

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2019 AT
NORLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

PRESENT: Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Ken Fayle, Anne Crawford and Tony Duff

Councillors Charles Fifield and Gillian Edwards – Ward Councillors – 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 Jon Wild, Sally Cornelissen, Terry Harvey and Ian Stockton and Councillor Paul Williams - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM

There were no items reported.

4. CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST – BEN GREGORY AND KEVIN FEENEY

Ben and Kevin were in attendance to provide an update on the Cheshire Wildlife Trust proposals for a new lease of life for nature in Delamere and at Hatchmere Lake. However, in recent years the water quality has declined, with high levels of nitrates, phosphates and ammonia leading to alga blooms. This has resulted in a significant loss of important wildlife in and around the lake, as well as an increasing risk to human health.

As part of the efforts to help nature to recover at Hatchmere and to keep people safe, a decision has been made to no longer allow access to the lake for swimmers and bathers. Evidence of a decrease in the diversity of birds using the lake, litter and an increase in anti-social behaviour have all reinforced the decision.

The Trust fully acknowledges the cultural importance and history of the site for wild swimming, but they can no longer keep allowing swimming due to the high risk to health.

Cheshire Wildlife Trust will be making improvements to the viewing area on Delamere Road that is currently used to access the lake, making it an ideal and safe spot for picnics and bird watching. There are also ambitious plans to improve the circular footpath running through the nature reserve.

The PC received and noted the issues at Hatchmere and agreed to support the Cheshire Wildlife Trust in working towards a solution and agreed to add the information about the closure of the lake on Norley Facebook and to update the new Norley PCSO

The PC are continuing to follow up the possibility of bylaws for wild swimming at Hatchmere due to their concerns about the behaviour of users and parking in the area. They would like to see rules established against picnics, barbeques, music and putting items such as inflatables into the water.

5. UPDATE ON THE PLAYGROUND – HILARY WILSON

Hilary Wilson, the Secretary to the Norley Hill Top Play Area Management Committee provided the PC with an annual update on the costs and funding of the play area. Hilary thanked the Parish Council for the £1500 donation last year, which covered the insurance and the annual playground inspections. Additional funds from fund raising covered the costs of the maintenance repairs.

The annual inspections have now taken place which identified that the rubber matting and netting between the playground and the bowling green as a trip hazard, which needs to be repaired. The total cost including labour is £600. New seats are also required for the infant

swings, which will cost about £300. An estimate is awaited from the Northwich inspection team for the cost of renewing the frayed cable.

The Committee has two new members.

At the PC meeting in February 2018 the PC agreed that as the play area is an asset to the village, they would consider making a donation on an annual basis at the November PC meeting when the budget is considered.

After considering the 2020/21 budget and planned expenditure, the PC agreed to make a donation of £1500 to the Norley Hill Top Play Area in January 2020.

Councillor O'Connor thanked Hilary for attending and for providing the PC with an update on the playground.

It was also noted that an application for Section 106 money for Norley Play Area and open spaces could be made to Daniel Lockwood at CW&C and that 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, which Hilary agreed to follow up.

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH OCTOBER AND 4TH NOVEMBER 2019.

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

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH OCTOBER 2019

- The Parish Council are continuing to liaise with CW&C Highways about the installation of the Speed Indicator Devices and are following up quotations for the devices from six companies.
- A response is awaited about the grants that maybe available for Speed Indicator Devices from the Police and Crime Commissioner which Councillor O'Connor has been following up.
Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up
- Following the assessment of the four-year programme to introduce 20 mph speed limits, CW&C are proposing to introduce a scheme within Norley which includes School Bank, Pytchleys Hollow and Hamblett's Hollow.
The proposed speed limits were advertised during the week commencing 21 October and the period of consultation will end on Friday 15 November.
- Councillor Edwards is continuing to follow up the legacy money and the promised funding for a Speed Indicator Device for the village from Partner Construction and reported that a cheque is to be sent to the PC.
- 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 continue to follow up with David Reeves.
- The PC are continuing to follow up the installation of the light on the side wall of the village hall where the defibrillator is located and are following up a replacement heated cabinet box for the defibrillator with North West Ambulance.
Action - Councillor Wild to liaise with the Village Hall Committee regarding the requirement of electricity to the defibrillator box.
- The PC are continuing to follow up the possibility of bylaws for wild swimming at Hatchmere due to their concerns about the behaviour of users and parking in the area. They would like to see rules established against picnics, barbeques, music and putting items such as inflatables into the water.
Action – Councillor Fifield to continue to follow up the responsibility of setting byelaws for anti-social behaviour with CW&C.

