



AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Belen Lopez Bloor
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MEETING OF AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

Monday 5th November 2018 at 7.30pm
Methodist Meeting Rooms, Shropshire Street

PRESENT

Cllr Geoff Seddon (Chairman), Cllr David Higham, Cllr David Siddorns, Cllr Tim Lawton, Cllr Steve Boyes, Cllr Frances Mary Christie, Cllr Lynette Hopkins and Cllr Nigel Mottershead and Ward Cllr Rachel Bailey.

In attendance: Clerk - Mrs Belen (Bee) Lopez Bloor.

18.91 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Kate Down.

18.92 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None received.

18.93 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Cllr Seddon proposed Mrs Lorna Matthews be co-opted as a Councillor. Cllr Hopkins seconded. 9 Councillors in favour, one abstention.

Resolved: That Lorna Matthews be co-opted as Councillor.

18.94 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Cllr Lawton pointed out that the Clerk had omitted his attendance from the minutes of the last meeting and this needed to be noted. Cllr Christie proposed to confirm the minutes of 1st October 2018 subject to this amendment, Cllr Higham seconded. All Councillors were in favour.

Resolved: that the minutes be confirmed as a true and correct record.

18.95 MATTERS ARISING

18.95.1 Best Kept Village Awards Result 1st November.

Audlem came 5th out of 7 villages and did not win any awards this year. Audlem scored “good” and “very good” across all categories but the judges pointed out that the telephone box was dusty, the noticeboards were disappointing as there was no information about village activities and there was a small amount of litter by the canal noticeboard.

Action: Clerk to circulate the score sheet and notes to all the Councillors and ADAS.

18.95.2 Maintenance of the Churchfields Conservation area & Cox Bank Well.

This work has been completed satisfactorily. No further action required.

18.95.3 Central White Lines on Cheshire Street.

This issue was logged with Cheshire East Council (CEC) Highways on 10th August as the central hatching between Broadways and the Scout and Guide Hall was not reinstated following the carriageway resurfacing. The Clerk has involved the Local Highways Officer to help progress the ticket which is with CEC’s delivery team and has still not been completed.

Action: Clerk to keep chasing until the matter is resolved.

18.95.4 Highways issue – Heathfield Road and general pedestrian crossings in the village.

The Highways Working Group conducted a site visit with the school headteacher who agreed there were serious safety issues. Following this meeting, letters were sent to a highways officer at CEC and to Ward Councillor Rachel Bailey.

Cllr Hopkins voiced concerns for the safety of children and the elderly crossing the street especially in light of the new influx from the Anwyl Development which is causing havoc with traffic in area. Cllr Siddorns stated that CEC should act immediately instead of waiting until a child has been seriously injured or killed.

Cllr Seddon suggested the possibility of pedestrian crossing near the main car park and Cllr Boyes requested a senior officer investigate the matter. The latter also commented that the purchase of Turnpike Field might change the situation with parking and that the Local Plan has made further housing allocations which will also bring changes.

Ward Cllr Bailey stated she is not resistant to safety in the village and had previously had a meeting with strategic highways to consider the matter. She had walked the village looking at where a pedestrian crossing could be instated but the lack of good visibility to avoid a false premise of safety was a challenge. She suggested that the approach to this matter needs to be holistic and would also need to include looking at car parking provision which may reduce on street parking and improve visibility of crossing.

She advised that the minor highways group meets bi-annually to look at funding and that Audlem Parish Council should again put the case forward to the Local Highways Officer.

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting between the Highways working group and CEC's local highways officer.

18.96 HOUSING (Planning/Heritage & Conservation)

18.96.1 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To consider the following: -

