

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY
17th MARCH 2021 AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT AT THE MEETING BY VIDEO LINK

Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Ann Crawford, Tony Duff, Ken Fayle, Terry Harvey, and Jon Wild

Councillor Charles Fifield – Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council
Councillor Gillian Edwards – Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council
Councillor Paul Williams – Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite (Clerk)

There was one member of the public in attendance who was welcomed to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Cornelissen.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None declared.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM

No matters raised.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2021

These were agreed as a correct record, subject to an amendment on page 2 – should be Blakemere **Lane** and not Blakemere Road.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2021

- **Broadband – Crabmill Lane**

The issues with poor fibre broadband that three properties on Crabmill Lane experience are being followed up by Connecting Cheshire and Openreach.
Clerk has updated the resident on progress made.

- **Parking and Traffic Disruption around Delamere Forest**

Following the February PC meeting, Councillors O'Connor and Harvey met with Sergeant Andy Collinson and PCSO Jack Makin to discuss the parking and traffic disruption around Delamere Forest. Several possible options were discussed which included the addition of further double yellow lines, a single white line (H Bar) on the road by residents' dropped kerbs to try and protect access, use of cones and residents only parking permits.

Photographs of the serious congestion and parking issues along Ashton Road which had been taken over the last year had also been sent to Andy and Jack.

Councillor Harvey was due to attend a multi-agency agency virtual meeting on Thursday 25th February but was unable to join the meeting as he did not receive the meeting invite. Councillor Harvey is to be invited to the next meeting when the PC will make enquiries with CW&C about possible options and their feasibility.

The PC discussed the possibility of having additional signage and whether this would help alleviate the problems that cars parking on grass verges causes to pedestrians not being able to use the pavements.

It was proposed that the Forestry Commission should be invited to attend a multi-parish meeting to discuss the parking issues, including the regular closure of the large car park. Councillor Fifield is continuing to liaise with DEFRA regarding the possibility of opening the Hatchmere car park and will update the PC as soon as he has received an update from DEFRA.

Action – Councillor Fifield to continue to follow up with DEFRA.

Action – Clerk to follow up the contacts for arranging a multi parish meeting (Oakmere and Delamere, Mouldsworth, Kelsall, Manley) and the Forestry Commission.

Action – Councillor Edwards to follow up the possibility of additional signage.

- **Grant Funding – Police and Crime Commissioner**
Councillor O'Connor is continuing to liaise with PCSO Deborah Netherton about the completion of an application for grant funding for the Speed Indicator Devices from the Police and Crime Commissioner.
Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up.
- **Legacy Money – Partner Construction**
Councillor Edwards is continuing to follow up with CW&C Legal Department how the legacy money and the promised funding for a £1,000 donation for the village from Partner Construction, could be progressed now that they are no longer trading.
Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up.
- **Bylaws - Hatchmere**
Councillor Fifield is continuing to follow up the possibility of having bylaws for wild swimming at Hatchmere due to concerns about the behaviour of users and parking in the area. This is ongoing. Councillor Fifield has sent another reminder to CW&C Legal Department.
Action - Cllr Fifield to continue to follow up the responsibility for implementing bylaws with CW&C Legal Department.
- **Japanese Knotweed – Property at West View**
Following the last PC meeting, CW&C Legal Team have confirmed that neither CW&C or the Parish Council have a responsibility to protect, fund or carry out works on the area of common land, but both have 'powers' to act in certain instances, to protect the land, if it is felt appropriate. The PC discussed the feasibility and costs to the PC of training a volunteer in the village and using a specialist company to remove the Japanese Knotweed. It was agreed that the PC should liaise with Crowton Parish Council about any information or advice they could offer from their experience of an issue with Japanese Knotweed on land owned by the Parish Council.
An enquiry had been received about the building work on common land adjacent to a building plot on West View Road, which is to be followed up with CW&C.
Action – Councillor Fifield to provide contact details for Crowton PC.
Action – Clerk to follow up West View Road with planning enforcement CW&C .
- **Norley Sign**
The frame for the plaque, to be placed alongside the Norley sign, is in the process of being constructed by Peter Hills.
- **Defibrillator Cabinet**
Following a visit to Norley Village Hall, Kingsley Electrical Services have provided a quotation for the installation of the defibrillator at the Village Hall.
- **Cheshire Railings**
Following the last PC meeting, Councillor Cornelissen had contacted all the landowners of the railings and they confirmed that they had no objections to the PC assisting with the restoration and painting of the railings. Quotations were, therefore, obtained from several companies for the restoration of the railings.
Councillor Crawford is to forward contact details of another company based in Flintshire onto Councillor Cornelissen to follow up.
Action – Councillor Cornelissen to continue to follow up
- **Speed limit on School Lane, Norley**
A response on the implementation date is awaited from CW&C.
- **Norley Lane**
A response has been received from the two residents about the information that had been provided from CW&C Highways about possible solutions to try and address their concerns relating to Norley Lane. This will be discussed again with CW&C once a new date has been confirmed with the PC for a virtual CW&C Highways meeting.
Action – Councillor Edwards to follow up a new date for the virtual meeting with CW&C