- The PC have now received confirmation from JNCOT, that at their Annual General Meeting that was held on 30th October, Peter Hosker confirmed his acceptance as the Chair of JNCOT.
The PC thanked Jane Leuleu for her many years as Chair of JNCOT.
- Councillor O'Connor laid a wreath at St John's Church on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the PC.
- Councillor O'Connor has contacted CW&C about the £1500 Section 106 money for Norley Play Area and open spaces.

Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to liaise with Hilary Wilson from the Playground Committee.

8. NORLEY HOUSING SURVEY

Cheshire Community Action have now sent the Norley Housing Needs Survey to all residents on behalf of the Parish Council.

9. HEDGE CUTTING/FOOTPATHS

The overgrown grass which is encroaching onto the Norley Road footpath, opposite Norley Hall has been reported, but not yet actioned.

Action – Clerk to follow up.

10. NORLEY SIGN

The licence for the 'Norley' sign to be located at the junction of Town Farm Lane with Norley Road has now been received from CW&C, which it was agreed would be signed by Chair of PC and returned to CW&C.

The installation of the sign will have to be arranged. It was agreed that as the work for this will be under £2,000 there is no requirement to go out to tender and that an advertisement should be put on the Norley Facebook, and that the work should be progressed as soon as possible. Under the terms of the licence the PC have to give CW&C 21 days notice before the sign is erected.

Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up.

11. PLANNING

Applications

The following planning applications had been received for consideration since the 9th October meeting:

- 19/03883/FUL - Garravogue School Bank Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 8NP: Erection of outbuilding (to replace existing) to form garage, garden store and gym – Comments to the Clerk by 22nd November.
- 19/03918/FUL - Wynscot Gallowscloagh Lane Norley Northwich WA6 8LJ: Creation of first floor, two storey rear extension and rendering and cladding of exterior façade - Comments to the Clerk by 26th November.
- 19/03789/FUL - Lyndhurst School Bank Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 8NP: Single storey extension to rear – Comments to the Clerk by 5th December.

12. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the following:

- Local residents were invited to put their questions about local policing to PCC David Keane and CC Darren Martland in the second of a series of question time style events in Northwich on Thursday 14 November to give Cheshire residents the opportunity to talk to them about the issues that matter most to their communities so they can ensure they are policed appropriately.
- **'Play Your Part' – get involved in shaping the future of our borough**
Cheshire West and Chester Council has launched an innovative engagement exercise called 'Play Your Part' to give residents, businesses, partners, young people and community groups the chance to share ideas about how we can improve the borough.

Play Your Part centres on five key challenges the borough faces, including climate change, supporting children, supporting adults, improving local neighbourhoods and boosting the local economy.

CW&C would like as many people as possible to have their say on what the Council's focus should be for the next four years, including how the budget should be spent and how our communities could get more involved. The Council has also set out proposals for bridging its funding gap.

There are lots of ways to get involved:

- See the dedicated website www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/playyourpart
· Here you can fill in a survey, vote in quick polls and post thoughts on online ideas boards where you can choose to engage with all of the challenges or just those that interest you most.
- Take part through social media – tweet @Go_CheshireWest using #playyourpartcw,
- Email views to playyourpart@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

- Printed copies of the engagement booklet, in either standard or Easy Read format, is via playyourpart@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

- **Free bus shelters for local community groups**
CW&C are disposing of 5 bus shelters which are located at the former Chester Bus Exchange, Princess Street, Chester and groups can make a bid for one. There will be no charge to organisations as long as they have a suitable space with appropriate hard standing. The shelters will be awarded to projects offering the maximum benefit to their local community in the Cheshire West and Chester Council area.
The PC discussed possible locations for a bus shelter and suggested the playground, the bus stop at the top of Norley Lane where the school bus stops or the bowling Green.

