

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT
NORLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

PRESENT: Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Ann Crawford, Terry Harvey and Ken Fayle

Councillor Charles Fifield – Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite (Clerk)

There were two members of the public in attendance.

Welcome and Introductions

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Ian Stockton, Jon Wild, Councillor Paul Williams - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council and Councillor Gillian Edwards - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM

There was a request for a list of the Parish Council meeting dates to be displayed on the noticeboards.

Action – Clerk to arrange to display the list of meetings on the noticeboards and to speak to Councillor Wild regarding future meeting dates in Norley News.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24TH JULY 2019

These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24TH JULY 2019

- The application for the 'Norley' sign to be located at the junction of Town Farm Lane with Norley Road continues to be progress by Ian Lovatt.
Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up with Ian Lovatt and Dennis Ford (who is storing the sign).
- Following the last PC meeting, the Parish Council have met with TWM Traffic Control Systems in Winsford to look at Speed Indicator Devices. The costings provided by TWM Traffic Control for the devices were circulated to Parish Councillors for consideration prior to this meeting. After discussion about the costings it was agreed that 4 devices, 6 poles and 2 data collection boxes should be ordered.
Once the devices have been installed, Councillor Fayle is to arrange for the data to be collected from the data collection boxes.
- Councillor O'Connor is continuing to follow up the possible grants that maybe available for Speed Indicator Devices from the Police and Crime Commissioner.
Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up
- A response is awaited about the 20 mph schemes on School Bank and Pytcheleys Hollow, met the criteria for 20 mph speed limits within the programme. The aim is to advertise the public notices for the w/c 23 September with public consultation ending Friday 18th October.
- A copy of an email received by the PC from Partner Construction in 2016 relating to the legacy money and the promised funding for a Speed Indicator Device for the village has been forwarded to Councillor Edwards.
Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up.

- School Lane has now been monitored, for consideration of a reduction in the speed limit, but the data has not yet been processed. CW&C Highways are concentrating on the 20mph programme at the moment.
Action - Councillor O'Connor to contact David Reeves in October.
- The light has been ordered for the Village Hall to be installed on the side wall of the hall where the defibrillator is located. Following advice from North West Ambulance about defibrillator cabinets, the PC are following up a replacement heated cabinet for the defibrillator located at the Village Hall. An electrical power point is required for a heated cabinet and will have to be installed by an electrician. The PC approved the payment of a heated cabinet box should this be required.
The suggested location of the 2 other defibrillator kits and power points at the Tigers Head and the Carriers are to be followed up.
Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to liaise with North West Ambulance about the installation costs of a heated cabinet and Councillor Harvey to follow up the location of a defibrillator with the Carriers Inn. Councillor Wild to liaise with the Village Hall Committee regarding the requirement of electricity to the defibrillator box.
- The removal and renovation of the railing on the cherry tree on Norley Road, just past Post Office Lane going out of Norley, is being followed up by Dennis Ford on behalf of the PC.
- Following the Parish Council article in the Norley News, there has been one expression of interest in the Parish Councillor vacancies.

Following the July PC meeting, the ownership of the closed car park opposite the lake and the swimming area had been followed up and it would appear that the freehold of Hatch Mere is owned by the Cheshire Wildlife Trust although the old car park opposite is owned by the Government (DEFRA) rather than the Council. The PC had spoken to PCSO David Heyes and met with a representative from Cheshire Wildlife Trust to discuss their concerns about the behaviour of users and parking. They would like to see rules established against picnics, barbeques, music and putting items such as inflatables into the water. They also thought that the wildlife in the area maybe suffering as a result. The lake is currently closed due to algae in the water.

Action – Councillor Fifield to follow up the responsibility of setting byelaws for anti-social behaviour with CW&C.

Following a recent CW&C Council meeting when the Council considered how they could work with communities and the use of pedestrian crossings in villages, the PC considered possible locations of pedestrian crossings in the village. The following locations were suggested:

- Outside the shop
- By the school
- By the Chinese Restaurant on Blakemere Lane
- Outside the Village Hall/Church/Play Area

The contact details for the Ward Members have been displayed on the noticeboards and website.

6. HATCHMERE SIGN

- The missing 'Hatchmere' sign by the Forrest has been reported to CW&C Highways and a job has been submitted to the contractor for the sign to be renewed.
- The missing finger on the sign at the crossroads at Blakemere Lane has now been installed.

7. HEDGE CUTTING/FOOTPATHS

The owners of the hedge on Maddocks Hill, which is overgrown and needs cutting back, continues to be followed up.

Another overgrown hedge on School Lane had also been reported.

It was noted that overgrown hedges can be reported via the following link:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/hedges.aspx>

It was agreed that a notice about cutting back hedges should be put in the Norley News.

Action – Clerk to report the overgrown hedges with CW&C and to liaise with Councillor Wild regarding a notice to be put in Norley News.

8. CHAIR OF JNCOT

The current Chair of JNCOT, who has been the chair for a number of years would like to relinquish this position. A proposal has been received for a new Chair - the current secretary of JNCOT, Peter Hosker. The PC are required to approve this.

The PC agreed that Peter Hosker should be offered the post.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to offer the Chair post to Peter Hosker.

There was discussion about potential funding and Section 106 monies that maybe available for play and open space. Councillor O’Connor had followed up Section 106 funding for the play area and it had been confirmed that there are funds of £1598 available for public open spaces.

