

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SHAVINGTON-CUM-GRESTY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 7 AUGUST 2019 IN SHAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL, SHAVINGTON, CREWE**

PRESENT: Councillor B Gibbs Chairman
Councillor V Adams Councillor L Buchanan
Councillor N Cooper Councillor M Ferguson
Councillor K Gibbs Councillor R Hancock
Councillor R Moore

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor D Marren
Mr W Atteridge – Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Four members of the public
Jane Hassall Candidate for co-option
Gordon McIntyre Candidate for co-option

APOLOGIES: Councillors L Buchanan, N Cooper and M Ferguson

71 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

Councillors B Gibbs and K Gibbs each declared a personal interest in Minute No. 74 on the basis that they were related to Ms Jane Hassall.

No other declarations were made.

72 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

73 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the Council's Standing Order No. 1, members of the public can submit a question, either in writing prior to the meeting, or orally at the meeting, or to make a statement.

Issues raised included the following:

- Pedestrian Crossing in the vicinity of Vine Tree.
- Anti-social behaviour on the Vine Tree play area. In response to a suggestion that the play area should be locked in the event, the residents were informed that as the incidents referenced were during the daytime, locking the play area at night would not have an impact.

74 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES – CO-OPTION

The vacancies for parish councillors had been advertised in the newsletter issued in early June. There were four vacancies (three in the Village Ward and one in the Gresty Brook ward).

There were two candidates in attendance, namely Jane Hassall and Gordon McIntyre.

Each candidate addressed the Parish Council, in turn, to explain their reasons for wishing to become a parish councillor. Members were able to ask questions of each candidate.

The matter was put to the vote and it was –

RESOLVED: That Jane Hassall and Gordon McIntyre be co-opted onto the Parish Council with immediate effect.

Note: Each candidate signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office which required them to be bound by the Code of Conduct.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

75 POLICE MATTERS – BEAT MANAGER’S REPORT

The Clerk had received a copy of the Beat Manager’s Report for June 2019, but this had not yet been sent to Members.

76 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR DAVID MARREN

76.1 Report

Councillor David Marren reported on Cheshire East Council (CEC) matters of interest and provide an update in respect of outstanding parish matters as follows:

- CEC was in the process of recruiting four independent members to sit on the Independent Remuneration Panel which advised the Authority about allowances for Borough Councillors. Anyone interested was invited to contact CECIRP@cheshireeast.gov.uk.
- Cheshire East Partnership Five-Year Plan
In response to the NHS Long-term Plan, Cheshire East Health and Care Partnership had produced a draft five-year plan to improve the health and well-being of the people in Cheshire East. Views are being sought via an on-line survey at www.healthwatchcheshireeast.org.uk/get-involv.../consultations
- Christmas close-down at CEC – 25 December 2019 – 1 January 2020
- HS₂ - CEC has launched a Crewe Area Action Plan consultation which aims attain the best for the area. It is a planning document which covers a 20-year timescale.
- A second consultation is being organised in respect of the Southern Road Link Bridge which is a new infrastructure proposal under the Area Action Plan. This is located south of Crewe Station between Weston Road and Gresty Road and would reduce traffic congestion in Nantwich allowing better provision for pedestrians and cyclists. The consultation can be found at <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/.../consul.../consultations.aspx>.
- FairerPower to close. This was launched by CEC in 2015 to encourage customers to switch providers and gain a wider choice of energy tariffs, supported by OVO. CEC and OVO have taken the decision to close FairerPower owing to changes in the energy market.
- Update on Orbitas, a bereavement service provided by Orbitas which is owned by CEC.
- Vine Tree Pedestrian Crossing: No progress could be made until a sum of £80,000 was received from Wain Homes.
- Pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the Co-op Store was due to be installed up to Christmas 2019.

76.2 Questions

Members were able to ask questions of Councillor Marren in respect of his report.

- A Member had tried to report a pot-hole using the CEC website but his address was not shown on the site.

- Why did CEC not use 'Fix My Street' which was an application used by most Councils in the country?

Councillor Marren undertook to make enquiries and report back.

77 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group reported in respect of the next stage following review of the consultation responses.

