

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY  
15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023 AT 7.00 PM AT THE NCK CENTRE, NORLEY**

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING:** Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Steve Bakewell, Sally Cornelissen, Ann Crawford, Terry Harvey and Jon Wild

Charles Fifield – Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite – Parish Clerk

The members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Norley Parish Councillor Tony Duff and Ward Councillors Paul Williams and Gillian Edwards.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Cornelissen declared a personal interest in application: 23/00384/FUL - The Oranges Town Farm Lane Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 8NG

**3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM**

A resident from Nursery Park reported that following the report of sewage in the field behind the park; the area had been inspected recently and was not sure if this was following the report to the PC at the February meeting.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to follow up the status of the environmental report with Councillor Edwards.**

There was a question about the completion of the building work on the Delamere School, Blakemere Lane site.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to follow up with Councillor Edwards.**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

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

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

- **Car Parking - Delamere Forest**

Councillor Edwards has requested that the Community Safety Wardens patrol the areas affected by parking. The Forestry Commission have included details on their website and social media about discouraging parking around the forest area. Councillor Edwards is continuing to liaise with the Forestry Commission about arranging an online meeting.

- **Cheshire Railings**

The arrangements for the repair and painting of the railings and funding for this work is ongoing. Councillor Cornelissen posted a complaint onto CWaC website as the railings at Town farm Lane/Norley Rd were now in a dangerous condition. Councillor Edwards and Councillor Cornelissen will continue to follow up.

- **Speed Indicator Devices**

The PC are continuing to follow up a suitable location for the SID on Blakemere Lane with United Utilities.

- Councillor O'Connor is continuing to follow up the locations of two 'Shop' directional signs - one near to the Village Hall pointing down Maddocks Hill and near to Gallowsclough Lane pointing down Hough Lane in a mid-green colour.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to follow up obtaining a licence from CW&C for these and the current prices for signs and installation.**

- **Highway Issues**

Councillor Edwards is in the process of arranging a follow up meeting with CW&C Highways to follow up on the on-going highway issues in Norley. These regular meetings

are to continue.

- **Footpaths and Bridleways**

Councillor Edwards is continuing to follow up organising a meeting with the Public Rights of Way Officer to discuss the possibility of a permissive link on Norley BR1.

**Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up.**

- **Hondslough Lane – Update from Adele Mayer**

This application is awaiting consideration. 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 and will be submitted when requested by CW&C.

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

- An update is awaited from Councillor Edwards about the filling of the potholes on Blakemere Lane.

- **Sandycroft Farm, Crabmill Lane**

Councillor Crawford has volunteered to follow up the listing process with a Norley resident who has volunteered to assist.

- Councillor O'Connor is continuing to liaise with Roger Goulding, CW&C about the reports of a pipe with soapy water that is being discharged into the pond on Common Land of West View Road.

- Concerns that had been received from residents about the noise from the live music coming from the Tigers Head late at night is continuing to be followed up with CW&C Licensing Department.

- **Sweeping of Leaves**

The Clerk had reported the problem areas where leaves need to be swept, but there has been no action yet.

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

- Councillors O'Connor Harvey are continuing to follow up the possibility of a defibrillator located at the Carriers Inn.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor will email the licensee.**

- **Village Gateway Signs**

Following the suggestions at the last meeting about the options of slowing down drivers entering the village, the PC are liaising with CW&C about putting Gateway Signs at each main road entrance into the village. Examples of a mock sign had been circulated and costs are to be followed up when a decision is made about a suitable design.

- Councillor Wild is continuing to follow up whether the swimming pool on the Blakemere Lane site could be placed on the Communities Asset Register

**Action – Councillor Wild to continue to follow up.**

- Removal of tree stump on Maddocks Hill.

**Action - Councillor Bakewell to continue to follow up with CW&C.**

- **Chain Posts on Village Green**

One of the chain posts on the village green has been knocked or pushed over and requires straightening. It was agreed that the post should be straightened and the area should be re-seeded, as the area around the posts was one of the areas where CW&C applied the weed killer last year.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to arrange for the post to be straightened and Councillor Cornelissen to re-seed once the work has been completed.**

- **Planning Application for a Shop and Cafe at the Village Hall Site**

Following the Extraordinary meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Councillors O'Connor and Cornelissen met the current shop premises owners and discussed the shop application and their plans for the Stores.

A final decision on the application has not yet been made by CW&C Planning.

## 6. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH UPDATE

The Community Speed Watch Co-Ordinator reported that the Community Speed Watch Group will have the mobile SID for 3 weeks, commencing 29<sup>th</sup> March and a rota is being compiled for the volunteers. A request for more volunteers has been put on the Norley Facebook page. Training will be arranged for any new volunteers.

A response is awaited from the PCSO about whether the system to send out warning letters to speeding drivers with information obtained from the mobile SID, is now in place.

The Speed Indicator Device on Ashton Road has now been re-instated following the repair.

There are concerns that there is not enough light under the canopy for it to function.

A member of the Community Speed Watch Group will monitor if it is receiving enough solar power.

Three options are continuing to be followed up for the SID on Blakemere Lane

- East side towards station
- West side but may need to be a dog-leg post to avoid a large tree
- By the 30-mph sign

The price of a modified pole and other possibilities is also being followed up.

