Interest forms for him to fill in.

62/16 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of 20th July 2016

62/16/1 Building work and tree felling in Lawton Woods

It was agreed to continue monitoring as the site is still a mess.

62/16/2 Repair of the Cheshire Railings

The clerk reported that Judith Cosgrove has been contacted regarding S106 money. We were advised to apply if suitable developments became available.

A second quote has now been received for the work at the crossroads and, like the first, it was stipulated that the trees and bushes would require removing first. It appears that the total price of repairing this section would be in the region of £3000.

The clerk was requested to write to the owners of the property on Sandbach Road to ask if they have received any official notification that Cheshire East had handed over responsibility for the sections of railings to property owners.

It was agreed that the clerk should try to identify any suitable funding such as The Lottery and to try English heritage again.

62/16/3 Speed limit issues in the Parish

The clerk reported that Simon Wallace of Cheshire East Highways has suggested that we apply to have a SID erected by Cheshire East along with several poles such that it could be periodically moved. It was agreed by all that the clerk make the application.

It was further discussed that should the application for a SID not be successful, that the Parish Council could consider purchasing its own SID.

The clerk informed of bin stickers that are available to help reinforce speed limits (Smart Wheelie). It was agreed that the Parish Council purchase some for distribution to interested residents and that the clerk follow this up.

The clerk was asked to chase up contact with the police. Cllr Bailey agreed to look into the possibility of having Ward meetings with the police occasionally to discuss issues.

62/16/4 Signage on Cherry lane

This work has not yet been completed by Cheshire East Council

62/16/5 Position of the keep left bollard at the junction of Sandbach Road and Knutsford Road.

Cheshire East Council have not yet removed this bollard.

62/16/6 Misuse of the One-way system on Cherry Lane, especially by cyclists.

Cheshire East have not yet put the improved signage into place.

62/16/7 Overgrown hedges and tree problems in the Parish

Some of the overgrown hedges have now been dealt with but most have not, Cllr Hall and the Clerk were asked to chase this up.

62/16/8 PROW problems in the Parish

Following on from the last meeting and the report received from the Congleton Ramblers, the clerk has been to look at footpath CHL15 which was given a grade 4 classification. The footpath was impassable being shin deep mud for a stretch. The clerk agreed to write to Cheshire East to support Congleton Ramblers.

62/16/9 Update on Flooding and Drain problems in the Parish

Cllr Hall gave an update on the current problems and progress of various blocked gullies and drain problems in the parish – By Linley Bridge, Greengate, Knutsford Road, Lawton Arms/Grove Corner, Red Bull and Liverpool Road West. Cllr Adams raised that Brown Avenue has a problem and the clerk informed that some blocked gullies on Knowsley Lane have been reported. Cllr Hall and the clerk agreed to collate all these problems into one report.

62/16/10 Update on the woodland for Sale adjacent to the Wilbraham Arms

The clerk updated that this has been discussed by Alsager Town Council who have set up a working party. The clerk at Alsager intends to keep Church Lawton Parish Council informed.

62/16/11 Update on the Alsager Tree

The Alsager Tree has had the dead and dangerous wood removed by Cheshire East Council.

62/16/12 Litter Problems in Greengate

Litter problems are ongoing in the area and Cllr Hall reported that incidents are being reported to Dane Housing, whose responsibility the area is and were quickly cleared.

63/16 To receive Cheshire East Matters from Rhoda Bailey

Cllr Bailey informed regarding the speeding strategy and the criteria for setting speed limits put into place by Cheshire East Council. Cllr Bailey also informed that the police have said that they will only support a speed limit that they believe people will comply with,

Cllr Bailey also gave an update on the Barrows and is assisting the Cllr Jane Smith of Alsager and the working party in contacting the landowners, Lagans.

64/16 Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire

The clerk gave the Council a summary of the Neighbourhood Plan results:

Out of 1800 on the Electoral Register 71 replies had been received (3.9% of electorate), with 64 (3.5% of electorate) saying Church Lawton should produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

Eight people had expressed an interest to be very involved with a further 27 offering limited time. Nine people felt they had skills to offer.

Although the response is less than that previously decided by the Council to be sufficient to move ahead, it was agreed that further advice be sought. The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire Community Action, other parishes and Tom Evans of Cheshire East.

It was agreed that the clerk and Cllr Will Young write a small piece for The Chronicle if requested. The clerk was also asked to write to those who had volunteered to thank them and update them. The clerk was also asked to purchase a voucher from Hall Farm for £15 for the draw of returned forms.

65/16 Fly Posting in the Parish

65/16/1 Approval of the Revised Policy

The motion to adapt the updated Fly Posting Policy was carried by a majority vote. The Policy was signed by the chairman.

65/16/2 Current Fly-Posting issues in the Parish

It was agreed that the current business signs be removed as they breach the policy. The clerk was asked to write those concerned.

66/16 Street Lighting Within the Parish

Cllr Hall updated the Council regarding the recent removal of columns by Cheshire East Highways. As well as redundant lights, those which the Parish Council have fought to be turned back on have been removed including those at the bridge on Linley Lane and some along Liverpool Road West. Cllr Bailey informed that the issue has been raised with Ian Darlington at Cheshire east Highways. The clerk was asked to write a letter of complaint to the Highways Portfolio Holder, David Brown and to our MP, Fiona Bruce.