Highways.

- **Village Hall Noticeboards**

A request has been sent to Mike North, Rock Graphics about ordering the two new village noticeboards by the Tigers Head and Village Hall. There is no delivery date yet.

Action – Councillor Harvey to follow up with Mike North.

- **Speed Indicator Devices**

A response is still awaited from United Utilities about suitable locations for the devices on Blakemere Lane.

Councillor O'Connor is to liaise with TWM Traffic and Mike North to find out if 4 of the devices could be installed whilst the PC await the details from United Utilities. Once the devices have been received, the PC can then arrange payment to TWM Traffic.

Action – Councillor O'Connor to liaise with TWM Traffic and Mike North.

Action - Councillor Edwards to follow up with United Utilities.

- **Footpaths and Bridleways**

A response is awaited from Adele Mayer about the bridleway and footpath enquiries. The direction sign around the heath at Hatchmere is also being followed up by Adele. Once responses have been received Councillor Cornelissen will inform Bruce Lane.

Action – Councillor Cornelissen to continue to follow up.

- **Flooding – Breech Moss**

Following the enquiry from a resident about flooding in their garden near to Breech Moss, this was followed up with CW&C and a representative has now visited the property to look at the blocked culvert which goes under the highway. CW&C are to keep Councillor Williams and Councillor O'Connor updated about the issue.

- **Maintenance of Hedges and Trees**

Following an enquiry received from a resident about the maintenance of the hedge and trees and bushes, just past the 30mph sign and the turning into Post Office Lane, the hedges and trees have now been cut back.

- **Hondslough Lane**

The PC's response to the application to have a public right of way recorded over Hondslough Lane is in the process of being drafted.

Action – Councillor O'Connor to draft a response and then circulate.

- **Pytchleys Hollow**

The meeting that was scheduled with CW&C Highways to discuss Pytchleys Hollow had to be postponed due to the recent flooding incidents on the network. This meeting is to be re-arranged.

Action – Councillor Edwards to follow up a new date for the CW&C Highways meeting.

- **Security at the Stores**

Councillor Wild is to follow up the options of security at the shop with Dave at The Stores.

Action – Councillor Wild to follow up the options with Dave at The Stores.

- **Litter at Hatchmere**

Following the report of the litter that was around Hatchmere by the fishing post, Councillor Cornelissen reported that the litter has now been cleared and that a letter did not need to be sent to the Angling Association.

6. PLANNING

Notification of the following application and decisions had been received since the 11th February 2021 meeting:

Application

- **21/00431/FUL** - Blakemere Lane Norley Frodsham WA6 6NS: Single storey front and rear extensions – Any comments to be sent to the Clerk by 22nd March.

