

NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON PARISH COUNCIL
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ASTBURY VILLAGE HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 8 JULY 2015**

AGENDA

APOLOGIES

PARISHIONER QUESTIONS

- 1 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 MAY 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

MARCH 2015

PRESENT

Chairman plus Cllrs A Banks, Barton, Cliff, J & P Critchlow, Kennerley, Lomas, Sharman, & Stanway

CE Cllr Rhoda Bailey in attendance. CE Cllr Wardlaw offered apologies.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs S A Banks & Sutton.

PARISHIONER QUESTIONS

There were no parishioner questions.

DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllrs A Banks and Cliff signed the necessary forms. And were advised of their duty to ensure that Declarations of Interests were correctly maintained.

ITEM 1 – MINUTES OF MEETING 13 MAY 2015

The minutes of meeting held 13 May 2015 were agreed and signed a true record.

2.1 CHESHIRE EAST HIGHWAYS (CEH)

2.1.1 ROAD SAFETY: Peel Lane railwaybridge – 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.

AGREED TO LEAVE ITEM ON AGENDA UNTIL MEMBERS AGREE ITS REMOVAL

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 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

MAY 2015 – POSSIBILITY OF PARKING IMPROVEMENTS

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.

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.

MAY1 2015 – 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.

2.2 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.

MAR 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.

14/4765C – Astbury Sidings, Oak Lane

Outline permission (with access) for up to 4 dwellings

RECOMMEND REFUSAL

APPEAL AGAINST NON DETERMINATION DISMISSED

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.

Chairman advised that at the annual meeting with the quarry operators, it was stated that there may be possible future extensions of the quarrying towards Smallwood. This is contrary to what was intimated in the recent past.

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 Neighbourhood Plan, agenda item 3A

3.2 Traffic/Road Use (NS)

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

3.3 Website (NS)

Monthly usage report email circulated. Additional software has been installed.

3.4 Social & Leisure (RL)

May Day had been very successful as had “Astonbury”. Charity donations in the region of £6K had resulted from each of the 2 events. A National tug-of-war is planned in the near future and a “Bluegrass Festival” later in the year.

3.5 Newsletter (J&PC)

In preparation. To contain member vacancy information, Neighbourhood Plan and May Day reports.

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

3.6 Noticeboards

AGREED that in conformance with Standing Orders at least 2 quotations be obtained. To be presented to Council at the August meeting.

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3.7 Ackers Crossing Telephone Box – closure notice

Clerk reported no progress to date.

ITEM 3A – 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.

(C) Presentation to PC of Draft Policies: A Neighbourhood Plan meeting is scheduled for 20 July to finalise the Draft Plan.

ITEM 4 – CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL (CE)

4.1.1 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 – Chairman reported on a meeting held at CE offices in Sandbach with CE Council Leader Cllr Jones, an Astbury resident and CE officers. The “report” in the Congleton Chronicle was apparently based on information supplied to the newspaper and was not in any way a minuted report of the meeting which was a discussion exercise only.**

Cllr Bailey also advised members of Highway matters where CE intends to take action. Items are Highway Strategy, omitting drain cleaning and improved pothole repairs.

4.1.2 Congleton Neighbourhood Plan/Original

Nil report due to election.

4.1.3 Cheshire East Local Plan– latest information

Nil report.

4.1.4 Parishes Election Information

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

4.2 ChALC/SLCC/CTP/CHESHIRE COMMUNITY ACTION (CCA)

4.2.1 ChALC – Congleton Thematic Group

Members were advised of near time future meetings to be held at Sandbach re “Smart Motorway” improvements to M6.

4.2.2 Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner

Members were advised of meeting at Middlewich.

4.3 MISCELLANEOUS

4.3.1 Parishioner letter re activities on Watery Lane

Clerk to contact CE

ITEM 5 – FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1 Accounts for payment, including VAT as appropriate

Clerk –June & July payment **£620.00**

ITEM 6 – PLANNING MATTERS

6.1 Planning applications received for comment

No planning application were received for comment.

ITEM 7 – MEMBERS ITEMS

7.1 Astbury Church – donation to Parish Council

A cheque in the sum of £100 has been received for the express purpose of helping to replace the daffodils on the Village Green

7.2 Fairfields fence to A34

Clerk to contact CE

7.3 Footpath at Astbury Marsh

Path is in Congleton Town, not within the Parish boundaries.

7.4 Village Traffic

Cllr Sharman to provide information to the August meeting.

7.5 Sale of Rectory

To be discussed at the August meeting.

**JK CARTER
CHAIRMAN**

AUGUST 2015