

**AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 AT 7PM**  
**METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr Johnson	Cllr Jones	Cllr G Seddon	Cllr Hill
Cllr Furber	Cllr Christie	Cllr P Seddon	Cllr Down
Cllr Langston			

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

**Present:** CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey, Mr Bob Cartwright (AOL), Mr John Tilling, Mrs Ann Tilling, Mr Roland Hall, Mr Bill Consterdine, Miss Bryony Nixon (AIB/ADAS), Mr Mike Haines(AIB/ADAS), Ms Susan Healy and Ms Sarah Pimlott from the Coole Lane Group (re Hack Green)

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms Pimlott spoke in relation to the application at the former RAF Camp at Hack Green (14.52.3(iii)) voicing local concerns about the impact of the proposed mixed use development of 9.6acres. The Application is for the provision of 9 yards for 9 families of travelling showpeople, their stalls and rides. The rides can weigh as much as 70 tonnes and require transporting to and from the site to different venues throughout the year. Ms Pimlott was also concerned at the high levels of vehicles that are reported to be attached to each of the yards and the impact these would have on local roads as well as the scale of the site in comparison with local housing.

Mr Roland Hall (chair of the Community Projects Committee) spoke in support of the Parish Plan 2015 proposal (14.57.2(iv)). He stated there is nothing to say that a Parish Plan should not be carried out when a Neighbourhood Plan is being pursued. He envisages the Parish Plan focussing on the non-planning issues that are important to residents. He believes that a Parish Plan unifies the community and can be a useful business tool for gaining funding for projects within the village. The committee believes that it is important to keep the Parish Plan current and update and as the previous plans were created in 2005 and 2010, they are keen to progress with a new plan for 2015.

Mr Bill Consterdine spoke of his concerns regarding the lack of progress with the devolution of the Playing Fields. He had recently had a conversation with CEC Leader Cllr Michael E Jones who said that Audlem was at the top of the list for transfer with CEC. Cllr Jones said the Parish Council should pursue this and that he wants to see it happen as soon as possible.

14.48 APOLOGIES

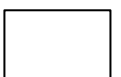
Apologies were received from Cllr Siddorns and Cllr Higham.

14.49 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Furber declared an interest in 14.52.2(ii)

14.50 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014 were approved and signed as a correct



record.

#### 14.51 MATTERS ARISING

Noticeboard – the Clerk confirmed that the noticeboard has a different key system from the village noticeboard. There has still been no useful response from CEC or CRT. Cllr Jones will speak to Mr Bill Consterdine to see if he knows where a key may be held.

Dog Sign – the sign has not yet been delivered. The Clerk will follow up on this to try to get the signs in before the school holidays start.

Footpaths – the Clerk reported that CEC Public Rights of Way department had confirmed that they do still do random spot-checks of footpaths but there is no longer a rolling programme of inspection as was the case in the days of Cheshire County Council. The department does however still provide stiles and gates for footpaths. However they become the landowners' property and therefore the landowners' responsibility to maintain. The department can enforce landowners to keep footpaths in good order and members of public can report issues, like fallen trees, to the department. It was agreed that this information should be placed on the noticeboard (Clerk) and in the next Newsletter (Cllr Jones to draft).

#### 14.52 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

##### **52.1 Neighbourhood Plan**

The outcome of the Extraordinary Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July was discussed, Councillors commenting that the vote by the attendees for developing both Neighbourhood Plan options gave the Parish Council a clear mandate to proceed. A letter received from resident Mr Nick Cooper was read and discussed. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey was asked to clarify whether a local referendum would be held as part of the Resident First Neighbourhood Plan, which she confirmed was the case. The comparative legal strength of the different options was discussed.

***Unanimously Resolved: Audlem Parish Council will adopt the policy of creating a Resident First Neighbourhood Plan as part of a full Neighbourhood Plan.***

The first stages of the process were discussed. Cllr G Seddon explained that a sub-committee of the Parish Council has to be formed and given the responsibility of forming the Steering group from community members, including some Parish Councillors, which will report into the Parish Council and set up the project plan. It was ***resolved*** that the sub-committee be formed and should meet as soon as possible (Cllr Jones to arrange as Chair).