Decisions:

- **20/04521/FUL** - Haulage Yard, High Street - Agricultural produce and storage building – **Refused**

- **20/04010/FUL** - Crofton Cottage Fingerpost Lane Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 8LD - Erection of outbuilding to accommodate gym/ office - **Approved**

7. **CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported on the following:

- A reminder about the completion of the 2021 Census
- Email from Phil Gifford about a massive Tree planting programme. The PC will await any suggestions from Phil Gifford on behalf of the Wildlife Group.
- Temporary road closure notice for Pytchleys Hollow, Norley which commences on 16th March 2021. This is necessary for safety reasons to enable Scottish Power planned excavation and will be carried out by SP Energy Networks. The works are expected to last for 3 days

CW&C Circulars

- Free PPE for extra resident unpaid carers in Cheshire
- All adults with a learning disability urged to get the COVID-19 vaccine
- Council increases opening hours at some Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Growth Track 360 welcomes Union Connectivity Review Interim Report and UK Government funding to make early progress on cross-border transport investment benefitting Wales and England
- Cheshire West and Chester Council to host multi-agency flooding forum
- Cheshire West and Chester Council publishes report into 2019 flooding
- Free NHS COVID-19 home testing kits available for personal assistants across Cheshire
- Cheshire West and Chester Council Launches Poverty Emergency Online Hub
- Winnington Swing Bridge repairs project receives engineering accolade

Chalc

- Bulletins and training dates
- Flood Incident Debrief Feedback from TPCs
- Virtual Training: Dealing with individual planning applications – Councillors Fayle, Harvey and Cornelissen to attend the training that is to be arranged in May

Other

- Beth George - Police Update February
- The latest news from Cheshire Community Action - February 2021
- Stakeholder update from the Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner - MARCH 2021

8. **COMMON LAND – PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY**

This was considered under Matters Arising - Japanese Knotweed – Development at West View.

9. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Review of Standing Orders/Financial Arrangements/Complaints Procedure, Fixed Asset Register and Risk Assessment and adequacy of fidelity insurance

These documents had been circulated outside of the meeting and suggested amendments sent to the Clerk to follow up. Final approval of the amended documents to be considered at the April PC meeting.

Review Current Financial Position

The accounting statements had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was noted that the balance on the current account on 1st March 2021 was £48652.97 and the balance on the Business Reserve Account on 31st December 2020 was £6261.91.

The following financial matters were considered:

- The quotation of £180 from Kingsley Electrical for the defibrillator electrical work at the Village Hall was approved.
- Following an enquiry from the 1st Norley Cubs about the possibility of fundraising for a community project for a new bench or/and Christmas tree on the Triangle of green grass between The Stores and the Tigers Head, the PC had no objections to this request. They also agreed to donate £100 towards the community project.

- Following the last PC meeting, further information relating to the pre-planning advice and costs for a new shop, had been received from Peter Hosker, the chair of JNCOT. The reimbursement about the payment towards the Scott Architecture Ltd invoice for £2660 will be considered further once the Pre-Application Response from the CW&C planning officer for the application - 20/03994/PREAPP (Norley Village Hall, High Street, Norley) has been circulated.

Action – Councillor Wild to follow up with JNCOT the circulation of the planning report to the PC.

The following payments were approved, and cheques are to be signed outside of the meeting:

- Reimbursement - Zoom March 2021 Subscription payment of £14.39 - Mr K Fayle.
- The discounted annual Chalc membership affiliation fee of £301.52 – Cheshire Association of Local Councils
- A donation towards the community project – 1st Norley Cubs - £100.00

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following were reported:

- Councillor Crawford mentioned that she had received several enquiries from residents about having the annual village litter pick. This is currently on hold because of Covid and will be arranged as soon as it is possible.
- Councillor Harvey reported that the building work on the Blakemere building site is starting before 8.00 am and referred to the discussions that took place at a public meeting that was held in October 2013/2014 with the developers about the proposals for the planned use of the swimming pool and football pitch.

Action – Councillor Fifield to follow up with CW&C

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next zoom meeting is **Monday 19th April 2021 at 7.00 pm**

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm