

**NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON PARISH COUNCIL**  
Clerk C. Pointon, The Hollies, Newcastle Road, Astbury, Congleton, phone 01260 274891 [astcfp@tesco.net](mailto:astcfp@tesco.net)

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ASTBURY VILLAGE HALL  
ON WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015**

**AGENDA**

**APOLOGIES**

**PARISHIONER QUESTIONS**

- 1 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 11 FEBRUARY 2015**
- 2 PROGRESS REPORT ON PREVIOUS MINUTE MATTERS**
- 3 PARISH ACTION PLAN REPORTS**
- 4 CORRESPONDENCE**
- 5 FINANCIAL MATTERS**
- 6 PLANNING MATTERS**
- 7 MEMBERS ITEMS – as advised**

**C POINTON CLERK**

**APRIL 2015**

## **PRESENT**

Chairman plus Cllrs A Banks, Cliff, J&P Critchlow, Kennerley, R Lomas, Medley, Sharman & Sutton.

CE Cllr Rhoda Bailey in attendance. Also one parishioner.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs S-A Banks, L Lomas & Stanway.

## **PARISHIONER QUESTIONS**

A parishioner requested information regarding the use of narrow country lanes by HGVs. The chairman advised that despite the best efforts of the Parish Council it had proved impossible to persuade the authorities to take any remedial actions. This was particularly difficult with vehicles coming over the border from adjoining counties.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The meeting was preceded by an address given by Andrew Thomson regarding the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. He also answered several questions from members and confirmed that the draft Plan would be presented to the Parish Council in the near future. He was thanked by the Chairman on behalf of the PC.

## **ITEM 1 – MINUTES OF MEETING 11 FEBRUARY 2014**

The minutes of meeting held 11 February were agreed and signed a true record.

## **ITEM 2 – PROGRESS REPORT ON PREVIOUS MINUTE MATTERS**

### **ITEM 2 – PROGRESS REPORT ON PREVIOUS MINUTE MATTERS**

#### **2.1 CHESHIRE EAST HIGHWAYS (CEH)**

##### **2.1.1 ROAD SAFETY: Peel Lane railway bridge – fitting of traffic signals (7 years)**

**JULY 2014 – INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS COMPLETED.**

CE Cllr Bailey to clarify with CEH - changeover sequencing/timing of lights, extent of fencing and need for warning sign of lights on Moss Road.

**AUG 2014 – Complaints still being received re need for sequencing/timing to be investigated.**

**SEPT 2014 – CE Cllr Bailey has met with CE HIGHWAYS staff who are investigating possible alterations to timing etc of lights.**

**OCT 2014 – Problems still being reported as previously noted. Matter to be reported once more to CE highways.**

**NOV 2014 – Timings still wrong – report once more.**

**JAN 2015 – Timing improved – problems with differing vehicle heights**

**MAR15 – retain in minutes until operation of lights is fully acceptable**

##### **2.1.2 TRAFFIC MATTERS (ON WARD MEMBERS LIST)**

**a) A34 – Speed limit extension toward Scholar Green (5 years)**

The Parish Council request “hardening” of the present ghost islands on the A34 from Watery Lane to Childs Lane where there have been fatalities. Also extension of 40mph limit to Childs Lane.

**CEH ANSWER 5/8/10 – SPEED LIMIT REVIEW DOES NOT RECOMMEND ANY CHANGE. THIS ITEM NUMBER ONE ON WARD MEMBER'S LIST.**

**Dec 11 – Passed to traffic section. September 2012 – LOW PRIORITY on ward list.**

**April 13 – “Hardening very unlikely to happen” (report CE Cllr Bailey)**

**b) Peel Drive – parking/turning problems (5 years)**

**At weekends and evenings more than 25 vehicles are parked in and around Peel Drive. It would be impossible on occasion for the emergency services to access. CCC advised that there was no chance of any action other than possibly by the Police. There are problems regarding ownership of land with Dane Housing, Cheshire East and residents involved. It has proved impossible to determine land ownership which has led to increase of “off-street” parking. Garages owned by Dane Housing are in a shocking state of repair.**

**ANSWER 5/8/10 – as there are no parking restrictions, CEH unable to help. Dane Housing to revert to CEH re land ownership.**

**OCT 13 – UNDER REVIEW BY CHESHIRE EAST.**

**c) Peel Lane/Dodds Lane – extension of 30mph limit (7 years)**

**Assessment after rail bridge signals fitted, see 2.1.1 above.**

**SEPT 2012 – Low priority.**

**MAY 2014 – PC request to CEH to extend 40mph limit on Moss Road to meet with Astbury 30mph limit on Peel Lane with possible extension of Astbury 30mph limit into Dodds Lane.**

