

**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 9 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**AGENDA**

**APOLOGIES**

**PARISHIONER QUESTIONS**

- 1 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 JULY 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**

**NOVEMBER 2015**

## PRESENT

Chairman plus Cllrs A Banks, Barton, J & P Critchlow, Kennerley, Sharman and Sutton.

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

## APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs SA Banks, Cliff, Lomas & Stanway.

## PARISHIONER QUESTIONS

There were no parishioner questions.

## ITEM 1 – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12 AUGUST 2015

Minutes were agreed and signed a true record.

## 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.**

**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.

AUG 2015 – CE too far advanced to include 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?

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.

MAY 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”.

AUG 2015 – Chronicle: “for rental”

## **2.3 PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS**

15/1529W – Bent Farm Quarry: 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. 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.

**PENDING**

5/3679 – Upper Hulme Farm, Dodds Lane: Change of use of one barn to residential use.

No Objection – preference to retain present envelope of building.

**APPROVED**

## **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.

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

Nil report.

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

Congratulations on recent issue.

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

#### **3.6 Noticeboards**

Following receipt of quotations, the possible replacement of boards was discussed. AGREED that Clerk contact Parish Noticeboard Company to progress matters and to report to September meeting.

Clerk reported – I was unable to contact our possible supplier due to initial phone problems and later due to knee surgery and recovery. Afraid this item will have to be left to the October meeting for resolution.

#### **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.

(B) Chairman reported on a meeting with CE progressing the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

No obstacles had been put forward. Strategic review in September.

(C) Financial Control – further information to be provided.

## **ITEM 4 – CORRESPONDENCE**

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

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

Road planings are now available for public/PC use.

Items to update:

- A34 – 30mph limit extension – still under discussion
- Peel Drive – parking problems – still under discussion. CE Cllr Wardlaw offered to investigate status of ownership with CE.
- Astbury Village Traffic – Road Painting to be implemented. Stuart Bateman is contact. Scheme to include bollards to edge Astbury Garage forecourt

Cllr Sharman had originated a “paper” of possible changes to traffic flow in Astbury Village. A copy is attached to these minutes. Many comments and suggestions were made in respect of these possibilities. To allow all parishioners to be involved it was agreed that the “paper” be placed on the PC website and also detailed in a future issue of the Parish Newsletter.

#### **4.1.2 Cheshire East Local Plan– latest information**

An update has been email circulatedd to members of latest info re Congleton Link Road. A report on the wider engagement event held by CE will be published in a few weeks.

#### **4.1.3 Parishes Election Information**

The two parishioners who had expressed an interest in joining the PC were invited to attend the September meeting.

Following statements from the two parishioners and questions from members, the parishioners left the meeting and a ballot was held resulting in a decision to invite Mr Nick Plant to join the Parish Council as a co-opted member.

Clerk to notify both parishioners of the decision.

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

### **4.2.1 ChALC – Congleton Thematic Group**

No report had been received regarding the meetings held at Sandbach re “Smart Motorway” improvements to M6.

### **4.2.2 Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner**

No report had been received re the meeting held at Middlewich. Members were advised that the next meeting is to be held at Congleton Town Hall on 17 September, 6.30pm start.

#### **4.3 MISCELLANEOUS**

##### **4.3.1 Parishioner letter re activities on Watery Lane**

Clerk reported that the matter is being investigated by CE Planning Dept. Visits have already been made and the original complainant is in touch directly with CE who have been requested to keep NACMPC in the information loop

##### **4.3.2 Parishioner complaint re Glebe Farm**

Clerk reported that a letter has been sent to CE with copies to CE Cllrs Bailey and Wardlaw. To keep parishioners informed a copy of the letter has also been forwarded to Mr Harrison.

##### **4.3.3 Sale of Rectory**

Clerk reported that he has contacted diocese solicitors re possible dedication of land to be used for Safe Route to School. Reply: already know of request.

#### **ITEM 5 – FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

Clerk – September payment £310.00

#### **ITEM 6 – PLANNING MATTERS**

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

15/3679 – Upper Hulme Farm, Dodds Lane: change of use of one barn to residential use.  
No Objection – preference to retain present envelope of building.

#### **ITEM 7 – MEMBERS ITEMS**

##### **7.1 Daffodil planting**

Cllr A Banks to contact Astbury Meadow GC and Chairman to contact Congleton GC re supply of bulbs for planting late 2015.

##### **7.2 Peel Lane – pavement lighting**

Not working between Egerton Arms and Peel Drive – CE Cllr Bailey to report.

##### **7.3 Lychgate Light**

PC to obtain quotations for repair/replacement.

##### **7.4 Cheshire railings**

Cllr P Critchlow to supply info to Clerk re grant monies.

##### **7.5 Village – Tourist Information Board on church wall**

Requires repair/replacement. Cllr Barton agreed to assist in the necessary restoration work.

**From previous meetings:**

**A34/New Road junction – Rhoda has requested that this be added to the Minor Highways Improvement List.**

**Fairfield, Astbury Village – erection of fence – CE have acknowledged receipt but as yet no report received.**

**Peel Lane – possible environmental problem – Clerk to notify authority.**

**New Road – request signage on A34 warning traffic from North of New Road junction – Clerk to contact CE.**

**A34 – parking on grass verge**

**JK CARTER  
CHAIRMAN**

**NOVEMBER 2015**