

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCILMINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 22nd MARCH 2010

Present:

Cllr Mrs K Down - Chair	Cllr R Furber	Cllr P Bradbury-Smith
Cllr M Hill	Cllr Mrs F M Christie	Cllr B Consterdine
Cllr P Morgan	Cllr D Rowe	Cllr Mrs P Seddon
Cllr A Smith	Cllr Mrs I Stockton	Cllr G Stretch

In Attendance: Mrs J White – Clerk; Mr J Kemble – RFO.

Also Present: Approximately 60 residents, Cheshire East Councillor Mrs R Bailey

The Chairman opened the Parish Council meeting by summarising the background to the agenda topic:

The 1908 Allotments Act decrees that, should a parish council be requested by six parishioners to provide allotments, then the parish council should do its utmost to comply. After such a request in 2006, the Parish Council set up a working party which has spent a considerable amount of time and effort trying to find a suitable site. Ultimately, the working party has found **only** one piece of land which may be available to lease as part of a proposed development between Woore Road and Paddock Lane, plans for which have now been drawn up. The Parish Council is asked to support, **in principle**, a planning application for this development which would include a house, stabling, grazing for horses and allotments. This constitutes an infill application outside of the development boundary and would involve the PC supporting a plan which provides the village with the benefit of allotments in return for a benefit to the landowner.

The meeting closed to allow a public forum to take place.

PUBLIC FORUM

Representations made by DAHLIA, residents of Paddock Lane and others included the following points: planning permission is not normally required for an allotments scheme on agricultural land; the Parish Council itself should make a decision as a referendum would be expensive and a waste of money; parking problems in Paddock Lane would be exacerbated; compulsory purchase was an option which should be considered; the proposed allotments would create an eyesore; Longhill Moss should be considered as an alternative location; conversations between members of DAHLIA and residents of Paddock Lane could be helpful.

The Chairman closed the Public Forum and re-opened the Parish Council meeting.

9.165 APOLOGIES – None.

9.166 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None made.

9.167 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1ST MARCH

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to amendment of Min 9.153.2 which was corrected to read: "A latest design (tabled) had been agreed"

9.168 ALLOTMENTS

During discussion of the proposal before the meeting, i.e. that a village referendum should take place, it was suggested that (in view of costs) a consultation exercise should be carried out and a draft document presented at the next Parish Council meeting for approval. Cllr Mrs Bailey said that Cheshire East Council staff would be able to advise on preparation and implementation.

Referring to suggestions that Longhill Moss should be considered as a possible site, Cllr Morgan pointed out that the Moss was Common Lane and could not be used for allotments without an Act of Parliament. The Chairman reminded residents that everyone would have an opportunity to comment formally on the planning application when it was submitted to Cheshire East Council for approval. Following further consideration of plans, it was proposed by Cllr Consterdine, seconded by Cllr Mrs Christie, and -

Resolved: that the Parish Council seek the views of local residents through a consultation exercise on whether it should support a proposed outline planning application for a domestic dwelling, stabling, grazing for horses, and allotments on land at Paddock Lane. (11 for, 1 against)

9.169 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday April 12th.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date