**JAN 2015 – CE NOTICE OF PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF 40MPH LIMIT FROM MOSS LANE TO PEEL LANE. PC TO ATTEMPT TO INCLUDE EXTENSION FOR A SHORT DISTANCE INTO DODDS LANE.**

**d) Wallhill Lane/A534 JUNCTION – missing direction sign (3 years)**

**AUG 2010 – modern sign in design.**

**MAR 2011 – requested sign to read “Brownlow” plus mileage.**

**e) Parish Boundary Signs – request for signs on A34.**

**CE advise that these signs will have to be paid for by PC.**

**Clerk to obtain requirement detail from CEH and obtain costs.**

### **2.1.3 MAINTENANCE MATTERS**

**C. Watery Lane – repair surface by and under aqueduct (6 years) – CEH new funding bid**

**2010-11. CEH to monitor & repair as necessary. This must be one of the worst maintained stretches of highway in the whole of East Cheshire in regular use. If it was in an urban area it would not be tolerated. Repeated requests have been met with “it's on next year's funding listing”. PC has been informed that this work is to be included in the bid for completion for the past 4 years. When will it happen?**

**Chris Judge comments – 13/9/11 - area by aqueduct recently patched and sealed. No further action at present.**

**DEC 2011 – No comment**

**D. Wharf Lane – renew fencing & road edging by stream (11 years AT LEAST)**

**RESURFACING WORK COMPLETED APRIL 2013.**

**APR 2013 – STREAM EDGING/FENCING STILL OUTSTANDING FOR REPAIR.**

#### **F. Rose bed by A34**

Assuming that the originally supplied drawing has been mislaid, a further one is attached. The exact size of the bed is not yet determined but would be within the hatched area on the drawing in front of "Doric". It is presently grassed.

Chris Judge comments 13/9/11 – No objection to proposal. Obtain ok from Doric occupant. Inform CEH with detailed location of bed.

DEC 2011 – Drawing lost – chairman to provide another drawing.

### **2.2 PLANNING INVESTIGATIONS**

Gorse Lane – "Lavender House" - report of non-agricultural activity.

Cheshire West visited the site, spoke to the owner, and inspected the building.

Quote: "There is no other business being operated from the site. No breach of planning control has been identified. No further action to be taken." (Clerk to re-contact CE enforcement to clarify the situation. 14/3/13 Report of possible vehicle storage.)

Dec 2013 report of vehicles moved to Gorse Cottage.

Feb 2014 – property advertised for sale on Congleton Estate Agent website.

March 2014 – notice in Con Chronicle of £150,000 offer received by estate agents.

Oct 2014 – Report of high fence posts installed – also at "football field".

### **2.3 PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS**

**14/3657C – Land to the West of Padgbury Lane**

Outline application for development of up to 150 dwellings etc – resubmission of 13/4216C

**14/3649C – Land to the West of Padgbury Lane**

Outline application for development of up to 120 dwellings etc – resubmission of 13/4219C

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL FOR BOTH APPLICATIONS. DECISION PENDING. SEE AGENDA ITEM 6.2**

**14/4765C – Astbury Sidings, Oak Lane**

Outline permission (with access) for up to 4 dwellings  
RECOMMEND REFUSAL

**PENDING**

**14/4911C – School House Farm, School Lane**

Proposed new detached dwelling to replace farm shed  
NO OBJECTION

**APPROVED**

**15/0898C – Astbury Village Hall**

Removal of timber Georgian windows replacing with double glazed timber windows

RECOMMEND RETENTION OF EXISTING GEORGIAN WINDOWS TO RETAIN CHARACTER OF VILLAGE HALL

**PENDING**

**15/0090C – Limekiln Farm, Limekiln Farm Lane**

Conversion of redundant milking parlour and dairy to ancillary living accommodation  
NO OBJECTION

**PENDING**

## **2.4 OTHER MATTERS PENDING**

**Common Land, Brownlow Heath – encroachment.**  
**Following lengthy discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk make initial contact with Mr Mearman and CE. Possibility of Land Registry involvement if necessary. Possibility of CE action. Clerk to report.**