- There have been two expressions of interest in the Norley Open Garden Day 2020 which was received and noted by the PC.

13. 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 October 2019 was £50,625.323.
- The Clerk had made a payment to HMRC on 16th October 2019 of £142.80 for the tax on the Clerk's Salary for the second quarter.

The following cheque was approved for signature:

- Reimbursement payment of the Poppy Wreath - £17.00 – + 2 Books of 1st class stamps - £8.40 – Total £25.40 - Mrs G Hawthornthwaite

An invoice from Parish Online had been received. Before approving this payment, the PC thought that this subscription may no longer be required by the Norley Neighbourhood Action Group. It was agreed that this should be followed up and if the subscription is no longer required, it should be cancelled.

Action – Clerk to follow up.

The invoice that has been received from CW&C for the Speed Limit Review for Stoneyford Lane - £334.00 was received and noted. Before a cheque is signed for this invoice, clarification is required on whether the Speed Limit Review should be for School Bank rather than Stoneyford Lane. Should the speed limit review be for Stoneyford Lane, it was agreed that a cheque could be signed outside of the meeting.

Action – Clerk to follow up with CW&C Highways.

14. VILLAGE SHOP

Following the village meeting that was held on 9th April, there was a proposal that another meeting be arranged sometime in the autumn, which continues to be followed up by Councillors Fayle and Wild.

The installation of a 'Shop' sign, had been followed up by Councillor Edwards and further information relating to the criteria for brown signs is to be forwarded on to Councillor O'Connor to follow up.

Councillor Edwards had also spoken to Cheshire Life about putting an article on the village of Norley, including the shop, which has been registered on their system.

Action – Councillor Fayle and Wild to liaise about arranging the next meeting and to provide an update on the successful submission of the community assets application.

Following the successful submission of the community assets application, the PC has now received the paperwork from CW&C relating to this, which is to be signed and returned.

Thanks to Councillor Edwards for her help in following up the paperwork for the application.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following items were reported.

Update from CW&C Ward Members

- Plans are in place for a parish half marathon.
- The comments section on the CW&C planning portal has now been renewed in accordance with GDPR requirements.
- The contact for Section 106 payments and CIL Payments is now Daniel Lockwood
- The 3 Ward Councillors for Weaver and Cuddington have agreed to pool their Member Budget funds for community projects. They have looked at the number of electors and have split the funding on a proportional basis. For Norley £1200 is available for community funding projects.
- The PC have been informed that there is Japanese Knotweed encroaching on a residential property at West View Road which needs to be followed up with CW&C.

Action – Clerk to follow up a CW&C contact name with Councillor Williams.

- The traffic mud that is on Blakemere Lane from the housing development at the old Jewish School has been reported to the site manager and a road sweeper has been sweeping the road at the end of the day. However, the road needs to be swept more than once a day.

Action – Clerk to following up with Planning Enforcement

- Following a question about whether 30 roundels (lining) on Blakemere Lane would be suitable, this was followed up with CW&C Highways who confirmed that they would only consider implementing them where a speed limit changes to accompany the terminal signs. They are not a measure they would routinely implement and any additional lining would have to be funded externally regarding this type of request.
The PC have requested what the cost would be for CW&C to supply them on behalf of the PC.

Action – Clerk to continue to liaise with CW&C.

- The PC have agreed to purchase two other defibrillators for the village and the two locations that had been suggested were the Carriers Inn and the Tigers Head. It was agreed that the PC should write formally to ask the landlords of the Carriers and the

Tigers Head whether they would allow the PC to arrange for a defibrillator to be installed on an outside wall, which has an electrical connection point.

Action – Clerk to write to the Carriers and the Tigers Head.

- Two of the memorial plaques for the Memorial Garden have been vandalised. The PC agreed that they should fund the cost of the signs (one for the Village Hall and one for the bottom of School Lane) which are likely to be approximately £40 each.

Action – Councillor O'Connor to follow up with Phil Gifford from the Norley Wildlife Group.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.00 pm at Norley Methodist Church.**

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm