

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ASTBURY VILLAGE HALL  
ON WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2015**

**AGENDA**

**APOLOGIES**

**PARISHIONER QUESTIONS**

- 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
- 2 NOTIFICATION OF ELECTED MEMBERS, DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AND CODE OF CONDUCT**
- 3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**
- 4 CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTATION**
- 5 ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE**
- 6 ELECTION OF PARISH ACTION PLAN LEAD MEMBERS**
- 7 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**
- 8 MEETING CALENDAR 2015–2016**
- 9 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 JANUARY 2015**
- 10 PROGRESS REPORT ON PREVIOUS MINUTE MATTERS**
- 11 PARISH ACTION PLAN REPORTS**
- 12 CORRESPONDENCE**
- 13 FINANCIAL MATTERS**
- 14 PLANNING MATTERS**
- 15 MEMBERS ITEMS – as advised**

## **PRESENT**

Chairman plus Cllrs SA Banks, Barton, J & P Critchlow, Kennerley, Lomas, Sharman, Stanway & Sutton.

CE Cllrs Rhoda Bailey and Liz Wardlaw in attendance.

Chairman welcomed newly elected CE Cllr Wardlaw to the meeting.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs A Banks & Cliff

## **PARISHIONER QUESTIONS**

There were no parishioner questions.

## **ITEM 1 – ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Carter elected; signed a declaration of Acceptance of Office

## **ITEM 2 – NOTIFICATION OF ELECTED MEMBERS, DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

Prior to the meeting members had been provided with a list of elected members. Members present signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office. Members were advised of their duty to ensure that Declarations of Interests were correctly maintained.

## **ITEM 3 – ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Sutton elected.

## **ITEM 4 – CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTATION**

4.1 Standing Orders – Not amended since.2012

4.2 Complaints Procedure – amended version as approved 2014

4.3 Risk Assessment – amended version 2008

There was no request for amendment to any of the three documents.

## **ITEM 5 – ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Chairman, Vice Chairman & Cllr Cliff elected.

## **ITEM 6 – ELECTION OF PARISH ACTION PLAN LEAD MEMBERS**

The following members were elected:

- Environment & Housing – Cllr Carter
- Traffic/Road Use – Cllr Sharman
- Social & Leisure – Cllr R Lomas
- Website – Cllr Sharman
- Business – VACANCY – position in abeyance
- Newsletter – Cllrs J & P Critchlow

**Neighbourhood Plan members:**

- Cllr Carter
- Cllr Sharman
- Cllr J Critchlow
- Cllr P Critchlow

**ITEM 7 – APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

**The following were elected:**

- ChALC Area Meeting – Cllrs Carter, Sutton & Clerk
- Bent Farm Quarry Liaison Committee – Cllr Carter
- Astbury Village Hall Committee – Cllr Barton, sub Cllr SA Banks
- May Day Committee – Cllr SA Banks

**ITEM 8 – MEETING CALENDAR 2015–2016**

**AGREED** that monthly meetings are to be held on the second Wednesday of every month, excepting December, in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

**ITEM 9 – MINUTES OF MEETING 8 APRIL 2015**

Minutes were agreed and signed a true record excepting a change of word from “would” to “could” in minute 6.1. Chairman amended and initialled the amendment which has been changed in this record.

**ITEM 10 – PROGRESS REPORT ON PREVIOUS MINUTE MATTERS**

**10.1 CHESHIRE EAST HIGHWAYS (CEH)**

**10.1.1 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.**

**MAR 2015 – retain in minutes until operation of lights is fully acceptable.**

**APR 2015 – notice of further work on parapet with night closures.**

**10.1.2 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 2011 – Passed to traffic section. September 2012 – LOW PRIORITY on ward list.**

**APR 2013 – “Hardening very unlikely to happen” (report CE Cllr Bailey)**

**APR 2015 – Retain in minutes**

**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 2013 – UNDER REVIEW BY CHESHIRE EAST.**

**APR 2015 – Still under review – retain in minutes**

**MAY15 – POSSIBILITY OF PARKING IMPROVEMENTS**

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

**Assessment after rail bridge signals fitted, see 10.1.1 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.**

### **10.1.3 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?**

**SEP 2011 – 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.**

**MAY15 – KERBING AT NEW ROAD JUNCTION TO BE FITTED.**

#### **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.

NOV 2014 – New drawing provided.

### **10.2 PLANNING INVESTIGATIONS**

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

Cheshire East 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".

### **10.3 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**

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

Outline permission (with access) for up to 4 dwellings

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL**

**APPEAL AGAINST NON DETERMINATION DISMISSED**

**15/0898 – Astbury Village Hall**

**APPROVED**

Removal of timber Georgian windows replacing with double glazed timber windows.

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

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

**WITHDRAWN**

Conversion of redundant milking parlour and dairy to ancillary living accommodation

**NO OBJECTION**

**15/1529W – Bent Farm Quarry**

**PENDING**

Removal of condition 29 on application 8/08/0375/CPO

Condition 29 relates to the closure of the site. Removal is being requested to allow sand from other sources to be brought to the "works area" of the quarry and mixed with "Bent" sand.

