

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2012

Present: Cllr Mrs K Down (Chair) Cllr Mrs F M Christie Cllr R Furber Cllr D Siddorns
 Cllr M Hill Cllr Mrs P Seddon Cllr Mrs H Jones Cllr Mrs J Sanders
 Cllr G Seddon

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

Also Present: Mr R Cartwright, Mr J Tilling, Cllr Mrs R Bailey

PUBLIC FORUM – No topics were raised.

11.125 **APOLOGIES** – Apologies from Cllrs Consterdine, Langston and Johnson were accepted.

11.126 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Personal interests were declared: Cllr Seddon - Agenda Item 11.129.5 (Audlem Cricket Club); and the Chairman – Agenda Item 11.130 (Planning application 12/0076N)

11.127 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH JANUARY 2012**

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, the number “10” in Min 11.120 having been replaced by “20”.

11.128 **REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES**

128.1 Law & Order (Cllr Furber)

(i) Cluster Meetings – It was reported that current priorities were antisocial behaviour and speeding traffic. Cllr Furber and Cllr Siddorns requested topics for the next meeting on 10th April.

(ii) Public toilets – It was noted that there had been no further vandalism. Cllr Hill agreed to speak to a resident who had written to suggest an entry charge. It had been decided at the outset that it would be better completely to deny overnight access rather than allow 24-hour access via payment of, say, twenty pence.

128.2 Community (Cllr Consterdine)

(i) Community Pride Competition 2012 – It was agreed that Audlem would participate in the competition.

128.3 Local Tourism & Business (Cllr Langston)

(i) Business Forum – Cllr Hill reported that the Parish Plan group would be founding a Business Forum with the aim of helping local entrepreneurs exchange ideas and information. Perhaps in the future they would be able to share premises and/or services.

(ii) Superfast broadband – It was agreed that a speaker from CEC should be invited to a future meeting.

128.4 Highways & Transportation (Cllr Hill)

(i) Nantwich LAP/Site Meeting – It was reported that parking and pinch point proposals were satisfactory and that the scheme included a) widening the footway on Audlem Bridge; b) installation of dropped kerb at School Lane/The Square junction. Public notices would be displayed and work carried out in due course. Remaining pot holes at the entrance to the car park would be dealt when re-planing took place.

(ii) Gritting – It was noted that over the continuing icy spell Cllr Furber had transported another three bags of salt to the village for use by the lengthsman.

Resolved: that Highways be asked to clarify their policy with regards to dealing with pot holes.

128.5 Planning (Cllr Johnson)

(i) Village Design Statement – It was noted that the document had been submitted to CEC planners and that a disappointing response had been received (all documents circulated). Lobbying would continue.

(ii) Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Seddon reported that the Parish Plan group was now considering preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Mrs Bailey suggested initial consultation with Hankelow and Buerton.

128.6 Wildlife & Ecology (Chairman) – The Chairman reported that British Waterways’ work on the canal was almost complete and that there had been no undue effect on wildlife.

128.7 Health (Cllr Mrs Jones) – Cllr Mrs Jones reported on a recent well-attended, successful “Heartstart” training session.

128.8 Youth & Education (Cllr Mrs Sanders)

(i) Request for goal posts on playing field – It was noted that CEC had denied the request. Cllr Hill's offer to pursue an alternative line of enquiry was accepted.

(ii) Proposed dedication of playing field – Cllr Hill would investigate opportunities.

(iii) Children's play area: safety inspections – CEC's confirmation that an inspection was carried out in November 2011 was noted. A copy of the inspection certificate would be requested.

Resolved: that future ownership and management of the playing field, tennis courts and children's playground be discussed with CEC's Parks Development Manager at the next Parish Council meeting.

(iv) St James's IEB – Cllr Mrs Sanders reported that a new head teacher would be appointed in early March, to take up duties later in the year and that six elected parents would join the IEB next term.

128.9 Communications (Cllr Mrs Seddon)

(i) Village Newsletter & Annual Village Meeting – A single response to an appeal for suggestions was considered.

