

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY 7TH APRIL 2014 AT 7.30PM
METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM

PRESENT:

Cllr Jones (Chair)	Cllr Hill	Cllr Furber	Cllr Higham
Cllr Christie	Cllr P Seddon	Cllr Siddorns	Cllr G Seddon
Cllr Down	Cllr Langston		

In Attendance: J Kemble (RFO), K Dixon (Clerk)

Also Present: Sheila Smith, Mrs Knowles, Mrs Parker, Beryl Heath, Lynn Williams, Kevan Holt.

PUBLIC FORUM

Sheila Smith spoke of local residents' concern that, as a consequence of the redevelopment of Thornton House in Emberton Place, the name Thornton will be lost. Cllr Higham stated that he had previously had assurances that this would not be the case. Residents are keen that recognition of both Dr Thornton's long service to the community is retained. Additionally they are concerned that the numbering employed for the new properties is not confusing in relation to the existing properties of Emberton Place. Cllr Higham will follow both these issues up with Wulvern Housing, CEC and Royal Mail.

Helen Davies of Healthwatch-Cheshire East then gave a presentation on Healthwatch England and its 152 sub-organisations. Their role is encourage community engagement, gather and convey views and experiences of the public and to report on these and to act as a Consumer Champion. Their greatest challenge is to make the service relevant to all. Healthwatch Cheshire East has 2 full time employees and 2 part time employees and is seeking to develop its group of volunteers in various aspects of their work such as connecting with the public and visiting establishments within the health and social care sector. Regular open Board Meetings are commencing. Councillors asked questions relating to its work and board structure, Cllr Siddorns asked how Healthwatch Cheshire East intended to utilise the legacy of LINKs and queries were made about whether Healthwatch has 'teeth'. Ms Davies, who is new to the organisation, assured the councillors that she would follow up those queries she was unable to fully answer at the time. The possibility of a pop-up stand for gathering residents' comments was discussed. Cllr Jones (Chair of the meeting) thanked Ms Davies for attending.

13.196 APOLOGIES Cllr Johnson (Holiday) and Cllr Loweth

13.197 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Hill 13.202.5(vii) (member of ADAS – Audlem in Bloom)

Cllr Furber 13.200.2

Cllr Christie & Cllr Jones 202.5(iii) (volunteers for CAB-CE)

13.198 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2014 were accepted as a true record with one small amendment



13.199 MATTERS ARISING

13.185.3 The RFO is to circulate a schedule of the grants made to ASET over recent years.

13.200 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**200.1 Second Planning Application for Land East of Heathfield Road 13/5162N**

Cllr Jones reported that the Planning Working Group had had many meetings. The Highways report had been received and forwarded to the case officer at Cheshire East. The Planning Working Group had responded to the CEC report on the application on certain items. The Statements to be read at the Southern Planning Committee meeting on April 9th (from Audlem Parish Council, Audlem Medical Practice, the Residents Association and The Village Design Statement group) will be circulated to councillors for their information and also forwarded to the Committee members in advance of the meeting in accordance with procedure. Cllr G Seddon reported that CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey recommended a Section 106 for contribution towards a playing area but the Planning Working Group considered such a decision required full Parish Council consideration. The green space which is part of the proposed development is not suitable for the floodlit multi-sport area which CEC's Greenspace has requested. The Section 106 would seek financial support for alternative recreation facilities elsewhere. After some discussion, it was unanimously resolved that the Parish Council authorise the Planning Working Group to apply for a Section 106.

200.2 First Application for Land West of Audlem Road 13/2224N

The Appeal for this application will be heard over 6 days commencing on 6th May 2014. The decision of whether to register as an 'interested party' and speak at the Hearing was discussed. It was resolved (by a majority) for the Planning Working Group to progress this.

200.3 To note the Planning Committee's response to the following Planning Application: 14/0986T Work to Trees in a Conservation Area – Laurel Grove, Woore Road, Audlem

The Clerk reported that the Planning Committee had supported this application and that this had been reported to CEC Planning before the deadline of 5th April.

13.201 REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES

201.1 Highways & Transportation (Cllr Hill) – Cllr Hill had received a letter from residents on the A525 (Whitchurch Road), which will be circulated to councillors for comment and also raised with the Nantwich LAP for Highways.

Cllr Siddons reported that CEC are currently in contact with an individual who commented on the A529 Swanbach speed limit but remained hopeful that the work would be carried out soon. A letter from the Parish Council to the Head of Highways at CEC was replied to by Mark Bone, reiterating the known position concerning line markings and gully clearance. It was resolved that another letter be sent to the Head of Highways focussing on the concerns at the safety implications of road markings not being maintained, particularly at the ends of roads, and also to make this a regular agenda item for the time being.

201.2 Community (Cllr G Seddon) – Nothing to report.

(i) Community Projects Committee – Cllr Hill reported that there had not been a full meeting, however, the clerk will circulate the notes of this informal meeting.

201.3 Youth & Education (Cllr Loweth) – Cllr Loweth had reported that she had not heard anything further concerning the School grant.

201.4 Law & Order (Cllr Furber) – Nothing to report.

201.5 Local Tourism & Business (Cllr Langston) – Cllr Langston reported that he had recently



attended meetings with the Traders Group and ADAPT and that the use of the Buttermarket was of great concern to both parties. Cllr Jones suggested that Item 13.209.1 be discussed at this point and the other councillors agreed. The Clerk read a statement submitted by ADAPT concerning their request to use the Buttermarket every Saturday during the summer for 2 hours to sell home produce. The matter was discussed at length and it was resolved (by a majority) that ADAPT be asked about their insurance arrangements and the clerk carry out research on liability issues. Cllr Higham volunteered to gather information on environmental health requirements before any decision is taken.

Cllr Furber brought up the matter of the new tiling on the façade of the take away shop on Shropshire Street and Cllr Langston and the clerk confirmed that the matter had been brought to the attention of the Conservation Dept of CEC and a response was awaited.

201.6 Planning (Cllr Johnson)

(i)CEC policy change regarding paper copies of planning applications

The clerk explained that CEC will no longer send paper copies of applications other than for those for developments of 10+ houses. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey explained that this change had been in the pipeline for some 2 years and CEC would be supportive in the transition. Cllr Bailey reported that some Parish Councils had grouped together to purchase a projector for displaying plans at meetings and this might be a possible solution. However she could not confirm that financial support for such a venture might be available.

(ii) CEC Local Plan Strategy

It was agreed that the Planning Working Group would review the Final Submission Document.

201.7 Wildlife & Ecology (Cllr Down) – Cllr Down reported that there had been a meeting the previous week and she would circulate the minutes once she had received them. The Ecology and Wildlife Group are always keen to hear of any interesting wildlife sightings in the area.

201.8 Health (Cllr Jones) – Cllr Jones reported that the Patient Participation Group intends to be at the Annual Village Meeting. They are keen inform patients about the role of the PPG and encourage participation.

(i)Healthcheck representative to speak about the organisation.

See Public Forum.

201.9 Communications (Cllr P Seddon) – Cllr P Seddon reported that the deadline for the Newsletter is 12th April. Items for inclusion mentioned were, Superfast Broadband, Communicating with the Council and Healthwatch Box. Cllr P Seddon also confirmed that the Newsletter had been entered for the Cheshire Community Action Pride Awards and the clerk confirmed that the website had also been entered.

(i) Superfast Broadband – Cllr G Seddon confirmed that notification had been received that Connecting Cheshire had been awarded £643,000 to ensure coverage in 4 hard to reach areas, including the Burleydam/Audlem area which means that all areas not covered in the initial roll-out will be connected; this includes the Bagley Lane/Kinsey Heath area and Buerton. Cllr G Seddon made a vote of thanks to residents for registering their interest.

201.10 Access & Inclusion (Cllr Christie) – Cllr Christie reported that the Day Club and Coffee Club continue to thrive and grow. There are now 3 further volunteer drivers and the Hospital Driver Scheme (taken over from ADAS) is now operational, new promotion of the scheme will follow soon. Cllr Christie thanked The Lord Combermere (Jo & Allan Brown) for offering the pub as a venue, not only for the ever- growing Coffee Club on Fridays, but also for the new Carers Group which has now been set up following the funding gained to support carers; this group meets in The



Lord Combermere on alternate Tuesdays from 10 til 12. The Storage funding has been used to purchase a shed and Cllr Higham reported that this will be erected on Friday 11th April at Hankelow Methodist Chapel and all help to achieve this would be warmly welcomed.

201.11 Devolved Services (Cllr Siddorns) – Cllr Siddorns reported that as the APHax negotiations for the land behind the Public Hall now looked like being agreed, he would be pursuing the matter of the other assets that might be devolved to the Parish Council by CEC. He is still to hear from Steph Corden, Head of Community at CEC. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey reported that she had been in contact with Caroline Simpson and Peter Raynes on the matter and that she hoped to have a response to pass to Cllr Siddorns within the next two weeks at most.

201.12 Allotments Committee (Cllr Johnson) – No report.

201.13 Commons & Greens Committee (Cllr Furber) – Cllr Furber reported that further to a call taken by the clerk he had been to inspect Longhill Moss and a potential flooding issue, however he found that this flooding was distant from the Moss and could find no evidence that its drainage was the cause of the flooding. The Clerk will report back to the enquirer.

201.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Langston) – Cllr Langston reported that CEC's cherrypicker had been at work in Audlem last week and had repaired all the lights requiring attention. It was noted that a light was out under the Buttermarket which the Clerk will report.

13.202 FINANCIAL MATTERS

202.1 Financial Report – The RFO reported that the financial year ended without further payments recorded after the March meeting and he was awaiting the bank statements to prepare the annual accounts. The carry forward is predicted to be £62,028. It was confirmed that once the RFO has prepared the accounts, the RFO would go through them with Cllr G Seddon and Cllr Johnson before they were passed to the auditor.

The RFO explained that he had not yet purchased a new laptop due to concerns about Windows 8 and had arranged alternative secure data storage.

The RFO spoke about the need for the Parish Council to explain that the devolving of services was being explored to ensure that the residents did not lose those facilities rather than to put a burden onto local residents. The matter of reviewing assets and a scheme of refurbishment was discussed. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey offered a possible source for bench replacement and to put the Parish Council in touch.

The precept was discussed and it was clarified that the precept, which has to be claimed as a sum of money rather than a percentage, was frozen at the amount previously claimed in 2013/14 and 2012/13.

An email from a resident requesting some financial information had been responded to by the Clerk and RFO.

202.2 Cheque Signatories

It was resolved that Cllr Jones (Vice Chair) will become a signatory for the Parish Council accounts and that Cllr Johnson (Chair) will join Cllr Hill as a Parish Council Rep signatory for the Community Projects Committee bank account.

202.3 Authorisation of Cheques

K Dixon - monthly salary	£306.28
G Davies – monthly salary	£254.60
J Kemble – monthly salary	£51.01
K Dixon - Office Expenses	£43.70



HMRC	£267.60
Audlem Angels – Public Conveniences (March)	£180.00
Audlem Methodist Church (Room Hire)	£40.00
Cheshire Community Action – Annual Subscription	£50.00
Cheshire Community Action – Pride of Cheshire Awards Entry Fees	£35.00
PHS (Public Conveniences sanitary services)	£141.34
G Seddon – Cllr Travel Expenses (Seminar)	£69.09
ChALC – Councillor training course	£30.00
CMS – Public Conveniences – replacement door	£336.92
M Hill – Public Conveniences - supplies	£106.92
EPG Security Systems Ltd – CCTV repairs	£102.00
Cheshire Community Action – Demographics Report	£50.00

Resolved: above accounts were approved for payment

202.4 Publishing of Financial Information

The RFO produced copies of the current budget, a simple reconciliation summary of the annual accounts for the previous year and the external audit paperwork as suggestions for publication on the Parish Council webpages. It was unanimously resolved to have all 3 put on the webpages.

202.5 Applications for Small Grants

The RFO had reviewed all the received financial information.

(i) Audlem Carnival

The request for a grant of £500 was approved.

(ii) Audlem Festival

The request for a grant of £1,250 was approved.

(iii) Audlem First Responders

The request for a grant of £1,104.50 was approved.

(iv) Audlem Scout Group

The Parish Council asked for more information.

(v) TAVA

A reduced grant of £500 was approved.

(vi) CAB CE

The request for a grant of £500 was approved.

(vii) Audlem in Bloom

After some discussion, the Parish Council agreed to consider this application in two parts:

Part A was considered and £1,000 was granted (for the summer bedding)

Part B to be considered once the total costs of the mature bed refurbishment are known.

13.203 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN & PARISH PLAN

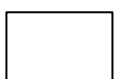
This item was deferred.

203.1 CCA TALK ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – To discuss the option of asking a CCA representative to talk to the Parish Council. This item was deferred.

13.204 HERITAGE FUND & LOCALISM ACT - This item was deferred.

13.205 RIGHTS OF WAY - This item was deferred.

13.206 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES - This item was deferred.



13.207 PUBLIC HALL - This item was deferred.

13.208 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE

The next meeting is being held later this month.

13.209 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

209.1 Use of the Buttermarket by ADAPT

See 13.201.5

209.2 Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported that there had been a good response to the invitations sent to local groups and that arrangements for the evening and advertising are to be finalised this week. It was resolved that posters etc could be ordered using a local business.

13.210 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllrs Jones, Higham and G Seddon attended a Seminar of Neighbourhood Plans.

13.211 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

A letter from Fran Hughes reiterating Mrs Smith's concerns regarding Thornton House was received.

A letter from Audlem in Bloom requesting use of the Conservation Area to provide wildlife education for pupils at St James School was considered and permission granted provided usage complies with the terms previously laid down.

A letter from Mrs L Boffey requesting use of the Buttermarket (by Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research) in September was received, a decision on this was deferred.

Information from The Royal British Legion's Centenary Poppy Campaign was received – to be circulated and considered at the May meeting.

13.212 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Highways safety issues – Cllr Siddorns

The Royal British Legion's Centenary Poppy Campaign

The Buttermarket (ADAPT, LLR and others)

Refurbishment of Assets

Small Grant Application recently received from Audlem Traders.

Neighbourhood Plan and Parish Plan

Heritage Fund and Localism Act

Rights of Way

Debate on options for reviewing planning applications, including use of projector.

13.213 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 12th May 2014 – ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – WEDNESDAY 30th APRIL 2014

CHAIRMAN _____

Date _____