**Moreton Cottages – footpath claim – Lost Ways – chase contacts**

**Astbury War Memorial – Chairman liaising with Church authorities.**

**British Legion – poppy campaign – Chairman liaising with Church authorities.**

## **ITEM 3 – PARISH ACTION PLAN REPORTS**

### **3.1 Environment & Housing (JKC)**

**Now covered in agenda item 3A**

### **3.2 Traffic/Road Use (NS)**

**Now covered under agenda item 2 – Cheshire East Highways.**

### **3.3 Website (NS)**

**Cllr Sharman has circulated usage info.**

### **3.4 Social & Leisure (LL&RL)**

**Barn Dance – 25 April, May Day – 16 May.**

### **3.5 Newsletter (J&PC)**

**Helping Hands – enquiry re advertising in Parish Magazine – Email circulated.**

### **3.6 Noticeboards**

**Procurement ex Parish Noticeboard Company. DECISION AT APRIL MEETING – MEMBERS PLEASE BRING INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY EMAIL CIRCD.**

### **3.7 Ackers Crossing Telephone Box – closure notice**

**AGREED – Clerk to pursue the possible purchase at quoted price of £1.**

## **ITEM 3A – NACMPC NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**As the Neighbourhood Plan is to replace the Parish Plan, it is suggested that in due course the Neighbourhood Plan Team present a programme/procedure to the Parish Council to allow a seamless changeover.**

**Contact is being maintained with a wider Congleton Grouping of Local Councils**

**Meeting notes of the Neighbourhood Plan group are email circulated to members by Cllr J Critchlow. Progress is continuing to be made and a first outline of the Plan should be presented to the Parish Council in the near future.**

## **ITEM 4 – CORRESPONDENCE**

### **4.1 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL (CE)**

#### **4.1.1 Ward Member's Report – Cllr Rhoda Bailey**

Cllr Bailey provided an update of CE matters relative to local councils including.

The following items were updated.

- A34 – 30mph limit extension – still under discussion
- Peel Drive – parking problems – still under discussion
- Astbury Village Traffic – Road Painting to be implemented. Stuart Bateman is contact.
- The leader of Cheshire East Council, Cllr Jones, has offered to meet with parish councillors to discuss a possible Astbury by pass, in view of the recent accident on the A34. Meeting detail TBA.
- Fairer Energy Scheme – information now on CE website.

#### **4.1.2 Congleton Neighbourhood Plan**

Clerk yet to meet with Fiona Bruce.

#### **4.1.3 CE Local Plan**

Updates email circulated.

#### **4.1.4 Election Information**

Email circulated re meetings. Information packs were distributed to members present and later to members not present.

Further information ex CE was later circulated to members by email.

### **4.2 ChALC/SLCC/CTP/CCA**

#### **4.2.1 CCA – Meet the Developer**

Event @ Crewe Alex Ground 12 March – info tabled and email circulated.

Neighbourhood plan personnel to attend.

### **4.3 MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **4.3.2 Congleton Town Council – NEW Neighbourhood Plan**

Email circulated – no attendee. Neighbourhood Plan completion hoped for in 6 months.

## **ITEM 5 – FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **5.1 Accounts for payment, including VAT as appropriate**

Clerk –March payment	£310.00
CCA membership	£20.00
Jane Cliff – newsletter	£320.13
St Mary's Church, Astbury – graveyard upkeep grant	£500.00

## **ITEM 6 – PLANNING MATTERS**

### **6.1 Planning applications received for comment**

**15/0898C – Astbury Village Hall** **PENDING**  
Removal of timber Georgian windows replacing with double glazed timber windows  
**OBJECT – RECOMMEND RETENTION OF EXISTING GEORGIAN WINDOWS TO RETAIN CHARACTER OF VILLAGE HALL**

**15/0090C – Limekiln Farm, Limekiln Farm Lane** **PENDING**  
Conversion of redundant milking parlour and diary to ancillary living accommodation  
**NO OBJECTION**

### **6.3 Padgbury Lane Pre enquiry meeting**

**Info email circulated. Notes of a pre-enquiry meeting held at Municipal Buildings, Crewe had been circulated to members by email. The enquiry is scheduled to meet at Crewe Alexandra AFC lounge commencing April 14 and last for approx 4-5 days.**  
**APRIL MEETING DECISION RE PC ACTION**

### **7.1 Reported damage to village green, tree etc – update**

Claim in progress

### **7.2 Projector & screen for planning usage – update**

Clerk advised that to date he had been unable to organise any test viewings.

### **7.3 Village Green Tree Seat & surround – update**

Chairman to draw specification for tender.

### **7.4 Rushey Hey – update**

Information re sales activities was reported. Clerk to recontact CE.

### **7.5 Limekiln Farm Lane**

Requires attention.

### **7.6 Brook Lane**

Bridge seriously damaged. Already reported by CE Cllr Bailey

### **7.7 Childs Lane – new**

Potholes and flooding on bends close to A34.