

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
11TH MARCH 2024 AT 7.00 PM AT THE NCK CENTRE, NORLEY**

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

Norley Parish Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Steve Bakewell, Ann Crawford, Tony Duff, Victor Leyden
Terry Harvey and Ken Fayle

Ward Councillors: Gillian Edwards and Lynn Stocks

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite – Parish Clerk

The members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Ward Councillors Phil Rimmer and Norley Parish Councillor Sally Cornelissen

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM

There were no items raised.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST FEBRUARY 2024

These were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the vice-chair, the chair of that meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST FEBRUARY 2024

- **Speed Indicator Devices**

The PC has received approval to install the device. It has not been installed yet as a specific angled post is required, and this is being specially made. The PC are continuing to follow up a date for the installation.

- **Cheese Hill Junction**

CW&C Highways have drafted a design to make this road closure permanent. The draft design will be a kerbed area to close off the short area of road. This will be low and will not interfere with the line of sight for vehicles. Soil will be inside the kerbed area so plants and flowers can be planted. It is also intended to have a Village Gateway sign installed on this area. This will be one of a number which will be installed in all the key entry points into the Village.

- **Cheshire Railings**

The PC is continuing to follow up the affordable costs and possible funding of the railings, the refurbishment/painting of some of the railings and the options of replacing with some other fencing.

- **St Johns Church Woodland.**

A tree inspection report for the woodland area from Town Farm Lane into the east end of Norley Church graveyard, had been received which reported that some remedial work is required on a number of the trees in the woodland before public access can start again. In the meantime, the woodland will have to remain closed to public access.

- **Environmental Improvement Programme**

Work on the development of an Environmental Improvement Programme is continuing.

6. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH UPDATE

As members of the Community Speed Watch Group were unable to attend the PC meeting, the following update had been provided and was read out at the meeting:

Community Speed Watch has undergone significant change in the past year. It is now managed in total by the Police. The main change is that there now have to be three people operating at a

location, and now all three people have to be police trained. This significantly reduced the number of operators as not everyone has been able to attend the necessary additional training. Neil Flanagan, the Frodsham PCSO kindly invited the Norley Speedwatch Group to attend training at Frodsham Fire Station on two dates, Sunday 11th February and Wednesday evening 28th February. He has kindly agreed to come to Norley on Monday 18th March between 6:00pm and 7:00pm to host further training for people who could not attend the previous training. Following the article in January's Norley News, 6 more recruits have joined the group, and were trained at Frodsham.

The Operating locations have now been re-assessed and remain the same locations.

The details of the Speed Indicator Device data for February 2024 below had been circulated to the PC prior to the meeting and are to be published onto the PC website.

Ashton Road

The device continues to operate intermittently; data is available for the period 11th Feb to 29th Feb. 46% of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit. 17.4% of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed of 35 mph. The maximum exit speed recorded was 64.7 mph.

Delamere Road

54% of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit. 21% of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 35 mph. The maximum exit speed recorded was 57.2 mph.

Fingerpost Lane

2.2% of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 46 mph. The average speed of vehicles for January 2024 was 31.6 mph which supports the reduction of the speed limit to 30 mph.

Norley Road

The device is still not operating.

This is being followed up with TWM.

School Bank

47.8% of vehicles exceeded the 20 mph speed limit. 16.3% of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 24 mph. The maximum exit speed recorded was 39.6 mph.

The SID devices on Norley Road and Ashton Road have been checked by the Speed Monitoring Group who have confirmed that they are both not working. The maintenance of these devices is being followed up by the PC.

Action – Clerk to publish the Speed Indicator Device data onto the PC website.

Action – Councillor O'Connor to follow up the maintenance of the fixed SIDs

7. DEFIBRILLATOR

Councillor O'Connor is continuing to liaise with the landlady of the Carriers Inn and The Tigers Head about the installation of a defibrillator. A response is awaited from Marstons.

8. BREECH MOSS

There is flooding on Breech Moss that is causing a drainage issue around the path that is at the back of the Haulage Yard on High Street. This has been reported to the CW&C Green Infrastructure Team Leader and is also being followed up by Councillor Stocks.

