

NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th June 2020 – due to COVID - 19 and the Government Social distancing regulations the meeting was virtual @ 7.30 pm.

Part 1

Present

Councillor A Banks
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 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 PCr – Wallhill Lane, Cllr JCr - Wallhill Lane.

Public Forum

Three members of the public had joined.

There was a motor cross event being held on Sunday 14th June and the Parish Council had received several complaints due to Covid 19 restrictions. The Clerk had contacted the general secretary from the Auto Cycle Union Ltd who had commented it was adhering to current Government guidelines and they had completed a risk assessment template to assist all the racing disciplines for clubs to run an event that will comply with current guidelines. They had asked all clubs and organisers to adhere to with various Standing Regulations for the sports contained in the ACU Handbook and in the National Sporting Code which it states the organiser has to obtain the necessary lawful authority from the appropriate public authorities.

A member of the public who lived near the site was shocked such an event was taking place in the area and she had attended to query some key issues.

The Chairman of the local club and his partner were also in attendance to respond to queries.

They assured members only 120 would attend and the gate would open and be closed at 10am. There would be no more than 30 on track at one time and it was a practice event and not racing. There would also be a Clerk at the event to monitor social distancing. They had checked the parking on the edge of the site, and this would enable social distancing.

The police had been informed and the local hospital. They said there would be no overnight stays before the event

There was a question and answer session and it was concluded with the organisers agreeing to forward details of the name of the officer would let the Clerk know the name of the officer who had been informed at the police as there was no record and who had been informed at the local authority.

A further concern was reported about drug taking and litter on Yew Tree Lane which was causing an issue to local residents.

Apologies

Cllr RS due to being unable to join the meeting as it was virtual, Cllr NB no reason and Cllr RL due to attending a rotary event.

68/20 Minutes

Resolved the minutes from 13th May 2020 were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record.

69/20 Forgotten footpaths across the Parish

Cllr BJ had completed some research on the lost footpaths across the parish and the actions the Parish Council could take to restore them. The definitive map is not the same as the map on the Cheshire East website and there were legal requirements in the last Countryside Act in 1949 which had to be considered. The expiry date to take actions with the forgotten footpaths is January 2026. The Ramblers Association had been completing works to assist reinstating the lost footpaths. There were three footpaths mentioned, Sandy Lane to A34 , one opposite Ivy Cottages and lastly one through Roe Park . Cllr BJ proposed a small working group to meet and discuss further.

Resolved Cllr BJ, Cllr PCr, Cllr JCr and Cllr JC would meet to discuss the lost footpaths before the next Parish Council meeting.

Resolved Cllr BJ would write an article to be included in the next newsletter.

70/20 Defibrillator

The Brownlow Inn defibrillator would be installed at 'The Smithy' this week. There had been a complaint submitted to NWA in reference to the defibrillator at Ackers Crossing not being checked on a regular basis and out of date pads. The complaint was unfounded as the checks had been made and there was nothing out of date.

71/20 Common Land

Resolved there would be a site meeting arranged subject to Government guidelines, on social distancing before the next meeting.

72/20 War Memorial

Cllr PCr gave an update on the progress to date. The stone masons had been checking the required space for the missing names and to leave a small space for any further names. The option which was shown on a photograph was five full size wooden templates which had been taken to Astbury Church to see the suggested design and then photographed. The plan was to cut the Second World War names on a wedge and go in front of the existing cross then, to cut the First World War names onto four vertical memorials - leaving a small space for further names. They would use granite to match the cross for the vertical memorials and wedge, and sandstone bases to again match the base of the cross.

All members agreed it was particularly effective and would be in keeping with the cenotaph. The cost was of a concern and it was acknowledged funding sources would be needed.

73/20 Litter Pickers

Cllr NS thought it would be advisable that the Parish had accessibility to some litter pickers especially at the present time there were many more walkers due to the lockdown. The Clerk had managed to lend some litter pickers from ANSA Cheshire East, and they had been delivered to Cllr NS's home address. At the present time only four had been utilised. The Chairman thought the agenda item considering purchasing litter pickers should be deferred to see if there was any more interest.

74/20 Planning Applications

- 20/1926C Fairfield, Newcastle Road, Astbury CW12 4RN – change of use of detached double garage ground floor to hair and beauty salon. The addition of two small dormers to the front elevation and one dormer to the rear roof elevation.
Resolved No Objection - subject to provision of adequate parking and turning space in compliance with Policy 8 on the adopted AMNP.