It was expected that the Regulation 15 version would be available for either the September or October meeting.

The Site Allocations and Development Policies document (SAPD) had been announced by Cheshire East Council for a six-week consultation period. The Steering Group would take this document into account when reviewing the Draft Plan.

78 PLANNING MATTERS

78.1 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications for consultation.

78.2 Planning Application No. 18/5798N – 414 Newcastle Road, CW2 5JF

Detailed planning application for demolition of existing buildings and erection of up to 44 residential dwellings (100% affordable housing) including any associated infrastructure and new site access for land south of Newcastle Road

This planning application was approved at the Southern Planning Committee earlier in the day.

78.3 Planning Application No. 19/1923N - The Elephant & Castle (Variation of Condition 24 (Traffic Regulation Order))

The Clerk had contacted Borough Councillor Brian Roberts (Portfolio Holder for Highways and Waste) to invite him to meet with a few Parish Councillors to discuss this matter.

Councillor Roberts responded to the effect that as he had been part of the Southern Planning Committee which had visited the site and heard the application, he was 'conflicted out' and would be unable to attend a meeting with councillors.

Subsequent to this, Councillor Marren arranged a site meeting with Councillor Craig Browne (Deputy Cabinet Leader). The meeting was held on 7 August 2019 with Councillors Kevin Gibbs and Ryan Moore attending, together with Councillor Marren.

78.4 Wybunbury Combined Parishes – Neighbourhood Plan Regulations 15 and 16 Consultation

Cheshire East Council had now published the Wybunbury Combined Parishes Neighbourhood Plan for Regulation 15 Consultation together with the Regulation 16 arrangements. A link to the documents was provided.

Comments were required by 6 September 2019.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was asked to consider the document and submit its observations to the Council on 4 September 2019, at which time, Members would be able to either support the comments or amend them.

(Note: Mr Atterdige withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

79 RE-STRUCTURING OF COMMITTEES

At the Annual Council meeting on 8 May 2019, the Council introduced a calendar of meetings for all Committees which resulted in a total of 41 scheduled meetings a year, comprising Council and Committees.

As reported to the Council meeting on 10 July 2019, the Clerk and Chairman had met with Jackie Weaver, the Chief Officer of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils to discuss ways of improving Council procedures to increase efficiency.

The Clerk had produced a series of documents aimed at a Committee re-structuring and the following documents were enclosed for information. These would be submitted to the meeting on 4 September 2019 for decision.

- Clerk's report.
- Revised calendar of meetings for the remainder of the Municipal Year.
- Terms of Reference for –
 - Planning/Environment Committee
 - Finance Committee
 - Village Hall Committee

Members agreed to submit questions about the proposals, to the Clerk, and she would produce a Questions/Answers statement for consideration at the next meeting.

80 FINANCIAL MATTERS

80.1 Receipts and Payments Statement – 1 April 2019-30 June 2019

The Council received a Receipts and Payments statement for the first quarter of the financial year. This was for the Parish Council's main account.

It had not been possible to provide a bank reconciliation for the Village Hall account as one of the bank statements was missing.

RESOLVED: That the Receipts and Payments Statement for the Parish Council's main account for the period 1 April 2019 – 30 June 2019 be received.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

80.2 Budget Monitoring Statement

The Council considered a budget monitoring statement which set out the financial position at 30 June 2019, included revised estimates for spend between 1 July 2019 and 31 March 2020 and gave an indication of the likely balance to be available on 1 April 2020.

In view of the Internal Auditor's comments which were reported to the July meeting, a budget monitoring statement would be submitted each quarter to ensure that Members were able to scrutinise the accounts throughout the year.

The statement suggested that line 84 (Boundary Signs - £3,000) be removed to ease the pressure on the accounts.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk request a quotation for the Boundary Signs to enable a decision to be taken at the meeting to be held on 4 September 2019.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

80.3 Model Financial Regulations 2019

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) had published revised Model Financial Regulations 2019 which were now enclosed.

The Council would be asked to adopt these at the September meeting. A guidance note had been provided which set out financial limits which could be changed and those which were mandatory. The Clerk would review these and produce a final copy for the September meeting.

