

HATHERTON AND WALGHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2019

Present:

Cllrs Steve Boyes, Ian Bennion, Neil Clowes, Nigel Dibben, Chris Knibbs (Chair), Steve Mitchell, Rob Tindall.

In attendance

Ward Cllr Janet Clowes, Resident: Melanie Yeomans, Carol Bell (Clerk)

19/41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Deborah Robb. No apology received from Cllr Barry Dakin.

19/42 INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARISH CLERK

Carol Bell was introduced and welcomed as the new Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer to replace Ralph Bason.

19/43 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Regarding items on the agenda, there were no declarations of interest.

19/44 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th September be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman with amendments ref 19/22 point 1

19/45 MATTERS ARISING

Clerk to continue to take up concerns regarding street light at Walgherton, the damage to the SID device on the A529, the removal of the sign from Park Lane and the 7.5 ton limit on Park Lane.

19/46 PLANNING MATTERS

The planning log was reviewed and decisions and dates noted.

19/46.1 Recent applications awaiting decision

19/0046N and 19/0047N Land adj Boars Head – Outline planning application for 2 no. dwellings with access considered. Still awaiting decision by GH. Ward Cllr Janet Clowes to make enquiries regarding decision progress

18/2153N Doddington Estate, Bridgemere, . Appeal 112 dwellings. The appeal is to be dealt with by means of a public inquiry, date 11th Feb20. Comments on the appeal to be submitted by 9th December 19. Ward Cllr Janet Clowes is submitting additional information. Cllr Boyes to prepare response for discussion taking into account previous joint parishes' submission on this application, reserving us right to speak at the hearing.

19/46.2 Neighbourhood Plans

1. The Council noted that the Wybunbury Combined Parishes Neighbourhood Plan had now been subject to inspection and inspector's comments need to be assessed by the steering committee.
2. Councillor Knibbs requested the council endorse the Hankelow Neighbourhood Plan recommendation of provision of a footpath from Hankelow to Audlem. The council were in agreement. Parish Clerk to write to Hankelow Parish Clerk to endorse.

19/46.3 Planning Meeting update.

Minutes from the planning meeting on 7.11.19 have been distributed to all councillors with decisions approved.

19/47 FINANCE REPORT

- 19/47.1** The finance report had been circulated with the agenda and comprises income and expenditure since the last meeting and bank reconciliation. The bank balance at 20/10/2019 was £6700.82 with no unrepresented cheques. The following cheques were authorised:

Hankelow Methodist Church	(room bookings)	Cheque no.466	£210.00
Audlem Community Responders		Cheque no. 467	£200.00

Ralph Bason Clerk salary/exp for Oct to 21/10	Cheque no. 468	£83.09
HMRC R Bason PAYE to 21.10.19	Cheque no. 469	£57.60
Carol Bell Clerk's net salary Nov 2019	Cheque no. 470	£135.52
Carol Bell HMRC (PAYE) Nov 2018	Cheque no. 471	£33.80
Carol Bell CHALC Training	Cheque no. 472	£35.00
C J Knibbs Clerk Admin expenses	Cheque no. 473	£46.58
Chris Knibbs = Daffodils	Cheque no, 474	£31.80

19/47.2 Spending against Budget

The current spend against budget was noted.

19/47.3 Proposed Budget for 2019/20

The Council considered the draft budget for 2019/20 which is in the sum of £6081, noting some small increases/decreases across a few items where next year's costs are still to be set. The end of year 2019/20 bank balance is projected to be approximately £6,000

Resolved that the budget for 2019/20 be approved in the sum of £6081.

19/47.4 Precept Recommendation 2019/20

By retaining the current Band D Council Tax of £17.56 per annum the Parish Council's precept would increase to £4,402, an increase of 2.37%.

Resolved that a precept of £4,402 be requested for 2019/20.

19/47.5 Royal Bank of Scotland

RBS Business Banking Switch launched March 2019. The scheme offers small businesses the opportunity to switch to alternative lenders offering deals that are currently better than those normally available on the market. The council received an outline of the offers available from participating banks with a recommendation to switch to The Co-operative Bank

Resolved that a switch to the Co-operative Bank be undertaken, Clerk to action.

Resolved - that the matters comprising the financial report be approved.

19/48 Hs2a FUNDING POSSIBILITIES

Councillor Knibbs attended the Hs2a community liaison meeting with Rebecca Lewis from Hs2a, minutes of which have been distributed to all councillors. There are funding streams available once the Hs2a route receives Royal Assent. The four funding streams are

- Community & Environmental Fund
- Business & Local Economy Fund
- Woodland Fund
- Road Safety Fund
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Councillor Knibbs asked all councillors to think of ideas for significant projects that meet the above criteria for him to take to a meeting of the Wybunbury ward parish chairs. Several ideas were discussed.

19/49 PARISH IMPROVEMENTS

19/49.1 It was agreed that a new noticeboard for Walgherton be made and sited further back from the road than the original board. Councillor Janet Clowes advised that Highways permission would be needed if sited anywhere other than current position. Parish Clerk to contact Cheshire East Highways for permission once location is finalised. Cllr Knibbs to approach noticeboard carpenter in the first instance.

19/49.2 Councillor Knibbs has purchased a sack of daffodils to be planted in the parish. It was agreed that the Council plant daffodils at the entrances to the parish, particularly around signs and other suitable sites.

19/49.3 Clerk to progress 2 benches as previous minutes

19/50 HIGHWAYS

19/50.1 Continuing flooding and blocked gulleys due to poor maintenance were noted in particular at the Boar's Head junction, Lodge Lane and Heelers ditch at Hunsterson Rd /Crewe Rd Corner. Cllr Dibben reported he has written to Cheshire East Council regarding these areas with no response. It was agreed that Parish Clerk should follow up.

19/50.2 The council noted that there is an abandoned vehicle in the A529 lay-by Cllr Knibbs to follow up with the police.

19/51 REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

Councillor J Clowes suggested that councillors review two of the consultations that Cheshire East are currently undertaking and submit comments

- Environmental Strategy 2019 - 2024 Consultation
Cheshire East Council has developed its first draft Environmental Strategy 2019 - 2024. This strategy sets out the strategic goals and priority actions the Council will take to respond to the global challenge of climate change, and to protect and enhance our local environment.
- Cheshire East Pre-Budget Consultation 2020 – 2024
Cheshire East Council has issued its Pre-Budget Consultation setting out proposals for change for the period 2020/21 to 2023/24. This is an opportunity for interested parties to review and comment on the Council's Budget proposals.

19/52 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Boyes reported he had attended the CE Parish Councils Meeting, where they announced a 3 year Community Governance review. Parish Clerk to circulate slides of the meeting when they become available.

19/53 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 27th January 2020 - to be held at Hankelow Chapel.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm