

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2015 AT 7.30PM
METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance: K Dixon (Clerk)**Present:** Mr B Cartwright (AOL)PUBLIC FORUM

No member of the public wished to speak.

14.134 APOLOGIES

Cllr Higham – family commitments
 Cllr Siddorns – convalescence
 Cllr Hill - delayed

14.135 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.14.136 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 5th January 2015 were accepted as a true record. The minutes of the Finance meeting held on 8th December 2014 were accepted as a true record with the amendment that Cllr Down was absent due to family commitments.

14.137 MATTERS ARISING

Cllr G Seddon reported that the Planning Appeal on the proposed development at Little Heath off Audlem Road had been upheld, with certain requirements laid down, however the Inspector had not awarded s106 for Health as she was not confident that the monies would have been used in Audlem. Further to the Parish Council's letter to Ward Councillors and Cheshire East officers concerning the lack of local involvement in planning decisions, a letter had been received from Caroline Simpson of Cheshire East stating that public consultation will be sought at the reserved matters stage of planning developments.

Cllr Hill then arrived at the meeting, he reported that CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey had sent her apologies.

14.138 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**138.1 Neighbourhood Plan**

(i) Cllr Jones reported that the meeting on 22nd January had gone well with around 50 attendees, an update on the progress given and questions were taken and answered. The Housing questionnaire has now been distributed to all households by volunteers and Cllr G Seddon extended thanks to the Parish Councillors who had volunteered and helped with the distribution. He also reported that over 30 responses have already been received. The volunteers will also be going door to door to collect forms and it was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for suitable ID for the volunteers. Cllr Furber suggested that the development at Little Heath be called as such rather than after Gladman, especially as this developer will not be the company that ultimately develops the site.



(ii) Site Allocation

Cllr Jones reported that this aspect is still being looked at and that a recent letter concerning this, which had been circulated to Councillors, would be followed up and the results reported back to the Parish Council.

138.2 Planning Applications

15/0089N Proposed Biomass Boiler Building and Woodchip Store Formed From Conversion and Extension of Existing Garden Store @ Corbrook Court Care Home, Corbrook, Audlem, Crewe, CW3 0HF – the application was considered and no objections were raised.

14.139 **FINANCIAL MATTERS****139.1 Finance Report**

The monthly figures were reviewed.

139.2 To agree the Budget 2015/16

It was unanimously resolved to accept the presented revised budget.

139.3 To agree the New Financial Regulations

The new financial regulations, reviewed at the Finance Meeting on 8th December 2014, were ratified.

139.4 Staff Pay Rates – National Pay Awards

Cllr Jones explained the new NALC agreed pay scales and the backpay owed to the Clerk. It was unanimously resolved that this payment should be made and the new payscales be observed. The Lengthman's payrate was also discussed and it was agreed that his rate should be increased to £7.00 per hour from the appropriate date, the Clerk will report back on whether further changes are required at the next meeting.

139.5 Finance Committee

Cllr Furber suggested that the committee membership be decided at the Annual Parish Meeting in May and this was agreed.

139.6 Authorisation of cheques

1228	K Dixon	Salaries	£364.91
1229	G Davies	Salaries	£245.16
1230	K Dixon	Office Expenses	£14.65
1231	Audlem Angels	Public Conveniences	£144.00
1232	Audlem Methodist Church	Room Hire (x3)	£108.00
1233	Audlem Printers	Printing NP newsletter	£174.00
1234	Audlem Printers	Printing NP questionnaire	£90.00
1235	PHS Group	Public Conveniences	£141.34
1236	A R Spibey	Bench Repairs (balance)	£854.06
1237	Blitz Fireworks	New Year Fireworks	£1,380.00
1238	Scout & Guide Hall	Room Hire (Public Mtg)	£38.00
1239	K Dixon	Meeting Expenses	£43.77
1240	Audlem Printers	NP Re-Print	£90.00

Resolved: that the above accounts be paid.

139.7 Notification of Payments made that had been previously authorised

The following payment was noted.

1227	GOPAK	Tables for Scout & Guide Hall	£993.44
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139.8 Repayment of Unused Monies from Neighbourhood Plan Grant

Cllr G Seddon reported on the grant which had not been utilised in full and it was resolved that the unspent monies be paid back. Cllr G Seddon is also looking into a further grant.

14.140 CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Information about training opportunities from CVS Cheshire East had been received.
- (ii) Cheshire East is holding Elections Briefings for clerks and also existing and potential councillors. Councillors were asked to advise the clerk if they wished to have a place booked for them.
- (iii) Mr N Huntbach had enquired about the state of the pavement on Green Lane (A529), the clerk has written to CEC Highways to remind them of the outstanding work. Cllr Christie commented that the pavement on the A525 between the 30mph sign and Chapel End is similarly overgrown, the Clerk will advise CEC Highways of this.

14.141 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**141.1 Playing Field Complex Project**

- (i) Report from the Working Group on progress.

Cllr Hill reported that the financial information gathering was complete and a local Chartered Accountant had looked at the figures. Councillors have walked the site to identify issues that would need to be resolved by CEC before any asset transfer. CEC have so far confirmed that they will do 11 of the 12 identified. The Working Group is still awaiting information concerning the Recycling Bins. Cllr Hill reported that CEC have offered to show Councillors their system for monitoring and management at a meeting next week. There was a discussion about the concept of a “properly competent person” for the inspection of facilities, it is hoped that this might be clarified at the meeting with CEC.