Planning reference	Main location	Development description	Action	Decision
18/5019N	BANK HOUSE, BUNSLEY BANK, AUDLEM, CW3 0HS	Two storey rear and side extension and front porch	To discuss & resolve	Date Registered 08/10/2018 Last Date For Submitting Comments 07/11/2018 Decision Target Date 03/12/2018
18/4803D	Land off Audlem Road, Audlem for Retirement Homes	Discharge of conditions 5, 7 & 8 of existing permission 17/0339N; Erection of retirement living housing (category II type accommodation), communal facilities, landscaping and car parking.	FOR INFORMATION ONLY AS COMMENTS ALREADY SUBMITTED 29/10/2018	Registered 25/09/2018, comments submitted 29/10/2018, decision 20/11/2018
18/5254N	OVER THE WATER, DAISY BANK CRESCENT, AUDLEM, CREWE, CHESHIRE, CW3 0HD	Car Port	To discuss & resolve	Date Registered 18/10/2018 Last Date For Submitting Comments 14/11/2018 Decision Target Date 13/12/2018
18/4830N	THE OLD BAKEHOUSE, VICARAGE LANE, AUDLEM, CW3 0AB	Two bedroom cottage dormer style dwelling	To discuss & resolve	Date Registered 17/10/2018 Last Date For Submitting Comments 21/11/2018 Decision Target Date 12/12/2018
18/3869N	Spring Cottage, 48 Heathfield Road, Audlem, CW3 0HH	Proposed rear single storey extension to existing bungalow to create lounge and living area. Includes removal of flat roof to create a pitched roof to match the existing roof.	None	Approved with conditions on 27/09/2018
18/4466N	SOUTH VIEW COTTAGE, HARDYS LANE, COX BANK, CREWE, CHESHIRE, CW3 0EU	Single storey extension to form garden room	None	Approved with conditions 10/10/2018
18/3994N	18, STAFFORD STREET, AUDLEM, CW3 0AP	Conversion of ex old post office and two residential units into 3 residential units	Comments submitted, awaiting decision	Comments submitted by email & letter 09/09/2018, Decision Target Date 02/10/2018
18/3546N	Sandy Lane Farm,	Formation of New	Comments	Comments submitted by email & letter

	Sandy Lane, Audlem, CW3 0BF	Agricultural/Agricultural Contractors Access Route from existing yard to Paddock Lane	submitted, awaiting decision	13/08/2018, Decision Target Date 31/10/2018
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18/5019N Bank House, Bunsley Bank

The Parish Council's comments have been submitted.

18/5254N Over the Water, Daisy Bank Crescent

The Parish Council had no objections. Cllr FM Christie proposed the Parish Council inform CEC of 'No objection' to the application, Cllr Mottershead seconded. 9 Councillors in favour, one abstention.

Resolved: Clerk to inform CEC of the Parish Council's comment.

18/5415N 1, COPTHORNE DRIVE, AUDLEM,

This application was received on 31st October after agenda issued. Cllr Hopkins stated it would probably look better than before and makes complete sense what they wish to do. All Councillors agreed. Cllr Hopkins proposed the Parish Council inform CEC of 'No objection' to the application, Cllr Boyes seconded. 9 Councillors in favour, one abstention.

Resolved: Clerk to inform CEC of the Parish Council's comment.

18/5481N AUDLEM METHODIST CHURCH, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM,

This planning application was received today 5th November. Cllr Christie stated that the T4 Cedar tree was being removed despite it being healthy. Cllr Boyes commented that there was no objection in principle subject to the tree officer being satisfied and there being no adverse comments from neighbours. Cllr Boyes proposed to inform CEC of this, Cllr Hopkins seconded. All Councillors in favour.

Resolved: Clerk to write to CEC to ask that the Landscape Officer looks at the application.

18/4830N THE OLD BAKEHOUSE, VICARAGE LANE, AUDLEM, CW3 0AB

Cllr Boyes was unsure if a CEC Conservation Officer had been consulted and suggested the Planning working group arrange a site visit.

Action: Planning working group to visit and provide the Clerk with comments for submission to the planning officer.

18/3564N Sandy Lane Farm, SANDY LANE, AUDLEM, CW3 0BF

Councillors have no further comment about the amended plan showing that a tree will not be felled.

18/4858N Land Off, AUDLEM ROAD, HANKELOW

Councillors commented that the effect on the school could be positive, but it would most certainly have a negative on Audlem's medical practice and parking. Cllr Seddon stated that he had spoken to the Chair of Hankelow Parish Council who was pleased that the Parish Council should write in support of Hankelow Parish Council and stating the major negative impact on parking and services in Audlem as the local service centre. He also stated we should be requesting Section 106 contributions if it goes ahead.

Ward Cllr Bailey asked Councillors to look at the history of the site, stating that four planning applications have previously been made on this site and it has been successfully defended at appeal as it is providing rural affordable housing.

Cllr Siddons warned that the septic tanks will not be effective as too many homes are being constructed further down near the river which could pollute the river's water. Ward Cllr Bailey responded United Utilities will have been a consultee on the site's infrastructure.

Cllr Boyes commented that so much development in Hankelow is negatively impacting Audlem and the planning statement should be looked at.

Action: Cllr Seddon to provide comments to Clerk and Cllr Boyes to check planning statement.

Clerk to email CEC's planning officer informing them that comments will be submitted by the end of the week.

Ward Cllr Bailey left the meeting at 8.34pm.

18.96.2 Government consultation on shale gas exploration (fracking).

APC wrote to our MP Antoinette Sandbach stating that the Councillors were strongly against the Government circumventing the democratic planning process to make exploratory shale gas well pads a Permitted Development Right which would obviate the requirement for planning permission. Also, that we strongly disagreed that shale gas production should be part of the National Strategic Infrastructure Project regime which would remove planning applications from local control at council level to a central government departmental inspectorate, leading to the compulsory acquisition of land. Our MP sent our letter to Michael Gove as well as the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and also the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Govt. It falls under the latter, so we are awaiting a response from CLG Customer Liaison unit.

18.96.3 Cheshire East Local Plan Part 2 - consultations 11 September - 22 October.

Cllr Boyes attended the meeting and submitted the Parish Council's comments. He explained there are two sites in the village to supply approximately 40 houses until 2030. He also stated that there are some issues with these two sites including the proposed footpath across Little Heath Green which the Parish Council has already objected to. The Parish Council supports the revision of the settlement boundary and the reconfiguration of the retail area.

18.96.4 Cheshire East Council Community Infrastructure Levy Schedule Examination update regarding v2 draft Programme.

Awaiting the findings of the Inspector.

18.96.5 Cheshire East £2m New Homes Bonus Community Fund.

Cllr Higham reported that various Parish Councils are submitting requests for grants before the deadline of 31st December. Today Audlem's ADAPT had met with Canal and Rivers Trust (CRT) to discuss the canal towpath/Coole Lane project and work on a grant application. CRT are leading this and have asked Councillors for a letter in support of the project.

Action: Cllr Higham to draft a letter for the Clerk to submit.

Councillors commented that the Turnpike Field Working Group (TFWG) should also submit a proposal asking Buerton, Hankelow, Hatherton, etc for their support as Audlem is the local service centre and is improving services for the wider community.

Cllr Higham formally proposed TFWG submit an application requesting funding for first phase of the car park project to cover costs of feasibility studies, planning report, etc and then request further funding next year to develop it.

Action: TFWG to liaise with local Parish Councils to pull together information to submit the grant application.

18.96.6 Kynsal Villa Appeal.

Cllr Seddon informed the Parish Council that the Appellant has submitted revised visibility plans which now are acceptable to CEC. The Clerk has already submitted comments to the Planning Inspectorate, to incorporate the Parish Council's position on the original application.

18.97 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

18.97.1 2nd Quarter Bank Reconciliation.

The financial spreadsheet still shows a minor discrepancy. Cllr Higham is to meet with with Cllr Seddon to review it again.

Action: Cllr Higham to report back to the Parish Council in December.

18.97.2 Finance Report – to receive the Finance Report.

The report was received.

18.97.3 Authorisation of cheques – to agree the accounts for payment.

1857	Gavin Davies	Salaries - Street Cleaning		408.94
1858	Belen Lopez Bloor	Salaries		595.39
1859	Belen Lopez Bloor	Office Expenses	Mileage to SLCC conference, printer toners, stamps	58.00
1860	JCA Ltd	Turnpike Field	Tree surveys for Turnpike Field	1,282.12
22000	Belen Lopez Bloor	Community Expenditure	Donation for Poppy Wreath from British Legion for Remembrance Day	50.00
22001	SM Potter	Public conveniences	Repairs to the toilets	20.73

22002	Audlem Methodist Church	Room hire	45.00
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Cllr Higham proposed to authorise the payments and receipts listed, Cllr Lawton seconded. All Councillors were in favour.

Resolved: that the payments are made.

18.97.4 Scheduled payments – to approve the scheduled payments.

SO	ThenMedia Ltd	Public Info Display Screens	£24.10
SO	Shires Pay Services Limited	Payroll Services	£20.00
DD	NEST	Pension Contributions	£55.66
DD	NPower	Electricity	£74.00
DD	WaterPlus		£81.56

Cllr Seddon proposed to accept the scheduled payments, Cllr Mottershead seconded. All Councillors were in favour.

Resolved: that the payments are made.

18.97.5 Receipts – to minute the receipts.

02/10/2018	Honesty Box	£74.00
02/10/2018	Bank interest	£36.58

Cllr Seddon explained that current cash in hand for the public conveniences was approximately £25.00. This breakdown of monthly monies is provided to the Financial Sub Committee.

18.98 TURNPIKE FIELD (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS LAND AT GREEN LANE)

18.98.1 General update on the field.

A further meeting has been arranged for 8th November.

18.98.1.a Temporary pedestrian gate.

This was installed two weeks ago.

18.98.1.b Tree survey.

The survey was circulated by the Clerk to all Councillors. The Councillors discussed that there will be costs involved in making the trees safe but the work will need doing.

18.98.1.c Himalayan Balsam.

This is currently being investigated.

18.98.1.d Working Group Terms of Reference.

These were circulated to all the Councillors.

Cllr Siddorns commented that the group membership does not adhere to the point which states “All members of the Working Group must be residents in the village, eligible to vote (unless representing the U18 age group) and are approved by the Parish Council.”

Cllr Seddon says the Parish Council must accept the reality that people outside the village are on the working group. Cllr Hopkins suggested changing the wording to say “be residents or have a pecuniary interest in the village.”

Cllr Higham proposed accepting the change in wording, Cllr Mottershead seconded. Seven Councillors in favour, three abstentions.

Resolved: that the wording be changed to say members must be residents or have a pecuniary interest in the village.

Cllr Mottershead proposed to resolve to accept the Terms of Reference with this amendment, Cllr Higham seconded. Eight Councillors in favour, two abstentions.

Action: Cllr Boyes to amend the Terms of Reference and circulate these. Clerk to add these to the policies section on the Audlem Online website.

Cllr Siddorns also stated an admin budget is required to ensure the working group operate within budgetary constraints as advised by the full Parish Council. Cllr Boyes confirmed any expenditure would be subject to approval by the Parish Council as covered by clauses in Financial Regulations.

18.98.1.e Music and Arts Festival use of the field.

Cllr Hopkins declared a pecuniary interest as family member on Music & Arts Festival committee.

Cllr Seddon proposed the Parish Council grant permission for this use subject to them completing the request form and providing a public liability insurance certificate. Cllr Higham seconded. All Councillors in favour.

Action: Clerk to draft a new request form for groups to complete when requesting using the field.

Cllr Siddons mentioned the need to prevent dog fouling on the field.

Action: Clerk is to purchase a sign asking dog owners to pick up after their dogs and have this sign erected soon.

18.99 PLAYING FIELD COMPLEX – UPDATE

Hibberts Solicitors have apologised but they have not had a chance to look at this. No further update at present.

Action: Cllr Seddon to report back in December.

18.100 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

18.100.1 To resolve to advertise Councillor vacancies to replace Cllrs Suzie Warren and Jenny Carlin following their resignations.

Cllr Seddon proposed the Parish Council advertise the vacancies. Cllr Mottershead seconded. All in favour.

Action: that the Clerk advertise the vacancies.

18.100.2 Waste bins for Lengthsman.

For information only - Waste bins at the medical practice and have been moved to the back of the fire station as a temporary measure.

18.100.3 Best Kept Village Awards Result 1st November.

Please refer to Matters Arising 18.95.1 above.

18.100.4 Goodwill £50 voucher for The Lord Combermere for Jennifer Cope to thank her for producing the Newsletter.

Cllr Seddon proposed that this is paid from the Chairman's Allowance, Cllr Christie seconded. All Councillors in favour.

Action: Clerk to arrange for this to be sent to Jennifer Cope.

18.100.5 Cheshire East New Code of Conduct - To formally resolve to continue to operate under Cheshire East Council's pre-2018 code of conduct for the time being until the new code of conduct becomes available and the Clerk can circulate this.

Cllr Seddon proposed to continue as suggested, Cllr Higham seconded. All Councillors in favour.

Resolved: that Audlem Parish Council continue to operate under the current code of conduct.

18.101 CORRESPONDENCE

18.101.1 Audlem/ Working in partnership with The Salvation Army recycling clothes bank.

Cllr Higham commented that Audlem has its own charity shop and this would be counterproductive. Cllr Hopkins also stated that the Parish Council should not dictate to residents which charity they should donate to.

Action: Cllr Higham will discuss this matter with the Charity Shop.

18.101.2 Crane at The Wharf.

Canal and River Trust are responsible for this.

Action: Cllr Higham to raise this matter at their meeting this week and report back to the Parish Council in December.

18.101.3 Sightings of suspected Asian or Japanese hornet.

The hornets turned out to be European hornets which have been more prolific this year.

Action: Clerk to pen an article for Audlem Online informing residents the hornets are not Japanese.