The February SID downloads were received and noted.

As the stretch of road past Nursery Park does not meet the criteria for a decrease in the speed limit, the following options are being pursued:

- Making the bus stop more visible and robust
- A gateway sign to announce the start of the village.
- The sign for Nursery Park being made more visible

Councillor Edwards is continuing to follow up with CW&C the possibility of making the bus stop, near to Nursery Park, more visible and robust.

**Action – Councillor O’Connor to meet residents on site at Nursery Park.**

## 7. NORLEY BOWLING CLUB

Further additional financial information had been received from the Bowling Club relating to the servicing and overhaul of a replacement mower, which totalled £1000.

The PC agreed that as the club is an asset to the Village a donation of £1000 should be made from the Community Infrastructure Levy funding.

## 8. CORONATION COINS – NORLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The PC considered making a donation towards the Coronation Tea Party Event that is to be held at the Primary School on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The PTFA had already purchased the coins for all children at the school. The PC considered whether they could make a donation towards the Coronation coins or whether the coins could be supplemented with a Coronation mug. This was agreed in principle.

Councillor Fifield referred to fund that is open for communities to apply to, for marking the Coronation of King Charles III. The closing date is 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Action – Councillor O’Connor to report back to the Headteacher of the Primary School and to establish costs for 105 mugs: one for each school child.**

## 9. PLANNING

The following application had been received. As Councillor Cornelissen had declared a personal interest in this application, she left the meeting whilst the PC considered the application.

- **23/00384/FUL - The Oranges Town Farm Lane Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 8NG - Replacement roof with roof light, new external doors and window openings** – There were no PC comments to submit on this application.

## 10. CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

**Norley Village Hall Funding Application.**

Prior to the meeting, the PC had received information and quotations relating to proposed improvements at the village hall for a new kitchen and a mobility/disabled access to the front door and a request for PC funding towards the improvements.

The PC considered the request and agreed in principle to making a pledge of £2500 towards the refitting of the kitchen, with a fridge and dishwasher required for increased sanitary

requirements. This donation will be from the Community Infrastructure Levy funding and is approximately one third of the money required for the proposed work. This donation will be released to the Village Hall Committee when it is required.

Councillor Fifield mentioned that the Space Hive Crowd Funding system that is available from CW&C might also be worth exploring.

**Action – Clerk to notify the Village Hall Committee of the decision.**

The following had been received and circulated since the February meeting:

**CW&C Circulars**

- The King's Coronation Weekend - public events
- Applications open for communities to mark the Coronation of King Charles III
- May 2023 Elections & Voter ID Guide
- Cheshire West and Chester Council: Draft Local Validation Checklist
- Choices in Challenging Times - Council approves budget

**Chalc**

- Bulletins, Member Briefings, and training dates
- CPRE Cheshire - Online Rural Planning Event Tuesday 21 March 6.00 – 7.00pm
- Online Fair Employment Charter Consultation - 20th March at 9am
- Civility and Respect - March newsletter
  
- Delamere Forest: March 2023 Update
- February PCSO Update

**11. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**Review of current Financial Position**

Prior to the meeting the following financial information had been circulated:

- The PC account balance on the current account as at 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 was £39429.12 and £6276.17 on the Business Reserve account.

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

The Policies are to be reviewed outside of the meeting.

**Community Infrastructure Levy**

The PC are continuing to review the suggestions that they had put forward for the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure and anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area and the Community Infrastructure Levy payments (£6989.48 and £2444.56). Currently, the following had been proposed/agreed:

- Playground Committee - £1500 allocated
- New door for the red phone box – quotations had been obtained for a new door - £1135 and £167 for an installation pack
- Norley Bowling Club - £1000 allocated
- Norley Village Hall – proposal for £2500 towards the kitchen refit.

Councillor O'Connor is following up whether a cheque payment could be made for the £50 PC donation towards a copy of the Norley Bank book, which was approved at the February meeting, which will go to a pancreatic cancer charity. If a cheque can be accepted, the cheque will be completed and signed outside of the meeting.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to progress.**

The following were approved for payment and cheques were signed:

- Backdated Clerk's Salary Arrears Payments (March 2023) – New 2022/23 Salary Scales - £38 per month - Mrs G Hawthornthwaite.
- Donation towards the overhaul of a replacement mower – Norley Bowling Club - £1000
- Chalc Induction for Councillor Bakewell – Invoice Number: 2022/050 - £25.00 – Cheshire Association of Local Councils

## 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following items were reported:

- Councillor Bakewell - there will be a delay in preparing the ground for planting the seeds around the village, due to the weather. It is likely to be the end of March/Beginning of April.
- Councillor Crawford – the village litter pick is being held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- Councillor O'Connor - following the success of the coffee morning that had been set up by Norley Methodist Church, there is a proposal to set up a community café 1 day a week. The PC supported this proposal.
- Councillor Fifield referred to the start of 'Purdah', which commences on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. There will be no CW&C committee meetings during this time.

As Councillor Wild gave his apologies for the April PC meeting, he reported that as he had moved out of the area, he would not be standing for Election in May and tonight's meeting was his last Norley Parish Council meeting.

Councillor Wild was thanked for all his hard work as a dedicated Norley Parish Councillor over the last 15 years.

## 13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7 pm** at the NCK Centre.