

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY
17TH NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00 PM AT THE NCK CENTRE, NORLEY**

PRESENT AT THE MEETING: Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Sally Cornelissen, Tony Duff, Ken Fayle, Terry Harvey and Jon Wild.

Councillors Gillian Edwards and Paul Williams – Ward Councillors – Cheshire West and Chester Council

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite (Clerk)

There were 3 members of the public and 3 members of the Recreation Area Committee in attendance who were welcomed to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cheshire West and Chester Council Ward Councillor Charles Fifield and Norley Parish Councillors Ann Crawford and Ian Stockton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None declared at the meeting.

Councillor Crawford had declared an interest in 21/04249 – Norley Village Hall, High Street – Erection of Scout Hut as she was on the Norley Scout Committee and involved in much of the preparation for this application and is still a registered Scout Leader

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM

There were no items reported.

4. NORLEY PLAY AREA

Prior to the meeting, the Secretary to the Recreation Area Committee had provided the PC with an annual report on the costs and funding of the play area. The Committee thanked the Parish Council for their continued support in covering the mandatory costs of £1,500 per annum self-insurance to JNCOT and for the five inspections which are arranged each year and reported that there had been no Fund-raising opportunities for this year, although plans are in place to hold a Quiz Evening on 5th February 2022 at Norley Village Hall. A Facebook page has been created and other fundraising activities are being looked at. The seating area in the landscape area at the back is to be tidied up and there are plans to mark the ball game area, as the lines are no longer visible. The Committee feel that the park is missing equipment for the middle age group and hope to re-evaluate this in the future.

The new committee consists of 9 members who are meeting regularly to find out how the committee runs and what is best for the play area going forward as the equipment is now 17 years old and will no doubt all need replacing at some point.

After considering the issues that had been highlighted by the Recreation Area Committee and the costs of repair the PC agreed to donate £1500 to cover the cost of the insurance and annual inspection. Councillor O'Connor thanked the representatives of the Recreation Area Committee for joining the meeting and for providing the PC with an update on the playground.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH OCTOBER 2021

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

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH OCTOBER 2021

• **Delamere Forest**

A written update on plans for Delamere Forest is awaited from the Forestry Commission.

Action – Clerk to continue to follow up the update from the Forestry Commission.

Councillor Edwards has followed up the possibility of having additional signage around Delamere Forest in relation to parking with CW&C Highways, and an Engineer is going to visit the area to look at possible signage or whether verge markers would help.

Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up following the Engineers visit.

• **Former Car Park in Delamere Forest**

Councillor Fifield had received further information from the Forestry Commission about the car park that has been closed for some time, which requires significant repair works and vegetation management before it could be reopened. The Forestry Commission are to review the site again, but think that the costs of the works, the costs of security measures and enforcement would be

too high. The Parish Council wondered if it was possible for the land to be 'leased' to the Parish Council for a small fee.

Action – Councillor Fifield to continue to follow up.

- **Speeding Issues Consultation - Police and Crime Commissioner**

Following the additional information that had been received about the initial pilot scheme and costs, where average speed cameras could be installed in parishes, the PC agreed not to take part in this pilot at the current time but are to be kept informed of progress and outcome of the scheme.

- **Cheshire Railings**

Councillor Cornelissen had met with a representative from Flintshire Fabrications to look at the Cheshire railings and a quotation for the restoration and repair of all the railings in the village has been provided. The details of the quotations are to be circulated to the PC.

In the meantime, Councillor Cornelissen is to obtain further quotations from a local painter and Clerk to follow up with Alvanley PC, who recently arranged for railings to be renovated in Alvanley.

Action – Councillor Cornelissen to continue to follow up additional quotations for the Cheshire Railings.

Action – Clerk to contact the Clerk at Alvanley PC to establish who painted their Cheshire Railings.

- **Speed limit on School Lane, Norley**

The proposed notice, draft order, and statement of reasons for a reduction of the speed limit on School Lane to 30mph, has now been received. A date for the change to take place has not yet been received from Highways.

Action – Councillor Edwards to follow up with CW&C Highways.

- **Norley Lane**

Councillor Edwards is liaising with CW&C Highways to arrange a site meeting sometime for the PC to discuss several highway issues in Norley, including possible solutions to try and address two residents' concerns relating to Norley Lane.

Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up for a suitable date.

- **Noticeboards**

The notice boards at the Tigers Head and Hatchmere have now been installed.

The work on replacement wooden posts around the boarder and a new chain in the green opposite the Tigers Head is due to commence soon.

- **Speed Indicator Devices**

The PC is liaising with CW&C Highways about a possible location on Blakemere lane for a speed indicator device. There is a pole already in place where a 'School' sign used to be. This location is suitable; however, Councillor O'Connor is checking with CW&C Highways if the PC require another licence for the location.

The PC is continuing to look at possible locations on Ashton Road, away from the high-pressure water pipes and a meeting has been arranged with Ian Lovatt, CW&C Highways to seek his guidance on where it could be located.

Action – The PC to continue to liaise with CW&C Highways and TWM Traffic

- **Footpaths and Bridleways**

There has been no update about the meeting that is to be arranged with CW&C Public Rights of Way Officer to discuss the bridleway and the footpath enquiries and the direction sign around the heath at Hatchmere.

Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up with the Public Rights of Way Officer.

- **Flooding – Breech Moss**

There has been no further update on progress with the flooding on Breech Moss.

- **Hondslough Lane**

The PC's draft response objecting to this application to have a public right of way recorded over Hondslough Lane has been prepared and circulated.

Action – Clerk to submit the final PC response to Adele Meyer when finalised and requested.

- **Pytchleys Hollow**

The issues on Pytchleys Hollow are to be mentioned at the CW&C meeting that is to be arranged sometime in November to discuss several Norley Highways issues.

- **Cheese Hill junction**

The PC is continuing to liaise with CW&C Highways about arranging a site visit to look at the issues at the junction of Cheese Hill.

Councillors Edwards and Williams have met with CW&C Highways on site to look at the problems at this junction and to consider several options and solutions. The possibility of moving the signs is being considered.

Councillor Edwards is to check if any of the nearby residents have a log of the accidents that have taken place at this junction.

Action – Councillors Edwards and Williams to continue to follow up with CW&C.

- **Speeding Petition**

- Following the September PC meeting, when the traffic issues around Blakemere Lane were mentioned by members of the public, Councillor Edwards had followed up the possibility of obtaining ‘Smiley SIDs’ to put along this stretch of the road with CW&C Highways and they have confirmed that a ‘Smiley SID’ is available for the PC’s use. There was a suggestion about rotating this around the village. A team of volunteers would be required to assist with organising this. It was agreed that a request for volunteers should be put in the Norley News.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to write a short piece for Norley News.

- The Clerk had liaised with CW&C Highways about the possibility of having a pedestrian crossing near to the Hatchmere bus stop. Following the enquiry, a representative from CW&C Highways had spent some time out by the bus stop to see if there are sufficient levels of pedestrian footfall (and traffic) and encountered no pedestrian activity in terms of crossing the road. The assessment of any crossing is a calculation based on data taken from a count of traffic & pedestrians at the location.

Following this response, the PC enquired about whether an ‘Elderly People Crossing’ sign could be installed at this location.

Action – Councillor Edwards to follow up the possibility of a sign at this location at the Highways site visit.

- An article on the speeding petition was put in the Norley News asking for community group volunteers and a co-ordinator to form a speed management group for the village.
- The data that is obtained from the Speed Indicator Devices in the village is to be published on the PC website.
- Councillor O’Connor had followed up the possibility of having the type of speed camera signs in Norley that are fixed to lamp posts or poles that are already sited on grass verges with CW&C Highways. The installation of the two Speed Indicator Devices is to be implemented before any additional measures are explored.

Action - Councillor Fayle to continue to obtain the data from the Speed Indicator Devices for the PC website.

- Following the report of weed spraying from a resident, that had taken place in some areas where bulbs had been planted, the Clerk had followed this up with CW&C Highways who confirmed that their spraying operation only targets weeds growing within hard surfaces; at the kerb edge, on the pavement or at the backline where the pavement meets vertical surfaces such as garden walls. Selective herbicides are not used, which kill broadleaf weeds from within grass verges whilst leaving the grasses unaffected, so if the bulbs are planted within a grassed area, they should be safe from harm.

- **Defibrillator Training**

Councillor O’Connor had purchased an additional pad for the defibrillator at the Village Hall.

It was agreed that as other groups in the village may want to arrange training, an article should be put in the next Norley News about the training and the location of the defibrillator. Once expressions of interest had been received, then PC Cornelissen will then arrange the training at the Village Hall.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to write an article in the Norley News.

7. **St JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH FUNDRAISING**

Councillor Fayle is continuing to liaise with the church about fundraising and grant applications to deal with the damp and dry rot at the Church. The full costs of the works required is not yet known.

Councillor Cornelissen put forward a suggestion about putting the Queen’s Jubilee Beacons on top of the church towers as a centre piece for fundraising, following the information that had been received from Chalc.

An Open Day has been arranged at the church for 4th December.

Action – Councillor Fayle to continue to liaise with Churchwardens and Clerk to circulate the information from Chalc relating to the Queen’s Jubilee Beacons.

8. NORLEY STORES

Following the JNCOT meeting that had been held on 21st October when the plans for a new shop and café at the Village Hall had been discussed, the PC had received a copy of the revised plans prior to the PC meeting.