**The relaxation of the condition could extend the life of the quarry and delay the final restoration beyond the exhaustion of the quarry.**

**AGREED – following a lengthy discussion IT WAS AGREED THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO THE RELAXATION OF THE CONDITION DURING THE WORKING LIFE OF SAND EXTRACTION FROM THE QUARRY. REMOVAL OF THE CONDITION WITHOUT THIS NEW CONDITION WAS TO BE OPPOSED.**

**Clerk to report re further developments – info emailed**

**15/2097C – Weld House Farm, Peel**

**APPROVED**

**Variation of condition 2 of application 14/4642C**

**The Planning Officer at CE had advised that in view of the changes to the original application, he recommended that this Variation be regarded as a new application.**

**AGREED that application 15/2097C be passed to the Planning Committee.**

#### **10.4 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 11 – PARISH ACTION PLAN REPORTS**

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

**Now covered in agenda item in Neighbourhood Plan, 3A**

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

**Now covered under agenda item 2 – Cheshire East Highways – and 4.1.**

##### **11.3 Website (NS)**

**Monthly report in preparation.**

##### **11.4 Social & Leisure (RL)**

**May Day Saturday 16 May**

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

**Neighbourhood Plan newsletter issued.**

**Helping Hands – re advertising in Parish Magazine – nil report.**

## **11.6 Noticeboards**

Cllrs Critchlow reported that the visit to Northwich had been delayed, It was hoped to be able to report to June meeting.

## **11.7 Ackers Crossing Telephone Box – possible purchase**

Clerk reported no progress to date.

## **ITEM 11A – NACMPC NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Meeting notes of the Neighbourhood Plan group are email circulated to members by Cllr J Critchlow.

(A) As the Neighbourhood Plan is to replace the Parish Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan Team to include in the Neighbourhood Plan, a programme/procedure to the Parish Council to allow a seamless changeover in maintaining reports to the Parish Council.

(B) Congleton Area Forum – meeting Wednesday 8 April  
Reported that there were no items of interest/relevance to NACMPC.

(C) Presentation to PC of Draft Policies

As the “Draft Policies” document had not been circulated prior to the May meeting, individual copies were provided to members at the May meeting. Comments to be emailed to any of the Neighbourhood Plan Parish Council members by the end of May. A presentation to parishioners is scheduled to be made at a meeting to be held commencing at 7pm prior to the PC June meeting.

## **ITEM 12 – CORRESPONDENCE**

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

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

Items to update

- A34 – 30mph limit extension – still under discussion
- Peel Drive – parking problems – still under discussion. CE Cllr Wardlaw offered to assist CE Cllr Bailey in this matter
- Astbury Village Traffic – Road Painting to be implemented. Stuart Bateman is contact. Scheme to include bollards to edge Astbury Garage forecourt
- Astbury by-pass – no further comment to report

#### **12.1.2 Congleton Neighbourhood Plan/Original**

Nil report due to recent election.

#### **12.1.3 Cheshire East Local Plan**

Nil report.

#### **12.1.4 Parishes Election Information**

Former members Mrs L Lomas and Mr A Medley had not applied for election. Mr N Barton had been elected member for Newbold Astbury ward and there was a vacancy for one member on the Newbold Astbury ward. The Moreton ward was fully represented with 4 members.

There is a vacancy in the Newbold Astbury ward. AGREED that the necessary notice to advise electors of the vacancy are to be included in the next Parish Newsletter.

Members were reminded that they are required by law to provide a return of expenses as per the paperwork provided with the nomination papers.

#### **12.2 ChALC/SLCC/CTP/CHESHIRE COMMUNITY ACTION (CCA)**

##### **12.2.1 ChALC**

Members were advised that ChALC office has moved from Burleydam to Combermere. This is in close proximity to the Burleydam location.

#### **12.3 MISCELLANEOUS**

##### **12.3.1 Invitation to Institution and Induction of Rev Dr Jeffrey Cuttell**

Members were advised of an invitation as above, to take place at St Mary's Church Astbury on 8th June at 7.30pm.

#### **ITEM 13 – FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

Clerk – May payment	£310.00
Peter Cliff & Sons – newsletter (NP)	£573.36
ChALC – annual membership	£194.92
Came & Co – Insurances	£437.50

##### **13.2 Insurances/Risk Assessment – WITH AGENDA**

Members AGREED the payment of the insurance renewals taking into consideration the associated Risk Assessment and the existing 3 year insurances agreement.

##### **13.3 Internal Audit**

Clerk advised that this should be completed before the June meeting.

##### **13.4 Accounts FY 2014–2015**

To follow at June meeting.

##### **13.5 Annual Return FY2014–15**

For completion at June meeting.



### **13.6 Future Banking**

Clerk reported that Local Councils were now allowed to use payment methods other than by cheque. Members AGREED that the Council do not change from the existing cheque payment method.

### **ITEM 14 – PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **14.1 Planning applications received for comment**

**15/2097C – Weld House Farm, Peel lane**

**Variation of condition 2 of application 14/4642C**

The Planning Officer at CE had advised that in view of the changes to the original application, he recommended that this Variation be regarded as a new application.

AGREED that application 15/2097C be passed to the Planning Committee.

### **ITEM 15 – MEMBERS ITEMS**

#### **15.1 Updates**

**Reported damage to Village Green, Tree etc: Claim in progress.**

**Projector & Screen for Planning usage: Clerk advised that to date he had been unable to organise any test viewings.**

**Village Green Tree Seat & surround: Chairman to draw specification for tender.**

**Rushey Hey: Information re sales activities was reported. Clerk to re-contact CE.**

### **PARISH COUNCIL JUNE MEETING**

The Parish Council meeting scheduled for June 10, following the Parish Meeting to present the Neighbourhood Plan, was cancelled,

**JK CARTER  
CHAIRMAN**

**JULY 2014**