Cllr Jones raised the matter of initial costs and it was ***resolved*** that £500 be allocated as seedcorn money to cover these. The idea of a Summer Competition for children was discussed to act as a method for engaging younger members of the community. It was ***resolved*** that a competition be arranged for local children to enter either a picture, a poem or a piece of prose illustrating how they want Audlem to look in the future. This will be promoted through the website, the Newsletter, St James Primary and Brine Leas Schools. There was a discussion about the promotion of the process and community engagement, Cllr P Seddon reported that she has been developing articles and working with the website team to this end; a form for residents to use to put forward their views is to be made



available, both on-line and in paper form. It was agreed that the deadline for responses should be 30<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

### **52.2 Planning Appeals**

(i) Land East of 22 Heathfield Road – It was **resolved** that Audlem Parish Council would make representations and declare as an Interested Party in the Appeal made to the Planning Inspectorate.

(ii) Land West of Audlem Road – the result of the Planning Inquiry is still awaited.

### **52.3 Planning Applications**

(i) 14/2310N Outbuilding to house Biomass Boilers at Corbrook Court, Audlem CW3 0HF  
Cllr G Seddon reported that Cllr Higham had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council and had done an excellent job at the Southern Planning Committee meeting and the committee then resolved to defer making a decision until a site visit had been made.

(ii) 14/2566N Proposed Extensions to The Paddocks, Mount Pleasant, Audlem CW3 0BS  
It was noted that the Planning Group's response was No Objection to this application

(iii) 14/2714N Former Hack Green RAF Camp, Coole Lane, Hack Green, Austerson CW5 8AS  
Councillors decided that the Parish Council had no grounds on which to object to this application.

(iv) 14/2910N Extensions to The Mount, Mill Lane, Audlem, CW3 0AY  
The plans for the application were reviewed and Councillors raised no objections.

#### 14.53 **BENCH ON COPTHORNE DRIVE**

The Clerk reported that it has been confirmed that the land where the bench is proposed to be placed is owned by CEC Highways. As Cllr Higham was away, this item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

#### 14.54 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **54.1 Finance Report**

Mr Kemble, RFO, reported that the 2013/14 accounts had been passed by the internal auditor and sent to the Audit Commission. The large bill from the electricity supplier for the public conveniences was discussed. The Clerk reported that, as the Parish Council's name had been incorrectly stated as Cheshire Parish Council by CEC when the account had been transferred, the account cannot be paid until nPower has amended the account name which can take 3 months. The Clerk will endeavour to transfer the account onto a more competitive rate than the current one as soon as possible.

##### **54.2 Cheque Signatories**

The RFO is still awaiting forms from the bank.

##### **54.3 Small Grant – ADAS – Permanent Bedding**

Cllr Jones commented that the village looks brilliant and Councillors **resolved** to write a letter of congratulations to Audlem In Bloom/ADAS.

**Resolved** to pay for the total cost for refurbishing the permanent bedding

##### **54.4 Authorisation of cheques**

360 K Dixon

Salaries

£306.28



361	G Davies	Salaries	£381.36
362	J Kemble	Salaries	£51.01
363	K Dixon	Office Expenses	£41.48
364	Audlem Angels	Public Conveniences	£144.00
365	Audlem Methodist Church	Room Hire	£40.00
366	Audlem Printers	Posters – extra mtg	£25.00
367	Delmar Press	special newsletter	£128.00
368	Audlem Public Hall	Room Hire	£120.00
369	Shropshire Union Canal Society	Subscription	£25.00
370	ChALC	Training	£60.00
371	PHS Group	Public Conveniences	£141.34
372	Allan Davenport	Audit Services	£110.00
373	HMRC	Payroll	£267.60

**Resolved: the above accounts were approved for payment.**

**54.5 To note the following payments made that were previously authorised**

326	CE- CAB	Awarded Grant	£500.00
327	Audlem Carnival	Awarded Grant	£500.00
328	Audlem Festival	Awarded Grant	£1,250.00
329	Audlem First Responders	Awarded Grant	£1,104.50
330	TAVA	Awarded Grant	£500.00
368	Bromac Nurseries	ADAS Awarded Grant (inc VAT 4%)	£1,040.00
369	Quattro Group (UK) Ltd	Leaflet for Audlem Traders	£167.00

**54.6 To note the receipt of the following**

CEC – Parish Compact £1,150.00

**14.55 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Cheshire Leader Programme, this will be placed on the next agenda.