67/16 Proposal for a Dog Watch Scheme on the Lawton Estate

It was agreed to initiate a dog watch scheme on The Lawton Gate Estate and the estate around Brattswood Drive. The clerk was asked to initiate this.

68/16 Approval of the Code of Conduct Document

The updated Code of Conduct Document was agreed by all and signed by the Chairman.

69/16 Risk Assessment Review

The policy was discussed and the clerk was asked to make the changes for circulation prior to October's meeting.

70/16 Communication with the Community by the Parish Council

The idea of 'meet and greet' sessions were considered. Cllr W Young suggested the use of Social Media to try and reach younger residents and agreed to investigate this and to discuss with the Clerk. The Clerk suggested that the Council should produce a periodic newsletter. The Council agreed with this but felt that it should initially be an e-letter to residents who provide an email address. Cllr w Young agreed to be co-editor of this with the Clerk.

Cllr Young and the Clerk to feed back at the next meeting.

71/16 Harvest festival at All Saints

Cllr Adams informed that this will be held on the 9th October, 2016. It was agreed by all The Cllr Adams prepare a hamper as a contribution of up to £30.

72/16 Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints

Cllr Adams raised the issue of the Parish again decorating a tree. It was agreed by all present that we should and that Cllr Adams spend up to £20 on some further decorations.

73/16 Participatory Budget Funding

The clerk raised this funding which has become available with a theme of health. It was agreed the clerk investigate applying for a defibrillator.

74/16 Finance

74/16/1 To receive the results of the external BDO Audit

The clerk informed that the BDO audit is complete. A recommendation has been given to implement those issues raised by the internal auditor. A notice has been posted to inform the public that the accounts are open to inspection.

74/16/2 To review the Bank mandate

It was agreed that the clerk obtain the forms and arrange the bank mandate to be updated to reflect the current council members. (Cllrs W Young, S Owen, M Dawson and J Atkins to be added).

74/16/3 To Approve Receipts

Interest 31 st July 2016:	Reserve Account 1- 0.50p	Reserve Account 2- 0.10p
Interest 31 st August 2016	Reserve Account 1 – 0.57p	Reserve Account 2 – 0.11p
Cheshire East Precept 2 nd Instalment -	£3,750.00	
Total -		£3,751.28

74/16/4 Approval of Payments

The following payments were approved by the Council:

Clerk's Salary September (to be paid on the 25th)	£379.41
Clerk's working from home allowance September	£17.33
CVS Annual Charge	£111.00
Total -	£507.74

75/16 Planning

To receive new Planning Applications since the meeting of 15th June 2016.

16/3741C The Cottage, Cherry lane - Reserved matters application on approved outline application 15/2909C for a proposed single dwelling. Comments deadline – 1st September
A response was submitted by the clerk after consultation with Councillors.

16/3961C Hall O Lee Farm, Knowsley Lane, Church Lawton. Proposed grain store. Comments deadline 2nd September.

No comment submitted after consultation with councillors.

16/4025C Acton Way, Church Lawton, ST7 3RD – Proposed first floor side extension including canopy and alterations. Comments deadline 7th September

No comment submitted after consultation with Councillors.

16/4074C 104, Brown Avenue, Church Lawton, ST7 3EP – Proposed dormer extension to front elevation to extend existing bedrooms with new bathroom and re-surfacing driveway. Comments deadline - 12th September

No comment submitted after consultation with Councillors.

16/4152C 2, Liverpool Road West, Church Lawton. Change of use of the old school house. Comments deadline 23rd September.

After discussion the clerk was asked to submit a response relating to building on the Green Belt, wet land/flooding/drainage issues and loss of employment. Cllr Bailey was asked to call the application in.

16/4182C Rectory Farm, Demolition of Existing buildings and construction of one new dwelling. Comments deadline – 28th September

It was noted that a main sewer runs under the proposed development. The Parish Council are aware of the opposition to this by nearby residents and agreed that our response should urge Cheshire East planning to carefully consider the comments submitted.

75/16/1 To Update the Council on Existing Applications

16/2229C – Reserved matters application following outline application 11/4109C – Caradon Bathrooms.

No decision to date.

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

Approved.

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

No decision to date.

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

Permission granted at appeal.

16/0699C 2, Greengate Road

Proposed Detached Garage

No decision to date

75/16/2 Feedback on the Meeting held 19th September, 10:00, with Russell Adams and Frank Byatt.

At the request of Mr Frank Byatt and a planning consultant, Russell Adams, some councillors and the clerk attended a meeting. A member of the Rectory Farm Action Group was also invited. Mr Byatt and Mr Adams outlined their potential plans for an area of greenbelt land adjacent to Rectory farm and the Council had the opportunity to ask questions. The meeting was informative and amicable. The Parish Council have decided to reserve making any comment until a planning application is received.

75/16/3 Update regarding contact with Cheshire East

The clerk has again had problems contacting Planning Officers when using the Cheshire East Planning Email address. It was agreed that the clerk write to the Head of Planning. The clerk noted that, once reached, Planning Officers are always very helpful.

76/16 Correspondence Received

The clerk reported various pieces of correspondence including the ChALC Annual Meeting on the 29th October and an invitation to attend Highways Meetings.

77/16 Training and Meetings

It was agreed that Mr William Young be booked to attend the ChALC Induction Course.

78/16 Members reports

78/16/1 It was reported that the school signs have still not been moved.

To agree Date of Next Meeting : Wednesday 19th October at 7:30pm