Other correspondence received after the agenda was issued:

18.101.4 Property along Bagley Lane called Bradwood

This property has been used as a smallholding with many different types of poultry and animals. The owner has put up several sheds close to the side of the road and has now left the property

empty. The land is a mess and local residents have complained to Councillors about rats being present and also queried the proximity of the buildings to the road, as no planning permission has been sought. No one seems to know the whereabouts of the owner or why it's been left empty. Councillors decided CEC should inspect the property.

Action: Clerk to ask the Police to check the property, write to Planning Enforcement in relation to the shed at the side of the road and also Environmental Health regarding the rats present.

18.101.5 ADAS

ADAS has won the gold award for the Best Large Village in the Britain in Bloom competition. Councillors were delighted and wanted to express their gratitude for their effort and dedication.

Action: Clerk to write to ADAS congratulating them.

18.101.6 Blocked drains in the village

Councillors Lawton and Hopkins have received complaints regarding the blocked drains throughout the village, particularly by the bridge. On inspection some of them appear to have been blocked for some time and it is difficult to see there is a drain there at all in some instances. The water from the drain at Whitchurch Road comes down the hill and pours down the road. The drain at Damson Lane and Cox Bank is completely blocked and has been reported many times but needs a small vehicle for access to fix it. The Clerk has reported this matter to CEC Highways and also to the Highways Officer as a matter of urgency who has advised that a gully technician will investigate and arrange a programme of ad-hoc jetting.

18.101.7 Parking problems

There are parking problems at Kingbur Place and also outside the Methodist Church double yellow lines.

Action: The Councillors agreed a plan of action that the Clerk write to Warburton's Bakeries with photo evidence asking their drivers to stop parking across the entrance and also write to the Co-Op to ask them to speak to all their delivery drivers. She will also request an on-site meeting between Cheshire East Highways and the Councillors on the Highways Group to discuss this problem.

18.101.8 Parking time restrictions

The Parish Council have received complaints regarding both traders and residents ignoring parking restrictions on both Shropshire Street and Cheshire Street. Parking here is limited to a maximum stay of an hour between 8am — 6pm with no return within 2 hours. However, it has been noted that some people park their vehicles there all day. The Clerk had already arranged for the hanging basket obscuring the parking restriction sign to be moved. A parking warden from Cheshire East Council has visited the area this week and will be making regular visits from now on.

Action: Clerk to write to complainants and to traders. Also to pen an article for residents to read on Audlem Online.

18.101.9 Cheshire Fire Authority Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2019/2020

Received and reported to the Parish Council.

18.102 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

18.102.1 To receive reports from the Working Groups and Sub Committee.

18.102.1.a Parked bikes against the wall outside Lord Combermere.
Bike racks at the Deli.

Action: Clerk is checking with CEC if planning permission is required and if it was sought.

18.102.1.b Cllr Christie reported unfortunately ADCA did not receive this year's core funding of £7,500 from Cheshire East Council. This year competitive bidding for funding disadvantaged small charities like ADCA and funding has instead been awarded to a large Cheshire based organisation. ADCA is now legally challenging the process of tendering in this manner with Cheshire East Council's legal department. Staff at ADCA have volunteered to cut hours for the service by 8 hours a week. In 3 months' time there will be other funding opportunities they hope to apply for which may raise funds for them.

18.102.1.c Cllr Christie also reported that three sessions normally held at the Medical Practice are being moved to Wrenbury Medical Centre whilst the extension is being built. Parish Councillors were concerned that pregnant ladies, mothers and babies are having to travel to Wrenbury during the winter months when a perfectly good facility is sitting across the car park from the Medical Practice. It appears that when enquiries were made by the Medical Practice before the Annexe opened about the feasibility of holding the sessions there, they were told that there would be a charge. For this reason no one has approached

the Public Hall Committee (PHC) about using the Annexe to hold these sessions on a temporary basis whilst the building work is ongoing. At Wrenbury there is no charge. Parish Councillors feel that, as a £20,000 donation raised via the precept was given to the PHC for the Annexe, the PHC could 'repay' the community by providing space for these sessions free of charge whilst the extension is being built.

Action: Cllr Christie to circulate notes to all Councillors on PPG matters. Cllr Seddon to write to Annexe Management to resolve the room booking matter.

18.102.2 To appoint Councillors to Working Groups.

Cllr Matthews to choose working groups she wishes to join and inform the Clerk.

18.103 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None received.

18.104 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on **MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER** in the Methodist Rooms.

Cllr Seddon declared the meeting closed 22.10pm.