Resolved: that the Annual Village Meeting be held on 21st March, subject to availability of the Public Hall.

(ii) Web team – Cllr Mrs Seddon advised that she was no longer a member of the team but would continue to post Parish Council items at Audlem Online.

(iii) Volunteer Lock Rangers – Cllr Mrs Seddon reported on a meeting with one of the rangers. They would welcome an opportunity, e.g. the Annual Village Meeting, to promote their activities and recruit more volunteers.

128.10 Access & Inclusion (Cllr Mrs Christie) – Cllr Mrs Christie reported on a recent committee meeting and repeated an appeal for more Trustees.

128.11 Devolved Services (Cllr Siddorns) – It was noted that CEC had declined to make a contribution towards the running costs of the public conveniences. Cllr Siddorns recommended that colleagues read CEC's draft Business Plan.

128.12 Allotments Committee (Cllr Johnson) – Reports of "charity land" were being followed up.

128.13 Commons & Greens Committee (Cllr Furber)

(i) Longhill Moss lease – It was noted that a 37 page FBT lease had been provided by Barbers Rural.

Resolved: that Barbers be asked to provide an indication of costs for additional services, i.e. negotiations and collections.

(ii) FP1 at Heywoods Ridge – Cllr Furber agreed to inspect the footpath.

128.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Consterdine) – No reports.

11.129 FINANCIAL MATTERS

129.1 To receive RFO's report – The RFO reported on PAYE requirements.

Resolved: that the Parish Council open a new Community Direct account with The Co-operative Society.

129.2 Asset inspections 2011/12 – In Cllr Langston's absence, there was no report.

129.3 Authorisation of cheques

G Davies – street cleaning	£220.00
Mr J Kemble – salary	£50.60
Mrs J White – salary	£489.08
Audlem Angels – cleaning of public toilets	£162.00
United Utilities – Surface water/highway drainage (public toilets) – 3 Nov/31 March	£41.11
United Utilities – Metered water & sewerage (public toilets) – 3 Nov/19 Jan	£45.76
Tony Seabridge – grass & tree cutting etc 30 April/30 Oct	£450.00
Audlem Public Hall – meetings on 28 Nov & 16 Dec	£40.00
Richard Furber – purchase of wheelbarrow & shovel	£34.46
Delmar Press – Winter newsletter	£294.00
Blitz Fireworks – New Year celebrations	£960.00

Resolved: that the above accounts be approved for payment.

129.4 Receipts – The following payment was noted:

Cheshire East Council – refurbishment of public toilets £10,460.71

129.5 Grant request : Audlem Cricket Club

Resolved: that a grant of £250 be made.

129.6 Grant request : TAVA – It was agreed that TAVA should be asked to provide background and financial information.

129.7 Business cards - No action to be taken.

11.130 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENTCEC Planning Applications

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

12/0235N Proposed garage @ Hollybank Cottage, Mill Lane, off Heathfield Road

12/0076N Proposed replacement dwelling @ 77 Whitchurch Road

11.131 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved: that amendments, as circulated, be incorporated into existing Financial Regulations and that the updated Regulations be submitted for formal approval at the next meeting.

11.132 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE - Cllr Furber reported that quotes were being sought to provide a memorial stone for paupers' graves and that a new mower had been purchased.

11.133 AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL – Cllr Furber reported that quotations for new boiler(s) were being considered. Tickets for the 20 week draw were still available.

11.134 CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY – NORTH WEST CONTROL CENTRE

Recent correspondence from the Fire Brigade Union and Cheshire Fire Authority was considered. It was agreed that further centralisation of control centres would result in loss of local knowledge and an increased risk of delays for distant and outlying areas, such as Audlem. Cllr Hill reminded colleagues of the unacceptable reduction in service levels suffered by Audlem following reorganisation of Ambulance Service.

Resolved: that the Parish Council express support for the stance taken by the Fire Brigade Union.

11.135 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED – No reports.

11.136 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – Items listed on the agenda were noted.

11.137 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING – Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

11.138 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 5TH MARCH

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm

_____ Chairman

_____ Date