



Newbold Astbury cum Moreton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting, Wednesday 11 October 2023

Astbury Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present:

- Councillor J Critchlow
- Councillor N Plant
- Councillor B Jelf
- Councillor C Sutton
- Councillor P Critchlow
- Councillor R Lomas
- Councillor M Bailey
- Councillor T Potts
- Councillor I Parry (arrived 1950hrs)
- Mr C Evans (Clerk)

Declarations of Interest

- Cllr C Sutton (Sibelco Planning Application)

Part 1 - Public and Press Forum

Two members of the public were present and raised concerns about the placement of the two tractor tyre 'planters' on the A34 as they felt it caused safety problems for people exiting their properties at Moreton Cottages.

Apologies:

- Councillor A Banks (work engagements)
- Councillor P Cliff (work engagement)
- Councillor N Barton (prior engagement)

113/23 Minutes

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2023 are a true and accurate record.

114/23 Councillor Vacancies

Having co-opted Ms Tracey Potts at its meeting on 3 October Ms Potts made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office which she and the Clerk duly signed.

115/23 Accounts

See Annex 1

116/23 Planning Applications

23/2914W

Variation of conditions 2, 3 and 34 on application 19/2173W - Extension to Bent Farm quarry for the extraction of sand and progressive restoration. BENT FARM QUARRY, WALLHILL LANE, CW12 4HW

The Council **resolved** to raise no objection to the application.

117/23 Neighbourhood Plan

Chairman J Critchlow explained that Mr Nick Sharman had prepared a report which reflected the decisions of the Council last week. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group would further refine the text in light of these to remove some policy overlaps, rectify the erroneous numbering of sections and references and delete the 'Councillor Actions' section, as well as consider a replacement front cover. The Working Group will meet in a fortnight and will aim to produce a further draft in time for the 8 November Council meeting.

118/23 Training Policy and Training Log

The Council reviewed an amended Training Policy and **resolved** to approve and adopt it. The Clerk urged Councillors to consider their training and development needs and sign up for refresher courses or other training opportunities as needed. The Clerk will also consider whether any group training could be made available.

119/23 Community Infrastructure Levy

No additional ideas were proposed. This item will remain as a standing agenda item.

120/23 Astbury Traffic Calming Measures

Cllr Wardlaw had met Mr Aki Tsakonas from CE Highways on 10 October at the Village Green to discuss traffic problems there. Last year's A34 route review is still under consideration, and any potential solutions will be discussed with the Parish Council first.

121/23 Marking Remembrance Day

The Council **resolved** to purchase a pair of metal 'Tommy' statues to mark the occasion and place them on the Green, in addition to the usual poppies around the parishes.

122/23 Highways

The Council resolved to remove the two tractor tyres by the parish boundary sign and replace them with a smaller flower bed, possibly using wooden sleepers sunk into the ground to keep weeds and grass back.

Cllr Bailey raised the issue of vehicles speeding along Brook Lane, using it as 'rat-run' to the A34. The national 60mph speed limit seems wholly inappropriate. The Clerk will approach CE Highways about it to see if this could be changed.

Cllrs also discussed the overgrown hedge on the path between the school and the old Rectory. Siding out the footpath would be needed too, though the cost would be prohibitive for the Parish Council as it would likely need temporary traffic lights etc. and there is no pavement on the opposite side of the road. Cllr Wardlaw will contact CE Highways about it.

123/23 Tree and Bench at Ackers Crossing

The Council asked the Clerk to go ahead and purchase a replacement oak tree for planting at Ackers Crossing.

124/23 Common Land

Cllr Jelf reported that she had been in touch with the school to see if their Friday after-school club could be involved in planting daffodil bulbs that Cllr P Critchlow had purchased.

125/23 Cheshire East Ward Councillor Report

Ward Councillor L Wardlaw reported on the appointment of an interim Cheshire East Council Chief Executive. The subscription to a garden waste collection service is now open. She had been assured that the hedges around the bus stop at the top of Wallhill Lane will be cut back 'soon'.

126/23 Chairman and Members' Reports

Cllr P Critchlow reminded councillors that daffodil planting would take place at the Green this Saturday, 14 October. Cllr Sutton suggested that some lifting and splitting of the bulbs could be needed in the Spring to improve their flowering.

127/23 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that CE Highways could install and fit a grit bin by the church and the Clerk will discuss the precise location of it with the Church wardens. The Council **resolved** to set aside in the region of £500 for this.

Meeting closed at 2115 hrs

Annex 1 - Accounts

Bank Balance as of 05 October 2023: **£27,348.16**

Of which:

- **£3,240.00** – Neighbourhood Plan Grant
- **£6,833.47** – Community Infrastructure Levy

Received since 27 September 2023: **£Nil**

The following payments were noted:

- £25.00 – ChALC, Cllr Sutton Induction
- £200.00 – Cllr P Critchlow, daffodils
- £101.50 – Cllr P Critchlow, additional narcissi
- £6.96 – Cllr P Critchlow, spray marker

The following payments were approved:

- £120.00 – N Sharman, website management
- £171.60 – A Thomson, Neighbourhood Plan advice
- £96.00 - Parish Online annual subscription
- £66.00 – TCS Management for payroll services

X

Chairman