After consideration of the revised plans, the PC approved the plans for the Shop at the Village Hall for submission to CW&C.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to notify the Architect of the PC’s approval.

9. PLANNING

Applications

- **21/04269/PAA** - The Copse Ashton Road Norley Northwich WA6 6NY: Construction of additional storey to existing dwelling – There were no PC comments.
- **21/03856/FUL** - Holly Farm School Lane Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 6PE: Single Storey rear extension, proposed replacement single storey front extension. Proposed replacement detached garage and new vehicular access point – PC to submit their objections to CW&C by 26th November.
- **21/04106/FUL** - Old Pale View Honslough Lane Norley Frodsham WA6 6NA: Erection of porch, single storey rear extension and detached garage/store – Any comments to be submitted to the Clerk by 26th November.
- **21/04249** – Norley Village Hall, High Street – Erection of Scout Hut – There were no PC comments.

10. CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The PC considered the dates for the 2022 meetings from June until November and agreed the following:

- Wednesday 29th June 2022
- Wednesday 27th July 2022
- Wednesday 28th September 2022
- Tuesday 25th October 2022
- Wednesday 23rd November 2022

Action – Clerk to check availability at the NCK Centre/Village Hall/Methodist Church and book the meeting rooms.

The Clerk reported that the following had been received and circulated since the October meeting:

CW&C Circulars

- Latest Cheshire West Crowd media release
- Go green at your local library
- Council’s teams tackle flood risks
- Inclusive Economy strategy conference invite
- Council’s winter flooding preparations move to Acton Bridge
- National restrictions brought in to tackle bird flu
- Cheshire Local Heritage List
- TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
- Council’s request for dash cam help to tackle fly-tippers
- Hate Crime Strategy - Focus Group
- Council teams’ big push to prepare Northwich for the winter months
- Cheshire West and Chester Council welcomes HyNet announcement
- Support community projects through the Cheshire West Crowd
- Carers invited to share their views on proposed improvements to support services
- Growth Track 360 welcomes UK Government’s response to parliamentary committee’s recommendations
- Businesses set to benefit from additional Covid-19 recovery support

Chalc

- Bulletins, Member Briefings, and training dates
- Town and Parish Council Connections Event: Security for Council Members - Wednesday 24th November 6pm to 7pm
- Gallagher Communities Team invitation to a FREE webinar - 7th December at 6pm
- ChALC Report: Impact of Covid on Council Business
- Consultation on Cheshire West and Chester Council's "Land Action Plan: for the climate and nature Emergencies

- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2nd June 2022 - Update
- Police and Crime Plan 2021-24
- Updated Policy Consultation Briefing - Environmental Permitting Regulations
- NALC Policy Consultation Briefing - PC7-21 Environmental Permitting Regulations

- Cheshire Fire Authority Draft 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan consultation
- Police and Crime Plan - Stakeholder Bulletin

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Review of current Financial Position

The Clerk reported on the following:

- The PC account balance on the current account as at 1st November 2021 was £37,444.85 and £6262.39 on the Business Reserve account.
- The level of expenditure on 17th November was £27,046.95 and the balance remaining was £22,554.57 as detailed on the financial report and budget monitoring report, that had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- The PC had been successful in receiving a CIL payment from CW&C of £6989.48. They had noted that the neighbourhood portion of CIL can be spent on:
 - the provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure; or
 - anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

Infrastructure is defined as:

- Social infrastructure: e.g., art and culture, sports halls, education, health, social care, emergency services, community centres, village halls
 - Physical infrastructure: e.g., pavements, cycleways, flood defences, highways, transport links
 - Green infrastructure: e.g., play areas, public open space, woodlands
- The Clerk had made an online payment on 15th October 2021 of £155.80 to HMRC for the tax due on the Clerk's salary for Quarter 2.
 - As the two new noticeboards at the Tigers Head and Blakemere had now been installed, the PC had agreed outside of the meeting, that a cheque could be signed prior to the November meeting – Rock Graphics - £2184

The following was approved for payment and cheques were signed:

- Induction for Clerks/Councillors training course – Councillor Cornelissen - £25.00 – Cheshire Association of Local Councils
- Reimbursement – Payment of a book of 2nd class stamps £7.92, a land registry search £3.00 and a pack of blue tac £1.75 – totalling £12.67 – Mrs G Hawthornthwaite
- Reimbursement – Ms D O'Connor – An additional defibrillator pad for Village Hall Defibrillator - £49.14
- PC donation to Norley Playground – Norley Hilltop Play Area - £1500

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- There was a question from a member of the public about the two different bank accounts that the PC have and asked whether they had considered having more money in the savings account rather than the current one.

Action – Clerk and Councillor O'Connor to follow this up.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 7 pm** at the NCK Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Signed Date