

NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 10th May 2017 at Astbury Village Hall @ 7.00 pm.

Present : Councillor J Carter who chaired the meeting, Councillor S Banks , Councillor N Plant, Councillor N Barton, Councillor J Critchlow, Councillor P Critchlow, Councillor P Cliff, Councillor P Stanway, Councillor R Bailey Cheshire East and the Clerk.

2 members of the public attended including

Apologies: Councillor R Sutton, Councillor C Kennerley, Councillor R Lomas, Councillor A Banks and Councillor N Sharman.

Councillor J Carter welcomed the public and summarised the last twelve months and this evening's agenda.

It was noted there were no draft minutes to approve from 2016. This was due to the ill health of the previous clerk.

Chairman's Report

The new ownership of the Rectory was discussed and future plans must be considered in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan and the village scene.

The Chairman wished to thank the works of the Clerk, Cllr N Sharman for the website, Cllr N Barton for the liaison with the Village Hall, Cllr R Sutton for the decoration of the tree at Christmas, Cllr R Lomas for the May Day organisation and Cllrs P & J Critchlow for the production of the newsletter and the maintenance of the notice boards.

In May Charlie Pointon retired as Clerk after almost 25 years of service and Julie Mason, the new Clerk, has admirably settled into her new role. The PC Neighbourhood Plan, draft copies of which were issued to all house holders and stakeholders has now progressed through public consultation and is currently undergoing Regulation 17 scrutiny by an Independent Planning Inspector appointed by Cheshire East Council. The Referendum to adopt the Plan is anticipated in the next few months.

The quarterly newsletter continues to be issued and summarises current affairs and upcoming events. Feedback from Parishioners on any items of interest or concern is always welcome for publication. The website also continues to expand and is updated regularly providing Parishioners with a readily accessible source of information along with contact details.

Eleven meetings have been held during the year all of which have been attended by Cheshire East Ward Councillors Rhoda Bailey or Liz Wardlaw, providing a direct link with Cheshire East Council's issues affecting the Parish.

The main items of concern raised by Parishioners over the year have included:-

The volume and speed of "rat running" traffic and transit of HGV's through the rural lanes and in particular the Village.

The PC is now working closely with Cheshire East Highways to examine the problem and research solution options. Details of a recent speed survey of traffic through the Village can be found on the website. Fly Tipping - lay-bys and verges continue to be used for illegal dumping of garden and occasionally builder's waste. Parishioners are requested to report to the Council any suspicious activities or dumping in their areas. In the Astbury Ward the Parish Council is investigating an area of Registered Common Land at Sandy Lane and hopes to bring this into beneficial use as opposed to its current neglected and overgrown state.

Financial Report

The expenditure for the previous year 2016/17 was noted.

Questions from the public

- The road surface on Yew Tree Lane needed attention due to many potholes. These did continue along New Road towards Scholar Green – some had been attended to but when workmen were on site they were dismissed if not logged or 4 inches deep.
- The tunnel under the bridge was not lit as the light was out.
- Fly tipping along Yew Tree Lane
- Thank you for the BT Phone box maintenance at Ackers crossing.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.