

## **NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Astbury Village Hall @ 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Councillor J Carter, who chaired the meeting, Councillor S A Banks , Councillor N Plant, Councillor N Barton, Councillor J Critchlow, Councillor P Critchlow, Councillor P Cliff, Councillor R Sutton, Councillor C Kennerly, Councillor N Sharman, Councillor R Lomas, Councillor R Bailey Cheshire East, Councillor L Wardlaw Cheshire East and the Clerk.

27 members of the public attended.

**Apologies:** Councillor A Banks, Councillor P Stanway and Mr N Winterton MP.

The draft minutes from 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record by the Parish.

Councillor J Carter welcomed the public and announced this evening's agenda in accordance with the recent newsletter delivery.

### Chairman's Report

The approval of Newbold Astbury cum Moreton parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan was the most significant achievement of the Parish Council over the past twelve months. There had been an overwhelming 40% turnout to vote from over 600 electors and he wished to thank everybody who had made the effort to engage. The Parish Council had decided to instruct a speaker from the perspective of highways after the largest concern in the village was traffic.

A note was acknowledged from Mr N Winterton MP.

It was also acknowledged the traffic issues along Wallhill Lane.

The Rectory was now in new ownership and was being renovated to remain a family home. The Chairman reminder the public that the Parish Council did not have any statutory powers and were just a constitute of Cheshire East Council although all members endeavoured to always deliver the best outcome for the Parish.

The Chairman went on to give special thanks to individuals who had gone the extra mile to support him over his year as Chairman.

### Financial Report

The Clerk summarised the past twelve months expenditure as published in the newsletter.

### Presentation from Mr J Carruthers – VTC Consultants

The Parish Council had commissioned VTC Consultants to monitor the traffic volumes in the village. There had been two traffic monitors installed around the Village Green to register the number of vehicle movements, the type and their speeds. The results had been compared to the 2004 figures which had been conducted by Cheshire East.

When looking at the overall accident/casualty figures in the Country there had been a significant drop since 1966. This was due to lots of factors, airbags, drink drive awareness, seat belts, cyclists

wearing helmets and vehicle design improvements. There had been 1,800 accidents reported in 2016 and only 5 % of these were on the motorways, the rest were on the rural roads.

JC went on to explain the CRASH MAP website which explained the accident statistics in certain areas. Astbury village was discussed ,in relation to the accident statistics; over the last five years there had been 3 serious registered, 9 slight and 0 fatal = 12 in total. During the five years previously there had been 6 accidents and 1999- 2003 there had been 25 accidents in total so there had been a drop. The traffic figures in 2004 were 7,449 traffic movements a day and in 2018 there had been 7.938 which was a 6.6% increase. There were 50,055 traffic movements a week around the green every week.

There were various options suggested to calm the traffic and ideally they should be spilt into short/medium/long term solutions. JC offered to assist the Parish Council with input from Cheshire East to establish a conclusion to calming the traffic.

#### Question and Answer session

- Why hadn't the Parish Council use the 2008 traffic figures? These gave different information and would lead to a larger increase in traffic when reviewed in 2018.

*JC was not aware of these figures and he was not trying to mislead the public. The increase was not significant from 2004 although a high volume of traffic was moving through the village whichever base he had used.*

- A practical solution would be cobble stones like Prestbury, this seemed to calm the traffic through the village.

- Should we be lobbying for 30 mph with no white lines?

- Enforcing it would be difficult due to cuts in the police force

*The enforcement was not always easy, but you should take the responsibility as a driver as if there was an accident to would take full accountability which could lead to manslaughter.*

- Green Lanes were successful abroad and should be considered.

- Road humps?

*These were not popular and should ideally be avoided.*

#### Village Hall Presentation

CLlr N Barton informed the public of the history of the Village Hall. The hall had been built on land owned by the Rectory Cottage which was sold to the Charity Commission in 1948. The Trust Committee was founded and is still in existence today managing the future of the hall. It has had two extensions, a new floor, new windows, doors and recently new curtains. He took the opportunity to thank all the trustees for the current success and asset in the community.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

