

NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2020 – due to COVID - 19 and the Government Social distancing regulations the meeting was virtual @ 7.30 pm.

Due to COVID 19 the Annual Parish Meeting on the 8th April had been cancelled.

Part 1

Present

Councillor A Banks
Councillor N Barton (NB)
Councillor J Carter, Chairman (JC)
Councillor P Cliff (PC)
Councillor P Critchlow (PCr)
Councillor J Critchlow Vice Chairman (JCr)
Councillor B Jelf (BJ)
Councillor C Kennerly (CK)
Councillor R Lomas (RL)
Councillor N Plant (NP)
Councillor N Sharman (NS)
Councillor J Ward (JW)
Councillor L Wardlaw, Cheshire East (LW)
Ms J Mason - Clerk.

Declaration of Interest

Cllr BJ - Wallhill Lane, Cllr P Cr – Wallhill Lane, Cllr JCR - Wallhill Lane and payments.

50/20 Election of the Chairman for the ensuing year

Resolved Cllr John Carter was elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.
The Acceptance of Office would be signed at a later date.

Public Forum

Nobody had joined the meeting.

Apologies

Cllr RS due to being unable to join the meeting as it was virtual.

51/20 Minutes

Resolved the minutes from 11th and 25th March 2020 were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record.

52/20 Election of Vice Chairman for 2020/21

Resolved Cllr J Critchlow was elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year
The Acceptance of Office would be signed at a later date.

53/20 Covid 19

The Parish Council had delivered a newsletter to offer support to the vulnerable and elderly in the parish and asking for volunteers. There had been requests and thanks to Cllr JCr, Cllr CK, Cllr NB and Cllr AB all had been resolved.

The Clerk had contacted 'Connecting Communities' and there were 360 cases in Congleton and surrounding areas, and they were coping with demand.

There were regular updates on the website with information and the foodbanks available. It was agreed there would be no more actions to be taken at this time.

The school was closed except for vulnerable children and the church was closed and conducting graveside services with only immediate family present.

Cllr BJ wished the PC to consider lighting the church in blue over the lock down period.

Resolved Cllr JW would contact the gentleman who organised the illuminating of the tree on the Village Green if this would be possible.

54/20 To agree Councillor Responsibilities for 2020/21

Resolved Cllr responsibilities would be the same for the ensuing year.

55/20 Register of Interests

The Clerk reminded all Cllrs to check if anything had changed to update their Register of Interest.

56/20 Defibrillator from Brownlow Inn

It was noted that this was still not in situ at The Smithy due to lock down.

57/20 Common Land

Cllr NP reported that it was planned to clear the area over the summer and plant at the end of the year. Cllr BJ had visited the site and wished there to be a structured plan before any actions were agreed. There were many wildflowers and it was obviously a natural habitat for many insects and small animals.

It was agreed that there would be a site visit with a small team before any actions would be taken.

58/20 War Memorial

No update due to Covid 19 and lockdown regulations.

59/20 Planning Applications

- 20/1849C Brownlow Inn, (The Oaklands), Brownlow Heath Lane, Brownlow, CW12 4TH – conversion of a dwelling into a bed and breakfast accommodation and associated parking.

Resolved Objection

- 20/1649C Oakleigh, Childs Lane, Brownlow, Cheshire CW12 4TG – alterations to approved car port (application ref 18/1226C) into a garage. Please note works have already started on the consented car port.

Resolved No Objection

Mill House Farm, Watery Lane

There had been another complaint in relation to this site as somebody had seen asbestos being dumped from a pickup truck. The Clerk had reported this to the Environment Agency, and they were making enquiries. They were unable to make site visits at the present time. It was believed the police were involved.

60/20 Sycamore Tree on the Village Green

The Clerk had circulated three quotes from arboriculturists in the area to treat/prune the tree on the Village Green.

Resolved Bartlett Tree Experts would be appointed to undertake work on the Sycamore tree

on the village green.

61/20 Highways

Wallhill Lane – no report.

Footpaths along the A34 - Congleton Town Council had put any non-essential work on hold so no progress.

Damaged bollard on the pavement - the Clerk had ordered a new bollard and it was due to be installed this month.

Curb stones on the Village Green - no action

Blocked gullies on Peel Lane 3389507 – Cllr NB reported these had been emptied but he was waiting for some rain fall to see if it had worked.

Blocked gully on A34 3398849 – this needs a ‘dig up’ as the gully emptying had not solved the issue. Cllr JW reported he had not seen any works taking place. The Clerk would make enquires.

Sewage in water ways Cllr JC requested the Environment Agency was contacted as he had two reports of sewage running into the water ways in separate locations across the Parish.

Resolved the Clerk would make a report

62/20 May Day

Cllr RL reported that as May Day had been cancelled the committee were endeavouring to arrange other fund-raising events at the end of the year. The church and the school would lose out on some key revenue.

Glebe Farm were due to shine a blue light on the east church wall next week.

63/20 Accounts

To note the balance of the accounts - £14,226.60

Payments

- *Online payment*- £228.00 Broxap (bollard)
- *Online payment* - £460.00 Branching Out (donation to wildlife area)
- *Online payment* -£385.76 Crewe Colour Printers Ltd
- *Online payment* - £39.70 resident Covid 19
- *Online payment* - £1,550.70 (inc HMRC £108.10) Cranage Parish Council (Clerks salary January to March)

Resolved the above payments be approved and signed for as above.

Receipts

- £39.70 – resident Covid 19
- £7,500 Precept CE

64/19 Cheshire East

Resolved to suspend the Standing Orders to accept a report from the Ward Councillor L Wardlaw

There had been a CE Cabinet meeting which had been held virtually and had reported that highways would not change the gritting plan after it had gone through the scrutiny committee. There was an Urban Strategy 2020 - 2025 which had agreed to make CE carbon neutral by 2025. It was noted this was unlikely to happen by this date.

She wished to thank ANSA over lock down to keeping up with the bin collections. It was noted all the shielded and vulnerable were being cared for and the carers had adequate PPE clothing.

65/20 Chairman and Members Report

Sandy Lane Cllr JCr wished to noted that there were large ruts developing by cars using the route.

VE Day Cllr PCr had received a requested that the bunting was left on the tree for VJ Day on 15th August.

Litter Collection Cllr NS requested that the PC considered purchasing some litter pickers for the Parish as there were so many more walkers, they could collect litter as they went along.

Lost Footpaths Cllr BJ asked for the footpath from Common Lane on Green Lane to A34 which was no longer on the PROW to be investigated.

She also wished to thank Bent Farm, for the information published on signs along the footpaths giving information about the food they produce. She had received several positive comments.

66/20 Clerks Report

Audit 2019/20 the audit was with the internal auditor, but it had been delayed for collection. The Clerk was still working to the statutory guidelines

PCSO Jeanette Carter the Clerk made the members aware that there was a new appointed officer.

67/20 The next meeting would be the on 10th June 2020 @ 7.30pm in Astbury Village Hall. This would be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm