

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM

METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM

PRESENT:

Cllr Siddorns	Cllr Jones (Chair)	Cllr Christie	Cllr Thompson
Cllr G Seddon	Cllr Hill	Cllr P Seddon	Cllr Parsons
Cllr Consterdine	Cllr Down	Cllr Higham	Cllr Johnson

Attending: Mr A Jones (AOL), Mr J Tilling, Mr R Hall, Mr N MacGowan, Ms J Hart, Ms P Butler, Mr R Furber.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr N MacGowan spoke about unsafe driving on the length of Longhill Lane. As the lane also goes through Hankelow and Buerton, residents were asking all three councils to raise their concerns with both the Ward Councillor and Cheshire East Council Highways Road Safety Officer. The road is very narrow in parts and has high hedges and inconsiderate driving makes it dangerous for residents, dog walkers and cyclists. Cllr Higham suggested that residents use the Hankelow speed monitor to get further data. Mr MacGowan was also advised to look at CEC's newly issued Speed Strategy document. Cllr Siddorns stated that the residents' concern would also be brought up at the next Police Cluster Meeting. He urged Mr MacGowan to talk to both Hankelow and Buerton PCs to ask that a representative to go to these meetings. Parish Councillors agreed to write to the Ward Councillor and Chris Shields at CEC Highways.

16.77 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs K Dixon (Clerk)

16.78 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllrs Jones, P Seddon, Parsons & G Seddon all reconfirmed their interest in 16.81.2 (iv). Cllr Parsons declared an interest in 18.81.2 (i)

16.79 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 3rd October 2016 were accepted as a correct record and Councillors resolved to confirm the resolutions therein.

16.80 MATTERS ARISING

(i) School Lane parking – Letter sent to CEC Highways, awaiting reply.

(ii) Bus Shelter on Whitchurch Road – CEC to carry out a site visit and report back on feasibility.

(iii) Pollution Survey in village centre – This is ongoing.

(iv) Environmental Survey – Cheshire Wildlife Trust hope to have this completed by the end of November. Discussion about Longhill Moss followed. It was agreed that Reaseheath College should be contacted to see if they wanted to use the Moss as a study area, but that no active management of the site should take place.



(v) The Teen Shelter has now been moved away from the Public Hall Annexe area. The Chair thanked Cllrs Hill and Consterdine for their efforts in organizing this and Jonathan Gleave and Dylan Jones for undertaking the work.

(vi) The Fire Service have responded to say that they are broadly in favour of a mast on the Fire Station. The Clerk is following this up with the relevant Fire Service departments. It is not anticipated that there will be any impact on the Conservation Area as the mast is very small.

(vii) Work on the Buttermarket has begun and will be completed before the Big Switch On.

16.81 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

81.1 Local Plan & Planning Appeals

Cllr Rachel Bailey sent a report which gave an update of the Cheshire East Local Plan. The Inquiry had finished in October and CEC is awaiting a short report back from the Inspector before Christmas. The Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Bailey to ask for clarification on the description of a 'small site'.

81.2 Planning Applications

(i) Cllr G Seddon gave a report of CEC's Strategic Planning Board's meeting when application 16/1131 Land at Little Heath – Reserved Matters was discussed and approved. As a result, a letter has been sent to Mr D Malcolm in connection with approval being given for houses whose floor area is smaller than the minimum national standards. No reply has been received yet.

(ii) The applications 16/4754N and 16/5351 were discussed and Councillors resolved to raise no objection to either.

(iii) The Clerk had received a letter from McCarthy & Stone asking for a pre-consultation meeting for land in which they had an interest in Audlem Road. Councillors requested the Clerk verify that this was Audlem Road, Audlem (ie the Little Heath site which has just gone through Reserved Matters) and not Audlem Road, Stapeley which has recently been given Planning Permission.

(i) 16/4754N	6 MATTHEWS WAY AUDLEM, CW3 0LT	Inset a roof light into the pitch of the kitchen roof and add a fixed gable end window	No objection	
(ii) 16/5351	EAST VIEW, MONKS LANE AUDLEM CW3 0HP	Remove existing frames and roof from conservatory and build larger atrium style conservatory to rear of property	No objection	
16/4536N	36, WINDMILL DRIVE, AUDLEM, CW3 0BE	Erection of a single storey glazed canopy	No objection	Awaiting Decision
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
16/1131N	Land at Little Heath, Audlem Road, Audlem CW3 0HE	Reserved Matters - APPEARANCE, LANDSCAPING, LAYOUT AND SCALE OF OUTLINE PERMISSION FOR UP TO 120 DWELLINGS	Objections - document submitted	Decision Date 19/10/16