- (ii) Playground Health & Safety, including Basketball ring on Car Park.

Outstanding issues with the playground and the location of the basketball hoop on the Public Car Park in relation to health & safety were discussed and it was agreed that CEC would be contacted.

141.2 Data Protection

It was unanimously resolved to adopt the new Data Protection Policy. It was agreed to place the matter of the fee structure on a future meeting agenda once suitable research has been conducted.

141.3 Small Grants Policy

The Small Grants Policy was reviewed. The maximum size of grant, along with the use of the word ‘small’, was discussed, as was the reporting of the completion of projects. The Clerk will make amendments and circulate to the Councillors.

141.4 Community Pride Awards 2015

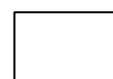
The entry forms have been received and Cllr G Seddon and Cllr Down are due to meet to discuss the applications.

141.5 Annual Parish Meeting

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee would like to utilise the Village Meeting as part of the consultation process and will report back about a suitable date.

141.6 Use of Council Equipment

The loaning out of the Council projector & screen to village Community groups was discussed. It was agreed that this would be an appropriate facility to offer free of charge under the proviso that the group loaning it undertake to replace the equipment should it be broken whilst in their possession. The Clerk will draw up appropriate paperwork.



14.142 REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES

142.1 Highways & Transportation (Cllr Hill) – Cllr Hill reported that there had been no meetings. Cllr Christie reported that the condition of the A525 from the 30mph zone to Chapel End has deteriorated with significant potholes. The Clerk will report this to CEC Highways.

(i) Road Safety – including Pedestrian Crossings - Cllr Jones asked about the A525 review and Cllr Hill reported that there had been no further news but he would follow it up with CEC.

142.2 Community (Cllr G Seddon) – Cllr Seddon voiced concern about the recent issue of sewage flowing into Audlem Brook behind Windmill Drive. He will contact the resident and ask whether the Parish Council can write to United Utilities about the matter.

(i) Community Projects Committee – No meeting.

(ii) Public Hall – including APHAX – Renewing the stage in the Public Hall is to go ahead and the 20week draw tickets are now on sale.

(iii) Audlem Burial Committee – Cllr Furber reported that the AGM had been held and that Ginny Foster of Hankelow was elected as vice-chair. The fees have been raised as of 1st February 2015.

142.3 Youth & Education (Cllr Higham) – No report.

142.4 Law & Order (Cllr Furber) – Cllr Furber reported that there had been a Cluster meeting at which it was reported that there had been a whole year without any real youth incidents other than talking with a few young people who had made a camp fire by the youth shelter. There have been 2 recent speed monitoring sessions on Cheshire Street. 4 speeding drivers were sent warning letters from the first session on 31/10/14 (from 184 vehicles monitored) and 5 warning letters were sent from the second on 6/12/14 (108 vehicles monitored). It was also reported that PCSO Jarvis now has improved equipment so in future he will be able to issue fixed penalties instead of just sending out warning letters.

142.5 Local Tourism & Business (Cllr Langston) – Cllr Langston reported that Flower Divas had now moved within the village centre. He also raised the issue of the trellis on the junction of Tollgate Drive and Whitchurch Road which is falling down. Cllr Hill will speak to ADAS about it, Cllr Langston mentioned that the adjacent path is currently overshadowed which leads to it remaining frozen and slippery throughout the day in cold weather. It was agreed to send a letter of congratulations to Overwater Marina on its recent award success.

142.6 Heritage & Localism (Cllr Higham) – currently covered by Neighbourhood Plan

142.7 Wildlife & Ecology (Cllr Down) – Cllr Down will circulate the minutes of the recent meeting when available.

142.8 Health (Cllr Jones) – Cllr Jones will circulate the PPG meeting minutes as required.

142.9 Communications (Cllr P Seddon) – The newsletter has been issued and the next one will be the Spring edition with the local business directory in it.

142.10 Access & Inclusion (Cllr Christie) – Cllr Christie reported there had been fluctuating numbers due to the inclement weather. The volunteers are putting on a Pantomime for the members of the Day Club and Coffee Club. The Drivers Scheme is now getting good publicity.

142.11 Devolved Services (Cllr Siddons) – See 14.141.1

(i) Public Conveniences – Nothing to report.

142.12 ADAPT (Cllr Johnson) – Cllr Johnson reported that the alternative energy talks continue to be well received and well attended. The next talk is on Wednesday on heat pumps.

142.13 Commons & Greens Committee (Cllr Furber) – Cllr Furber reported that the fencing will be completed before the year end.

142.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Langston) – Cllr Langston has informed CEC of the light out on The Square.

14.143 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllr Jones had joined CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey to publicise Audlem's SuperFast Broadband with Connecting Cheshire. There is to be an event held by Connecting Cheshire in the Public Hall on 17th February promoting the new service.



14.144 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Leader Programme – awaiting CEC project
Cophorne Bench
Election
Village Meeting
CPRE Membership

14.145 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 2nd MARCH 2015

CHAIRMAN _____

Date _____

UNCONFIRMED