80.4 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the Council authorise the following payments:

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

(A) Parish Council

£294.26	HMRC	Tax and employer's NI liability on Clerk's salary.
£300.00	Nicola Cooper	Photography contract
£16.00	Beardmore Accountants	Monthly payroll service.
£80.00	Craig Willetts	Website support.
£90.00	Chris Dodd	Hedge cutting alongside the allotments on Gresty Lane (£75.00 net and £15 VAT)
£21.00	Martin Andrews	Fee for fixing the bench at Goodall's Corner. Mr Andrews engaged the services of a labourer at a cost of £7 per hour, for three hours.
£22.82	B Gibbs	Village Hall on-line booking system.
£1,831.20	Northwich Town Council	Payment for grounds maintenance. (£1,526.00 net and £305.20 VAT)
£31.02	Solopress	Printing – invoice 1889529
£40.38	Solopress	Printing - Invoice 1908189
£59.52	Solopress	Printing - Invoice 1921429
£59.52	Solopress	Printing - Invoice 1921662
£53.60	Solopress	Printing associated with letters to Wybunbury residents. Invoice 2026724
£817.75	Solopress	Neighbourhood Plan printing Invoice 1983307
£198.35	C M Jones	Reimbursement for hire of skip for the allotments site, Gresty Lane
£120.00	St John Ambulance	Defibrillator awareness/training (£100.00 net and £20.00 VAT)

(B) Village Hall

£324.00	Crystal Clean	Cleaning of the Village Hall (£270.00 net and £54.00 VAT)
£576.00	DSW Painting & Decorating	Decoration of the upstairs meeting room. (£480.00 net and £96.00 VAT)
£22.70	G McIntyre	Signs for toilets in Village Hall

£72.86	ASH Waste	Fortnightly waste collection (Invoice 703052) (£60.72 net and £12.14 VAT)
£64.46	ASH Waste	Fortnightly waste collection (Invoice 714799) (£53.72 net and £10.74 VAT)
M Andrews	£8.65	Payment for fittings for plaque in Village Hall

81 BUS SERVICES

At the previous meeting, Borough Councillor David Marren presented suggestions to Members in respect of the introduction of bus services in the parish. These could not be funded by the Borough Council and it would be for the Parish Council to decide if these should be funded.

This was not a budgeted item and Members noted from the budget monitoring statement that funds in 2019-2020 left no room for flexibility.

It was suggested that this could be considered for inclusion in the budget for 2020-2021 and that prior to this, residents be consulted via the newsletter in the September or December issue.

82 WORKING GROUP REPORTS

82.1 Remembrance Sunday – 10 November 2019

The Working Group, comprising Councillors Matt Ferguson, Nicola Cooper and Kevin Gibbs had provided an update on progress on arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday Service. Councillor Kevin Gibbs was the only Group Member present at the meeting.

- A Marching Band would perform on a circuit starting at the Scout Hut, Main Road and taking in Greenfields Avenue, Barons Road, Crewe Road and back to the Village Hall from Main Road's junction with Crewe Road. This may require a 'moving road-block' to block ahead of/open up after the moving band.
- To facilitate the arrival of the Marching Band and dignitaries etc, a full road closure of Main Road between the junctions with Osborne Grove and Crewe Road should be planned for 10.40 am to 11.20 am.
- The WI had agreed to arrange refreshments after the service. Refreshments would be provided in either St Marks' Church or the Village Hall.
- Cllr Cooper would contact the Royal British Legion to seek advice for running order of the service/ Master of Ceremonies.
- The Clerk would send a letter of invitation to all community groups as listed in the list of consultees for the Neighbourhood Plan documentation.
- The Group would consider some poetry readings, possibly to include contemporary poetry as recorded in recent theatres of war (Iraq, Afghanistan etc.).
- Councillor Ferguson would contact Jim Kirkpatrick, local professional musician to ask if would play the Jim Radford song, 'Shores of Normandy'
- An Outlook group would be created to share information as planning proceeds.

The Group was asked to consider how to publicise the event emphasising that it would be an all-inclusive community event.

**82.2 Asset of Community Value – 140 Main Road, Shavington
Report of the Working Group**

The Working Group comprising Councillors Linda Buchanan, Matt Ferguson and Rene Hancock was due to report progress in respect of completion of the application form under the Community Right to Bid scheme.

Councillor Hancock was the only Group Member present at the meeting, and she reported that Borough Councillor Dorothy Flude had now advised that although reference had previously been made to 'youth hub' as an appropriate activity for the building, it was in fact a community hub.

The Youth Club was planning to ask Cheshire East Council for a 30-year lease when the current lease expired on 30 November 2019.

Borough Councillor Marren commented that Cheshire East Council would be likely to be minded to transfer the building itself to the Parish Council under the informal local service delivery arrangements.

83 ITEM REQUESTED BY COUNCILLOR LINDA BUCHANAN

Councillor Buchanan had asked the Parish Council to consider requesting Cheshire East Council to create wildlife verges throughout the parish.

Members agreed with the proposal and suggested that the corner of the slip-road onto the A500 would be an appropriate location for a wildlife meadow, or similar.

RESOLVED: That Cheshire East Council be asked to consider creating wildlife verges within the parish.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

(Note: Councillor Marren withdrew from the meeting during discussion of this item.)

84 75th ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY – 8 MAY 2020

Councillor R Hancock reported that the Festival Committee had agreed to the 75th Anniversary of VE Day in May 2020 being a joint Parish Council/Festival Committee event.

All local organisations would be invited to participate. Suggestions had included a 1940s evening on the Friday night, possibly with the SAS singers.

Councillor Hancock would be attending a meeting of the Festival Committee on 8 August 2019 and would report back to the meeting on 4 September 2019.

85 CLERK'S INFORMATION REPORT

The reported the following for information.

- The order for new signs at Vine Tree Play Area had been placed and they were expected to be installed in the next few weeks.
- Defibrillator Awareness Training.
This had been arranged for 18 September 2019 between 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm for a maximum of 40 attendees. It would be held in the Village Hall. The trainer will arrive at 6.45 pm.
- Reinstatement of seating in bus shelter at Sugar Loaf.
No update.

- Bench at Goodall's Corner. This had now been fitted.
- Lighting on School car park.
Further to the report to last month's meeting, the Clerk sent a follow-up e-mail to the school but had received an out-of-office response indicating that the school was closed until 2 September 2019.

86 VINE TREE PLAY AREA – QUOTATION FOR REPAIRS

At its meeting held on 10 July 2019, the Parish Council approved a quotation for repairs to be carried out at Vine Tree Play Area, except for that part of the quotation relating to the removal of the spikes on the palisade fencing.

Councillor Matt Ferguson, as Chairman of the Recreation Committee, was asked to enquire into the possibility of retaining the existing fence but halving it to reduce the height and to remove the spikes.

The Committee had considered this at its meeting on 24 July 2019 and recommended that the Council approve the removal of the spikes, as identified in the quotation, at a cost of £670.90 net.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Parish Council accept the quotation submitted by ACE Playgrounds in the sum of £670.90 for the removal of sharp edges on the palisade fencing at Vine Tree Play Area; and

(b) That it be noted that the totality of the work to be carried out at Vine Tree Play Area (in the sum of £3,662.55) by ACE Playgrounds, was as follows:

- Removal of sharp edges on palisade fencing.
- Grease bearings/maintenance on carousel.
- Remove rust, clean and paint multi-play unit.
- Clean and paint rocker elephant/horse.
- Replace worn handgrips on rodeo board.
- Replace worn parts and grease junior swing.
- Replace worn parts and grease toddler swing.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

87 LIGHTING IN UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM

The Council considered a quotation submitted by Mick Ascroft, Electrician for replacement lighting in the upstairs meeting room in the Village Hall.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council accept the quotation submitted by Mick Ascroft, Electrician, in the sum of £274.00 net for the fitting of four x 16-watt LED circular light fittings in the upstairs meeting room at the Village Hall.

(Note: All Members present voted for the motion.)

88 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2 October 2019

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and concluded at 9.35 pm