Action - Councillor Fifield to forward details about the Community Infrastructure levy to Councillor O’Connor. Councillor O’Connor to liaise with Hilary Wilson regarding the play area and notify her about the funds.

9. NORLEY HOUSING SURVEY

The last Norley Housing survey was completed in 2014 and it is recommended that a survey should be carried out again soon this year so that the implications can be added to the Neighbourhood Plan (if appropriate) in 2019.

Martin Bell, the Chair of Norley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has kindly volunteered to take the lead on with the 2019 Housing Survey, in liaison with Councillor O’Connor. The last survey was carried out by the NNP Steering Group and Cheshire Community Action on behalf of the PC. Cheshire Community Action are to be asked if they could complete the 2019 survey on behalf of the PC. There is potential funding available for this, which is to be followed up.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to continue to liaise with Martin Bell and Cheshire Community Action.

10. PLANNING

Applications

The following planning applications had been received for consideration since the 24th July meeting:

19/02885/OUT - Land Adjacent To Crabmill Lane Norley Northwich Cheshire: Proposed new detached bungalow – The PC objected to this application for the following reasons:

There has been a previous application for development on this land which has been refused. The application for 2 properties (15/02568/OUT) was refused and the applicant appealed. The Planning Inspector dismissed the appeal in April 2017. The reasons for the rejection of the application are still valid including the fact that any development on this land would result in significant harm to the rural character of this part of the settlement.

This land cannot be described as infill under the Norley Neighbourhood Plan or Cheshire West and Chester definition, it is Green Belt land and is outside the village settlement boundary. The proposed development is not an “affordable house”. Cheshire West and Chester policy allows for limited development on green belt land in certain circumstances relating to the building of affordable homes. 14 affordable homes were built in the village in 2016. The application conflicts

with HOU1 of the Norley Neighbourhood Plan and with Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan Start 8 and 9.

The made Neighbourhood Plan describes Norley as a village with small scale developments in dispersed clusters. The plan states spaces between the clusters of housing should be retained to continue the defining rural character of Norley. The Planning Inspector, Paul Singleton notes the land relating to this application is an important gap in the built up frontage of Crabmill Lane and to lose the gap would cause significant harm to the rural character of this part of the settlement.

This application contradicts the National Planning Policy Framework, Cheshire West and Chester Local Policy and the Norley Neighbourhood Plan.

This application is for one development on the land however if this application is allowed it will set a precedence for and for future applications for housing for this land and in Norley.

Action – Clerk to submit the PC’s objections to CW&C Planning.

- 19/03006/FUL - Haydan Lodge BrownMoss Pool Norley Road Norley Northwich WA6 6LJ: Extension to side including basement and alterations - amendment to extant permission 14/04927/FUL -There were no PC comments.

Decisions

19/00056/FUL - Orchard Cottage Town Farm Lane Norley Northwich WA6 8NH: Erection of stable building (including home office and ancillary storage- **Approved**

11. CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the following:

- An invitation had been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office to a Parish and Town Council meeting to be held on Thursday 5 September 2019 at 6.30 pm at Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters. Councillor O’Connor will attend.
- The Cheshire West and Chester Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan consultation.
- An enquiry had been received from a member of the public who is creating a small bibliography and is trying to locate a friend, formerly based in Norley. The PC suggested that a short article be put in the Norley News and on the Norley Facebook page.

12. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A financial report and a budgetary monitoring report had been circulated to PC members with the agenda prior to the meeting which had been received and noted. The Clerk reported on the following:

- The PC account balance on the current account as at 1st September 2019 was £51,120.03 and the balance on the Business Reserve Account at 1st July 2019 was £6250.03.
- A cheque for £21.99 had been signed outside of the meeting for the reimbursement of the payment for the light for the village hall defibrillator to Mr J Wild.
- A payment of £1737.11 had been received on 30th August 2019 from HMRC for the VAT claim for 2015-2013 - £534.21 and £1202.90 for 2018/19.

The following cheques were approved for signature:

- Reimbursement - payment of invoice to 1 and 1 – Ms D O’Connor - £15.52
- Invoice room bookings at Norley Primary School from 23.06.19-15.04.19 - £50.00 – Cheshire
- Invoice for the costs of an uncontested election - £197 – Cheshire West and Chester Council

13. VILLAGE SHOP

Volunteers are continuing to assist in the shop on a rota basis. Price comparisons with some of the supermarkets and local farm shops have recently been completed and it was found that prices at the Stores are more than competitive and all goods are sold at recommended retail price or lower.

Following the submission of the village shop and the community assets application, the PC has now received a response from CW&C to confirm that the nomination has been successful. The PC thanked Councillor Edwards for her support in this application.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following was reported:

Councillor Crawford suggested having Open Garden Days in 2020, which the village used to have about 15 years ago. The PC supported this and agreed that an article should be put in the Norley News to find out whether there is any interest.

Report from Councillor Charles Fifield - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

- A CW&C consultation on Special Educational needs has been added to the Norley Facebook page.
- At a recent Council meeting, CW&C agreed to consider how the Council could work with communities on Wildlife Corridors and encouraging more birds and insects in the environment and would be using Norley as an example.
- The 3 Ward Councillors for Weaver and Cuddington have agreed to pool their Member Budget funds for community projects. For Norley £1200 is available for community funding projects.

Action - The PC are to consider whether any projects could benefit from this funding.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday 9th October 2019 at 7.00 pm at Norley Methodist Church.**

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm