

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 6th APRIL 2009**

Present: Cllr R Furber (Chair) Cllr Mrs K Down Cllr P Bradbury-Smith
 Cllr B Consterdine Cllr M Hill Cllr N Huntbach
 Cllr P Morgan Cllr Mrs P Seddon Cllr A Smith
 Cllr Mrs I Stockton

In attendance: Mrs J White – Clerk; Mr J Kemble – RFO

Also Present: Mrs R Kemble and Mrs C Johnson (members of Allotments Working Group); three residents;
 Mr W Brown, Market Drayton Advertiser

PUBLIC FORUM - No matters were raised.

8.162 APOLOGIES – Apologies were accepted from Cllr G Stretch and Cllr Mrs F M Christie.

8.163 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None made.

8.164 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MARCH 2nd 2009 – The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

8.165 PARISH AFFAIRS

165.1 Village policing – Councillors reported antisocial behaviour incidents, vehicle thefts and lack of feedback from police. The Chairman and Cllr Stretch would ensure these matters were discussed at the next Parish Cluster meeting on 9th April.

165.2 Allotments – See below.

165.3 Children's playground – Cllr Morgan had submitted an application for funding to WREN and was now gathering additional evidence of need from user groups.

165.4 Annual Village Meeting – Councillors agreed that the evening had been successful and that arrangements for the 2010 meeting should be similar.

165.5 Parish Council Mission Statement – Cllr Morgan submitted the following:

Resolved: that the Parish Council adopt the following as its mission statement -

“The role of Audlem Parish Council is to promote and manage the smooth running and sustainable development of our community in a democratic, prudent and non-discriminatory way, achieving this by adherence to the requirements of Quality Parish Council status. Further it should represent the views and aims of the parish in external affairs, directly or via devolved bodies.”

165.6 Christmas lights – Cllr Consterdine reported on ADAS's purchase of additional lights to extend the illuminated area and make necessary replacements. On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked ADAS, acknowledging the time and effort ADAS members invested in the village.

165.7 Audlem Music Festival: request for additional funding – Cllr Consterdine reminded Councillors that the annual Music Festival was an important attraction, making Audlem the central point for music and arts performances for a four day period (this year 22nd – 25th May). Over the years, costs had been creeping up although the Parish Council's contribution had remained static at £1000.

Resolved (9 for; Cllr Smith abstained): that the Parish Council's contribution to the 2009 Music Festival be increased to £1400.

165.8 Low Carbon Communities

Resolved: that Simon Ross of the Marches Energy Agency be invited to a future meeting to discuss opportunities in Audlem.

165.9 Community Pride Competition 2009 – It was noted that entry forms had been submitted.

8.166 FINANCIAL MATTERS

166.1 External audit – It was noted that the annual return must be forwarded to the Audit Commission by 20th May.

166.2 Final accounts 2008/09 – Deferred to next meeting as bank statements not yet available. The RFO gave a verbal report forecasting a year end surplus.

166.3 Authorisation of payments

J White – out-of-pocket expenditure	£19.18
J White – out –of-pocket expenditure re Village meeting	£116.73
G Davies – street cleaning March	£284.38
Joseph Heler Limited re Village Meeting	£23.85
Delmar Press – walks leaflets (to be covered by grant)	£1325.00
C J Elliott – illustrations for Audlem Walk leaflets (to be covered by grant)	£200.00
Cheshire Community Action – entry fee Community Pride Competition	£33.00
MRP Joinery & Construction – repairs to notice board	£287.33
NALC – postage on return of Quality folder	£7.05
Society of Local Council Clerks – annual membership	£82.00
Cheshire Playing Fields Association – annual affiliation fee	£18.00
Audlem Music Festival	£1400.00

Resolved: that the above accounts be approved for payment.

166.4 VAT Reclaims – The Parish Council discussed ways in which it might help local organisations, in addition to permitted methods under HMRC Notice 749 which allows the Parish Council to recover VAT on costs related to non-business activities under limited specified conditions. Councillors agreed that local organisations (eg ADAS, ASET) supplied a great deal of funding for projects which were for the general good of the village - in many cases tackling projects which might otherwise become the responsibility of the Parish Council. As an example, Cllr Smith reported that replacement bunting was needed for the coming season and that purchase of same was beyond the resources of local organisations.

Resolved: that the Parish Council establish a “Village Amenities” budget to assist local organisations with expenditure relating to the common good; also that the Parish Council purchase bunting to the value of £250.

8.167 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT167.1 CNBC Planning Application

P09/0220 First floor rear extension & new roof to garage etc @ Meadow View, Green Lane

Resolved: that no representations be made in respect of the above.

167.2 Village Design Statement – It was noted that, at the recent Development Control Committee, Audlem’s Village Design Statement was approved “to be given due weight as a material consideration when planning applications in the parish of Audlem are considered”. The Planning Group would next approach Cheshire East to gain full approval by means of a Supplementary Planning Document.

167.3 Wind Farm at Lower Farm, Bearstone – Notes of pre-inquiry meeting were received.

167.4 Audlem Conservation Area Character Appraisal & Management Strategy – The Clerk reported that copies of the approved document had been received and would be circulated.

8.168 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE – No meeting.

Deleted: ¶

8.169 AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL – The 20-week draw had been held. Current projects included a stair lift to the first floor and a PA system for the main hall.

8.170 COMMONS & GREENS COMMITTEE – Cllr Morgan reported on discussions with a member of the History Society concerning ownership of land near Paddock/Wood Orchard Lane junction which was bequeathed many years ago “to the poor of Audlem” by Thomas Cadman. With appropriate permissions, records held at St James’ Church would be searched. The Clerk agreed to approach Cheshire East to ascertain if the land was now held by Highways. To be discussed at the next meeting.

8.171 COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllr Consterdine reported on a British Waterways Shropshire Union Canal Users’ Meeting on 19th March. He also reported on the recent ChALC Area meeting and stressed the importance of ensuring a presence at their meetings.

8.172 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & COMMENTS – Items noted.

Resolved: that under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded during consideration of the following items.

8.165 165.2 Parish Affairs – Allotments

Resolved: that the suitability of additional plots be investigated and, where appropriate, steps be taken to approach the landowners involved.

(As members of the Allotments Working Group, Mrs Kemble and Mrs Johnson remained in the room, took part in discussions on Allotments, and then departed.)

8.173 CODE OF CONDUCT

Resolved: that correspondence be held on file but that no action be taken at present.

The Chairman re-opened the meeting.

8.174 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING – Election of Chair, Vice Chair and representatives to other organisations; signatories to Alliance & Leicester accounts; Nantwich to Whitchurch bus service; lengthsman's work schedule.

8.175 DATE OF ANNUAL MEETING – MONDAY 11TH MAY 2009

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date