9. PLANNING

- **23/03390/FUL** – Land at Clover Paddock: Change of use to mixed use for keeping horses and agriculture. No.1 x stable block on skids and No.1 x field shelter on skids (to be moved around the field) Retrospective - any comments to the Clerk before 21st March 2024.
- **Blakemere Lane Site**
The PC are continuing to meet regularly with the Planning Officer to discuss and monitor the building activity on the site and the plans for the affordable housing. CW&C Legal Services are currently preparing the legal document to ensure these properties remain as 'Affordable Housing' in perpetuity. CW&C are also liaising with the developer to establish the prices for the 4 houses.
- **West View Road Planning Application**
The PC are liaising with the developer regarding their questions about the changing plot size of the development land on West View Road. It appears a section of the Common

Land had previously been fenced off adding it to the plot. The PC is in the process of arranging a meeting with CB Homes to discuss issues relating to fencing, storage of materials, parking of construction vehicles, where materials are to be stored. Councillor Stocks is following up with CW&C Planning the details of the Construction Method Statement that are attached to the planning application.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to follow up a meeting date with CB Homes.

- **Hunts Hill Wood**

The status of the area of agricultural land, Hunts Hill Wood that is being used for residential and business purposes is continuing to be monitored. No date is scheduled for the appeal against enforcement, which is awaited from the Planning Inspectorate.

- The information that had been received from residents about the activity at the Haulage Yard on High Street has been followed up with CW&C and the PCSO. CW&C had confirmed that the operating hours are 8.30am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday. The PCSO has visited the yard and reminded them of the operating hours.

10. **CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- Prior to the meeting, a Village Hall update report had been circulated to the PC which had been received and noted.
- Following information that had been received from the Primary School about putting a bid together for funding to enhance the local area with a specific focus on the under 5’s, the PC agreed to support the school in putting a bid together.

Action – Councillor O’Connor to follow up with the Head Teacher, Helen Kelly.

- Following enquiries that had been received relating to the PC’s regulations, these are being followed up and Clerk will respond.

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

Chalc

- Bulletins, Member Briefings, and training dates
- Community Orchard Funding

CW&C

- Local Plan Evidence Base Consultation 2024

11. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Review of current Financial Position

The PC account balance on the current account at 1st March 2024 was £33,222.45 and £6352.03 on the Business Reserve account.

The PC are continuing to follow up transferring the PC bank accounts to online banking accounts.

The PC had received a request for funding from Norley Bowling Club. It was agreed that before they could consider making a donation, they required a formal request with further financial information before the PC could make an informed decision and that it should be deferred until the next PC Meeting.

The PC agreed there should be a standard application form for requests for funding which all requests should be made on.

Action – Clerk to contact Chalc to enquire if they had an appropriate document for financial applications.

The following were approved for cheque payments:

- Invoice – room booking at the Village Hall for the Sandycroft Farm Village Meeting on 22nd March 2024 - £14.18 – Norley Village Hall
- Removal and Placement of the Red Telephone Box Door - £282.00 – Rock Graphics
- Reimbursement for the Clerk’s March 2024 Salary – new 2023/24 Salary Scales – £63.40

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.

The PC considered the level of fidelity insurance based on the assets the PC holds and the amount of risk involved and agreed that it should remain at £100,000.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following were mentioned:

- Councillor Duff
 - The state of the road/potholes from the Chinese restaurant to the new housing development on Blakemere Lane. Councillor Edwards is continuing to follow this up.
 - Two of the streetlights are not working on Blakemere Lane. The posts look to be corroded and may need replacing.
Action – clerk to follow up.
- Councillor Crawford
 - The annual Village Litterpick has been arranged for Saturday 23rd March from 9.00 am -1.00 pm, meeting at The Village Hall. Refreshments are to be provided by the WI at the Village Hall after the litterpick.

Councillor Harvey asked whether the PC had been approached to assist with funding for any works that are required at St John's Church. The PC had not been approached to assist.

- Ward Members Update
 - The Purdah Period, starts from 18th March to close of Polling Stations on 2nd May 2024 – Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner Elections.
 - a 4.99% increase in council tax and Green Bin Tax increase and 'Green Bin Charge' which has increased by 25% this year and is now £50 for 9 months of the year.
 - There is a review of household waste sites consultation.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Monday 22nd April 2024 at 7 pm** at the NCK Centre.

The Meeting closed at 8.35 pm