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	Decision Date 19/10/16
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16.82 FINANCIAL MATTERS

82.1 Finance Report

The half year bank reconciliation was presented together with the financial statement as at 7th November. Cllr Consterdine suggested that, as there is a large balance because of the delay in taking on the playing field, consideration should be given to identifying some projects to be undertaken. There was some discussion as to how best to identify community suggestions for future projects which will be continued at the December budget meeting. In response to recent problems with the public conveniences it was recommended that Dynarod be called in. Cllr Hill felt this was unnecessary; he and Cllr Consterdine will monitor the situation and report back to the next meeting.

82.2 Payments Made

3 Counties Cleaning	Public Conveniences	£	169.00
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Resolved: the above account was paid in accordance with 16.68.3

82.3 Authorisation of cheques

Resolved: the following accounts were approved for payment

1546	K Dixon	Public Conveniences	£	48.00
1547	K Dixon	salaries	£	501.10
1548	G Davies	street cleaning	£	338.40
1549	K Dixon	Office Expenses	£	11.14
1550	3 Counties Cleaning	Public Conveniences	£	169.00
1551	K Dixon	Public Conveniences	£	48.00
1552	H Jones	Cllr Expenses	£	46.30
1553	Then Media	PID	£	144.00
1554	Delmar Press	Newsletter	£	284.00
1555	ChALC	Training	£	60.00
1556	PHS Group	Public Conveniences	£	141.34

16.83 PLAYING FIELD COMPLEX

Discussion took place about which areas should be covered. The Clerk was asked to write to CEC to confirm that the wooded area between the football pitch and the Shroppie Fly is included. Following this, it was unanimously resolved to enter a 99-year lease with Cheshire East Council and, in conjunction with Fields in Trust, for the Play Area, the Playing Field and associated green space. It was also unanimously resolved not to enter the option of a 30-year lease with Cheshire East Council for Audlem's Public Car Park. The Clerk was asked to write to CEC to confirm these decisions. The Clerk was also asked to query the apparent high costs of their estimate for advertising. Some concern was expressed about ensuring the continued access from the car park to the Medical Practice and the Public Hall as well as the playing field area. It was agreed that a meeting would need to be set up with CEC to go through the detail of their proposal. It was also agreed that we would need to engage the services of a solicitor.



Cllr Jones confirmed that a Working Group would meet on 14 November to discuss the recent statement about the process of acquiring the Playing Field Complex and the outcome of the review undertaken by Cllrs Parsons and Thompson.

16.84 POST OFFICE

The ongoing lack of a Post Office in the village was discussed. Letters have been sent to Post Office Ltd (POL) complaining about the lack of progress and a resident has raised this with OFCOM. The Clerk has asked our MP to strongly request that POL's Field Manager meet Parish Councillors to get a temporary post office in place as soon as possible. A letter of complaint has also been sent to POL by our Ward Councillor/the Leader of Cheshire East Council. Cllr Jones stated that a further letter was about to be sent to POL with copies to media outlets, our MP and CEC's Community Portfolio Holder. Concern was also expressed about the negative effect on footfall that the closure of the Post Office combined with the recent closure of the main roads into the village. Cllr Consterdine stated that Wybunbury PO was to close after Christmas and he had heard that Nantwich PO is under threat.

16.85 A529 REVIEW AND 20MPH PROJECT

Cllr Jones referred to the list of issues on the A529 to be raised with CEC Highways. It was agreed to add the poor level of maintenance at Hatherton bends with potholes and water leaks. Cllr Jones stated that, as far as she knew, the meeting with CEC Highways and ADAPT was still going ahead on 17th November.

16.86 PARISH PATHS

Cllr Jones reported on the meeting held on 20th October, the minutes of which have already been sent out. She has also managed to obtain a map of Audlem and surrounding areas dated 1948 which clearly shows public footpaths in the area. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for 20th January 2017.

16.87 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

87.1 Date of Finance Meeting

The meeting is to be Monday 12th December. The venue is yet to be determined.

87.2 Meeting dates for 2017

The Clerk had previously circulated a list of dates for Parish Council meetings, the Village Meeting and the Finance Meeting for 2017. It was agreed to amend the July meeting to the second Monday (10th) and to consider the Village Meeting date nearer the time. All other dates were agreed.

87.3 Longhill Moss

See 16.96 (iv) above.

16.88 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Information had been received from Mr J Richardson advising that there is a problem with the path at the rear of the apartments in Kingbur Place which leads to the back of the Coop. If the path becomes unusable, it may mean that delivery vehicles would have to unload at the front of the shop, thereby potentially causing traffic problems.

(ii) ADAS have written to say that they will not be able to contribute to the New Year fireworks. Cllr Consterdine reported that ASET would not be able to contribute either. It was agreed to urgently pursue the status of the order with ASET and take appropriate



action. It was agreed to discuss the issue of community and Council funding of village events at the Budget meeting.

(iii) CEC have advised that they are proposing to increase Council Tax by 3.99% in 2017/18.

(iv) A letter has been received from Christine and Peter Silvester in response to the Clerk's letter congratulating them on the Historic Boats Festival, pointing out that that this was done with no external funding. They also stated that the 2017 event would take place on 29th/30th July.

(v) The CEC Town and Parish Council conference is to be held on 28 November in Macclesfield from 18.30 to 20.30. Councillors were asked to notify the Clerk if they were able to attend.

16.89 EMBERTON PLACE

Cheshire East Council and Wulvern Housing both deny responsibility for Emberton Place road, stating it is not adopted by the Local Authority. The Clerk was asked to again raise the issue of the dangerous potholes for the elderly residents of Emberton Place and request urgent action on H&S grounds. The Clerk will also request CEC check their records to ensure that the road is shown as adopted, as it was historically managed by CNBC.

16.90 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY - To receive reports on actions required.

90.1 Highways & Transportation –

CEC have written to six residents in connection with overgrown hedges encroaching on footpaths. It was agreed that the Clerk should put out information on Audlem OnLine about the need to keep hedges cut and for farmers to remove mud from roads. If CEC had to undertake the work the landowner would be re-charged.

Cllr Siddorns referred to a LAP meeting that had been held in September and was attended by Ward Councillors and CEC Officers only. He had managed to acquire the list of potential schemes. Despite a number of requests by the Parish Council to delete the proposals to create a footpath between Hankelow and Audlem and introduce a speed limit between the same two villages, these two items were still on the list. It was agreed that the Clerk again write to CEC to get these deleted and also to add them to the list of issues to be discussed at the A529 meeting.

90.2 Community – Cllr G Seddon reported that Audlem had finished fourth in the “Village” category in the Great British High Street 2016 competition. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Traders’ Group to congratulate them. It was also reported that the Audlem in Bloom Group had won a Silver Gilt award.

90.3 Youth & Education – Cllr Higham reported that the Youth Club is thriving, but that more leaders are required.

90.4 Law & Order – Cllr Siddorns reported that he had asked the Police to be more proactive over the festive season. He had also ascertained that patrols are carried out mainly during the daylight hours. PC Marson had stated that she visits Audlem once or twice a fortnight. He had also ascertained that regular checks are carried out on foreign HGVs with respect to compliance with UK legislation. He also reported that the Police have been made aware of mud on the road and tractor drivers using mobile phones whilst driving. Concern was raised at the number of youngsters riding bikes with no lights and wearing dark clothing. PC Jarvis will visit the schools to remind of the dangers now the nights are dark.



90.5 Local Tourism & Business

(i) Cllr Johnson stated that the fireworks on 6th November had been fantastic although Cllr Consterdine reported that ASET had made a slight loss on the event this year. The date for the Big Switch On is 25th November.

90.6 Heritage & Localism – No report.

90.7 Wildlife & Ecology – Cllr Down reported that she is meeting Eleanor Liles to discuss Audlem in Bloom's proposals for the Conservation Area.

90.8 Health – No report.

90.9 Communications – Cllr P Seddon reported that the Scouts were now delivering the Newsletter and wished to put on record the Parish Council's thanks for those volunteers who had helped with deliveries over the last six months.

90.10 Access & Inclusion – There is a joint ADCA/CEC information morning called "Living Well Dying Well" taking place in the Public Hall on 14th November.

90.11 Devolved Services – see 16.99

90.12 ADAPT – Cllr Higham reported that ADAPT is starting a Woodland Group which is planning to initially carry out some coppicing on one member's land.

90.13 Commons & Greens Committee – see 16.96

90.14 Street Lighting – Cllr Consterdine reported that the cutting back of trees has not yet been carried out and that despite many reports to CEC there is one lamp which has been lit 24 hours per day for more than 12 months.

16.91 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

None

16.92 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Internal training dates

Delivery of Newsletter by the Scouts

Possible projects for 2017

16.93 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2016

CHAIRMAN _____

Date _____