APP/R0660/W/203249344 the Parish Council noted the appeal - 19/3531 Land adjacent to Puddle Bank Lane, approximately 225m north east of Brook House Farm House , Astbury CW12 3NW – Retrospective planning application for fencing at field entrance and crushed stone surfacing to access track and to front and sides of consented agricultural building.
Mill House Farm – there seemed to be an improvement at the site.

Great Moreton Hall – residents on New Road had expressed concern over a possible forthcoming planning application for residential development. No action could be taken until a registered application had been received.

Audit and Local Councils in England 2018/19

75/20 Internal Audit

The Internal Audit had been circulated to all members. The internal auditor had completed his report and had no issues with the audit, which had been completed. The only query was the issue of adding the gifted defibrillators as £1 as opposed to a zero value. It was agreed to enter them as £1 as the Parish Council was responsible to maintain the defibrillators. The comments were accepted.

Resolved the internal audit was accepted by full council.

76/20 Section 1 Annual Governance statement section 2019/20 of the AGAR

Resolved the Council accepted the report

It was noted the audit would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

77/18 Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2019/20

Resolved the Council accepted the statements.

It was noted the audit would be signed by the Chairman at a later date

78/20 Certified Exemption 2019/20

Resolved there is no requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit an Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor as the Parish Council certifies itself as exempt due to gross income and gross expenditure less than £25,000.

79/20 Public Inspection Notice

Resolved the public inspection period was accepted (Notice of Public Rights) from Monday 15th June 2020 to Friday 24th July 2020 inclusive.

80/20 Highways

Wallhill Lane – there had been an email circulated to consult on the preferred gateways for the speed limit reduction.

Resolved style 1 was preferred.

The Clerk had been contacted by the Ward Cllr to inform her an Astbury resident had contacted Cllr S Akers Smith after reading an article in the Congleton Chronicle explaining that Covid 19 monies were available to close 'ran runs' to assist cycleways. There had subsequently been a funding application submitted on the Parish Council's behalf to close Wallhill Lane.

The members noted that the Clerk, Chairman and Parish Council and Astbury & Moreton Ward member had not been consulted at any stage.

Resolved a formal complaint would be submitted from NACM PC to Cheshire East and Congleton Town Council.

Speed gateways in the Village – the PC had been allocated monies from the Local Area

Highway Group to check if this was an option.

Footpaths along A34 – this still had not been actioned after several emails. It was agreed the Chairman would contact CTC.

Bollard replacement on the pavement - the bollard had been ordered but the instructed contractor still not actioned the works despite being chased up.

It was agreed that Cllr JW would follow up.

Curb Stones on the green – deferred.

Blocked gullies on Peel Lane - 3389507 – actioned.

Blocked gully on A34 - 3398849 – planned for a dig up.

Sewage in water ways – this had been reported. A visit was due to be carried out after lock down.

Village Green grass cutting – this had been cut but the grass had not been collected or edges strimmed.

Weight limit restriction -an articulated HGV tanker was followed through Wharf Lane and Fence Lane between 15.53 and 15.56 on Wednesday 10th June 2020. Clerk to report to operators.

81/20 Accounts

To note the balance of the accounts - £18,835.74

Payments

- *Online payment*- £216.36 CHALC Affiliation 2019/20
- *Online payment* - £590.05 Came & Company
- *Online payment* -£30.00 Mr G Roberts (Internal auditor)

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

Receipts

- NIL

Resolved the Clerk was given authority to pay the electrician for the defibrillator installation

82/19 Cheshire East

There was a discussion that the LAHG monies was for a gateway sign and horse-riding signage on Peel Lane.

There had been £2mn allocated to CE for care homes which of which 75% had been given to care homes and domiciliary homes. Cllr LW had disputed the car parking charges being reintroduced when the non-essential shops reopen.

There was an update in relation the Covid 19 monies being allocated for road closures to aid cycleways.

83/20 Chairman and Members Report

Website Cllr NS updated members on the progress with the reformation of the website after the new guidelines from central government of which had to be allocated from September 2020.

Lighting the Church. due to costings it was agreed this would not be actioned.

New Rector - the Chairman updated members on the new Rector had been inaugurated and he had sent an email of welcome and congratulations.

PART 2

Resolved; "That in accordance with the public bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 as extended by the Local Government Act 1972 section 100 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for discussion of the under mentioned item on the grounds that the publication of the matter would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted"

[REDACTED]

85/20 The next meeting would be the on 8th July 2020 @ 7.30pm in Astbury Village Hall. This would be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm