

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2017 AT 7.30PM
METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM

PRESENT:

Cllr Siddorns Cllr Jones (Chair) Cllr Christie Cllr Thompson
Cllr Seddon Cllr Down

Attending: Ms J Thompson, Ms J Skinner, Mr P Collins, Mr P Bradbury-Smith, Mr J Latham, Dr R Waters, Mrs H Waters, Mr Cawood, Mr J Bloor (ADAPT).
K Dixon (Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM

Jean Skinner and Jackie Thompson spoke about the parking issue in School Lane, asking whether there had been any feedback by the Cheshire East Highways engineer who had visited before Christmas. The Clerk reported that the Highways engineer, Simon Wallace, had not submitted a report as yet to the Parish Council. It was confirmed that Mr Wallace had attended at the suggestion of CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey. Ms Thompson asked whether the Parish Council would be able to do anything about alternative parking should she and the other residents of the cottages on Stafford Street be unable to park on School Lane. Cllr Jones responded that the Parish Council could not say anything as it had not yet received the engineer's report on the matter.

Mr Joseph Bloor spoke about the ADAPT's Community Woodland Group's proposal for managing the wooded area next to the playing field and his own background in community woodland management. The group has been awarded a start-up grant by the Woodland Trust to help with the purchase of tools and some additional training for some of the volunteers. He commented that the site had been very poorly managed and could be improved without compromising public access. The site is mostly populated with hazel suitable for coppicing and the clearing of debris and coppicing of the hazels would mean that the natural paths could be used again and the bio diversity of the site improved. The group is going to be working on private woodland as well. Mr Bloor did not see any possible conflict between their proposal and ongoing use of the area by children for their games or with any possible introduction of adult gym equipment. When Cllr Thompson asked about disabled access to the site, Mr Bloor responded that whilst with the improvement in management proposed, access would be improved but not to the extent to be suitable for wheelchairs as that would take more construction work.

Mr Cawood spoke about his concerns with the proposed McCarthy & Stone development on the Little Heath development site. He had concerns that the inclusion of the retirement complex would have a detrimental impact on the mixed affordability nature of the site that had been demanded by the Council. He cited the developers attempts to maximise their profits and marginalise the affordable homes to the front of the site rather than the mixed 'pepperpot' layout. He suggested that the developers were working towards reducing the number of affordable homes for families by locating them where the retirement complex was being proposed to be located so that they would be the properties sacrificed rather than higher profit properties. He voiced concerns about the 8ft boundary fence between



the suggested McCarthy & Stone complex and the neighbouring Little Heath Barns where Mr Cawood lives, the height of which their representatives were unable to explain. He also commented that he felt the 'block' design of the complex would have a negative effect on the visual entrance to the village. Cllr Jones thanked Mr Cawood for his comments. It was explained that Councillors were aware of the pre-application consultation process being undertaken by McCarthy & Stone and, once an application is submitted, the Parish Council will be looking closely at all aspects of the proposed development.

16.109 APOLOGIES - Cllrs Higham & Consterdine for family commitments and Cllrs Parsons & Johnson for personal reasons.
CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey had also sent her apologies.

16.110 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllrs Jones & Seddon reiterated their declared interests in planning application 16/0725N (see 16.113.3(i))

16.111 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2016, including the appendix of Corrections were approved and signed as a correct record.

The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 12th December 2016 were approved and signed as a true record.

16.112 MATTERS ARISING

(i) School Lane – The CE Highways engineer's report is awaited (see Public Forum)

(ii) Bus Stops – No report has been received on the Whitchurch Road site. The Clerk suggested that the Cheshire Street (Emberton Place) site be placed on the February agenda with the proposal that Councillors approach local residents for their comments before further action. This was agreed.

The Clerk was asked to request that a bus timetable be placed outside The Lord Combermere.

(iii) Pollution Survey – No further information.

(iv) Environmental Survey – Responses from AWEG and ADAPT are awaited.

(v) Mobile Phone Mast – No further information.

(vi) Emberton Place – The Clerk asked for suggestions in how to progress this matter, it was suggested emphasis was made on the health & safety of residents who could trip and suffer a fall on the badly potholed surface.

(vii) Tennis Court Access – The Clerk reported that the Tennis Club's committee have now been furnished with a copy of the lease and will be addressing is the issue of public access at this month's committee meeting.

(viii) Mobile CCTV – Cllr Seddon reported that he has been in touch with Mr Wood and will be meeting him in the next week.

16.113 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

113.1 Local Plan & ANP Local Plan: The Clerk would follow up with Ward Cllr Bailey to request a definition of what is meant by 'Work is already underway with this stage, which will focus mainly on smaller sites and settlements' in the 2nd stage of the Local Plan.

Site allocations: The Ministerial Statement regarding site allocations was considered. It was agreed that members of the Planning Working group should attend the next local



meeting of the CEC Neighbourhood Plan team to investigate procedure for site allocations as an addition to the existing ANP.

Site allocations

113.2 Pre-application Consultation by McCarthy & Stone McCarthy & Stone are to hold a public exhibition on 12 January at the Methodist Hall. Councillors had asked residents to provide them with feedback on the proposals. It was agreed that a public meeting should be arranged by the Parish Council to establish the community's views on the proposal once the planning application had been submitted.

113.3 Planning Applications

(i) **16/0725N** – Planning Committee Representation – Nothing to report.

(ii) **16/3040N** – Bird’s Nest, Audlem Road – Planning Appeal - It was agreed that the Planning Working Group should draft an objection for review by the full Council.

(iii) **16/6170N** – Green Lane House – Reserved Matters – No objection was raised.

Application Number	Address	Description	Submission Made	Decision Made
16/6170N	Green Lane House, Green Lane, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 0ES	Reserved Matters following Outline Approval	No Objection	Decision Date 15/2/2017
16/5782N	Newholme, Kettle Lane, AUDLEM, CW3 0DR	Proposed Demolition of the existing conservatory, and new two storey side extension.	No Objection	Decision Date 24/01/2017
16/4982N	Brookside, School Lane, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 0BA	Detached Garage	No objection	Decision Date 22/12/2016
16/4754N	6, MATTHEWS WAY, AUDLEM, CHESHIRE, CW3 0LT	Insert a roof light into the pitch of the kitchen roof, add a fixed gable end window.	No objection	Approved with Conditions
16/4198N	The Mount, MILL LANE, AUDLEM, CW3 0AY	Erection of single story timber garage and carport. Demolish existing garage and landscape to garden	No Objection	Awaiting Decision (21/10/16)
16/0725N	Land At, MOORSFIELD AVENUE, AUDLEM	Outline application for development for up to 87 dwellings, incorporating self-build plots, open space provision, landscaping and access	OBJECTION - document submitted	Awaiting Decision Date
16/3040N	Birds Nest, AUDLEM ROAD, AUDLEM, CW3 0HF	Proposed Housing Development on Land adjacent Birds Nest for 20 dwellings	Objection - document submitted	REFUSED - PLANNING APPEAL SUBMITTED

16.114 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

114.1 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the monthly expenditure figures and the Public Conveniences income and expenditure. Notes of the Finance Sub-committee members’ meeting with the Public Hall and Youth Club re their grant application had been circulated to Councillors.

114.2 Draft Budget

The Clerk presented the final draft of the budget following the revisions made at the Finance Committee meeting in December. It was resolved to accept this version (v4) as the budget for 2017-18.

114.3 Precept

The Clerk presented figures showing the annual payment for each band of house for the precept for the current year and next year. These showed that if the precept claimed is frozen, a small reduction will be seen by each property. If the amount paid were to be frozen, the precept provided would be £201 higher. Councillors discussed the figures and it was resolved to freeze the precept for 2017-18 at £38,280.



114.4 Pension Scheme

Councillors discussed the level of contributions to be made by the Parish Council as employer and it was agreed that contributions would be set at the intermediate level until October 2018.

114.5 Payments Made and Receipts

SO	Then Media	Web services	£	24.10
DD	extra energy	Public Conveniences	£	36.52

The above automated payments noted.

114.6 Authorisation of cheques

Resolved: the following accounts were approved for payment

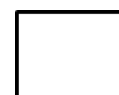
1449	K Dixon	Salaries	£	857.71
1450	G Davies	Street Cleaning	£	525.40
1451	K Dixon	office expenses	£	41.01
1452	3 Counties Cleaning	Public Conveniences	£	162.50
1453	Audlem Methodist Church	Room Hire	£	95.00
1454	J Gleave	teenshelter relocation	£	100.00
1455	D Jones	teenshelter relocation	£	65.00
1456	Blitz Fireworks	New Year Fireworks	£	1,380.00
1457	Hodkinson Mallinson Ltd	Buttermarket Survey	£	240.00
1458	ChALC	Planning Services	£	77.89
1459	PHS	Public Conveniences	£	141.34
1460	Audlem Public Hall	Room Hire	£	20.00
1557	Frodsham Town Council	Training	£	150.00
1558	Audlem Printers	Office Supplies	£	12.00
1559	Oxleys	Memorial plaque	£	170.00
1560	HMRC	PAYE Tax & NIC	£	184.59

16.115 PLAYING FIELD COMPLEX

The Clerk reported that Martyn Measures had agreed to be the Parish Council's legal representative and had examined the draft Heads of Terms supplied by CEC. He found no reason not to proceed and Councillors agreed that the Clerk should advise Lee Beckett of CEC accordingly. It was agreed that the creation of a Working Group for the process be decided at the February meeting. Cllr Siddorns asked that ANSA's commitment to repair the pitch at the end of the football season be confirmed in writing prior to the completion of the lease. The Clerk also reported that the shed next to the tennis courts and club house belongs to Audlem Saints, the children's football group and was erected around 6 years ago with the permission of Cheshire East Council.

16.116 POST OFFICE

Cllr Jones reported that Michael Hogg of Royal Mail had still not responded to any correspondence since August. The Clerk was requested to write again raising the issue of parcel collection from Nantwich instead of Crewe with a copy to the CEO of Royal Mail. The Clerk reported that that afternoon Antoinette Sandbach had sent a copy of the response she had received from Margot James MP, Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility, which was read out to the meeting and did not provide any new information. 5 councillors are to attend the meeting with Richard Hall and Denise Nutbrown of Post Office Ltd on 17th January.



16.117 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**117.1 Councillor Vacancies**

Cllr Mike Hill and Cllr Pam Seddon have both stepped down. Letters had been sent thanking them for their contribution to the community. It was resolved to commence the statutory process regarding filling the two vacancies.

117.2 Planning Training

Cllr Jones reminded Councillors of the forthcoming devolved services training in Frodsham on 12 January and 1st February and asked that Councillors provide dates on which they would be able to attend training on planning with fellow Parish Councillors from Tattenhall.

117.3 Village Meeting

With the idea of a rural themed meeting, Councillors discussed inviting ADAPT's Community Woodland Group and AWEK as well as the Police and the Parish Paths Group.

117.4 New Year Fireworks

Due to the low numbers of Councillors present, it was agreed to place this on the agenda for next month's meeting.

117.5 Tender process for Longhill Moss

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should contact Barbers to discuss the process required.

16.118 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Incident in Bagley Lane – Cllr Siddorns spoke about an incident between a dog walker and a car between the Coxbank junction and the canal, in which the pedestrian was struck by the vehicle. Cllr Siddorns outlined the various issues of Bagley Lane but stated that he didn't know what solution could be offered in the particular stretch involved due to its narrow nature. He suggested that a letter be written to CE Highways and the Police highlighting local concern that Longhill Lane, Bagley Lane and Kettle Lane are being used as a rat run with drivers travelling at excessive speeds considering the narrowness of the roads, lack of footpaths and poor visibility. He also commented that using SIDs to gather information about traffic on these roads may be of use.

(ii) C&RT Lock 13 Open Day & Green Flag meeting - These are to be held on Saturday 21st and Tuesday 17th January respectively. , Cllr Jones will attend the Green Flag meeting as Cllr Higham is unable to.

(iii) Neighbourhood Planning Awards – Cllr Seddon had looked into this and it is not relevant to Audlem.

(iv) N W Air Ambulance Charity – to be placed on next month's agenda.

(v) ChALC – nominations for Tea Parties at Buckingham Palace. It was agreed to speak to Mike Hill to see if he would like his name to go forward.

16.119 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY - To receive reports on actions required.**119.1 Highways & Transportation**

Cllr Siddorns reported that he had written to CE Highways about the pothole on the A529 between Hankelow and Hatherton but no action had been taken within the 24 hour response timeframe. He voiced concern about the lack of action to resolve serious ongoing issue on the A529 despite the safety review of the road being first mention at the former Highways LAP meetings some 4 years ago. It was agreed that the Highways group should arrange to meet to discuss this and other pertinent matters.

The subsidence on Cheshire Street close to the junction with Daisybank Crescent was raised. The Clerk reported that United Utilities had inspected the pipework in the area and there were no leaks. Cllr Siddorns suggested that CE Highways be reminded again of the issue as



previously it was due to running sand beneath the pavement. The Clerk reported that CE Highways had carried out an inspection of Bagley Lane and would be attending to the choked ditches and blocked gullies and addressing the issue with the relevant landowners where appropriate.

119.2 Community

(i) APHAX – No report

119.3 Youth & Education – No report

119.4 Law & Order – No report

119.5 Local Tourism & Business

(i) Tourism Group – No report

119.6 Heritage & Localism – No report

119.7 Wildlife & Ecology – No report

119.8 Health – No report

119.9 Communications – No report

119.10 Access & Inclusion – No report

119.11 Devolved Services – see 16.115

119.12 ADAPT

Wooded area proposal – see Public Forum.

119.13 Commons & Greens

119.14 Street Lighting

16.120 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

16.121 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

New Year Fireworks

Councillor Vacancies

NW Air Ambulance Charity

Emberton Place Bus Stop Bench – Residents' Survey

16.122 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2017

CHAIRMAN _____

Date _____