Police & Crime Commissioners– consultation on the punishment of offenders. This consultation process is open to the public at [www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk) until 15<sup>th</sup> August.

Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles - information from CEC on the new organisations that deliver local services was drawn to Councillors attention. Cllr Jones has asked questions concerning the transfer of services and awaits a response.

Healthwatch: Open Board Meeting notification, closing date for submissions in 24<sup>th</sup> July.

Invitation to apply to become a board member – closing date 25<sup>th</sup> July.

**14.56 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

**56.1 Councillor Vacancy**

It was **resolved** to advertise the vacancy for a parish councilor, following standard procedure.

**56.2 Refurbishment of Assets**

Cllr Jones reported that Bob Spibey is refurbishing 3 different benches, including a picnic bench, to ascertain the level of work and costs involved in refurbishing all the benches



throughout the Parish. The Clerk is obtaining information and pricing on restoring the Buttermarket.

### **56.3 Update of Council Website Pages**

This is still work in progress.

## 14.57 **REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES**

### **57.1 Highways & Transportation**

(i) Highways LAP proposals for A529 and A525 – Cllr Hill noted that the 40mph zone through Swanbach was in the process of being installed. CEC Highways are to carry out a review of a long stretch of A525 from west of Audlem to east of Buerton, including the recurring issues of Whitchurch Road Bridge, the centre of the village, Stafford Street congestion and the speeding issues along Woore Road, through Chapel End and into Buerton. Cllr Hill is in communication with Hankelow Parish Council regarding the on-going issue of the bends at Corbrook Court and alternative measures available.

### **57.2 Community (Cllr G Seddon)**

Nothing to report.

(i) Community Projects Committee – Cllr Hill reported that the last meeting had mainly focussed on the Parish Plan 2015 proposal. He added that the Parish Plan had been instrumental in ensuring that The Lord Combermere was refurbished at a cost of £625,000.

(ii) Public Hall – Cllr Johnson volunteered to be the Parish Council representative on the Public Hall Committee for the time being with Cllr Jones as reserve.

(iii) Audlem Burial Committee

Cllr Furber reported that there is a meeting on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr Jones reported that since Mrs Loweth had resigned, Cllr Christie (as reserve for the burial committee) will take her place as an additional Parish Council representative.

(iv) Parish Plan 2015 – A Proposal had been received from the Community Projects Committee regarding the completion of a Parish Plan 2015 and associated funding implications. There was a discussion about funding and collaborative work with the Neighbourhood Plan process. Cllr G Seddon suggested that, further to the Parish Plan 2010's successful introduction of portfolios for Parish Councillors, the councillors holding the appropriate portfolio could be involved with the sub-committee working on an identified area when the Parish Plan is being developed. The request for £500 in the 2014/15 financial year and a further £1,500 in the year 2015/16 was considered and it was **resolved** to support the production of the Parish Plan 2015 as requested.

### **57.3 Youth & Education (Cllr Higham)**

No report

### **57.4 Law & Order**

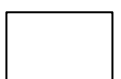
Cllr Furber reported that he had spoken recently to Nick Jarvis, Audlem's CPSO, who was happy to report that there were no issues of concern. The next meeting is on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July which Cllr Siddorns will be attending and continuing to pursue the matter of the whereabouts of the speed guns to which the Parish Council had contributed.

### **57.5 Local Tourism & Business**

Cllr Langston reported the Party on the Park had been a successful event for attendees and ASET alike. The next event is the Festival of Transport at the end of July with Historic Boats on the canal, a visiting helicopter and a fly past by an RAF Dakota.

### **57.6 Heritage & Localism (Cllr Higham)**

Nothing to report.



**57.7 Wildlife & Ecology (Cllr Down)**

The minutes of the latest meeting will be circulated.

**57.8 Health**

Cllr Jones reported that no further progress had been heard from South Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group on the delay in transfer of services. It was agreed to write to Healthwatch CE on this matter in time for their upcoming Open Board Meeting.

**57.9 Communications**

Cllr P Seddon reported that the Newsletter deadline is 19<sup>th</sup> July. Articles on Public Rights of Way and also the Summer Competition for children relating to the Neighbourhood Plan will be included.

(i) SuperFast Broadband – Cllr G Seddon reported that Andrew Arditti of Connecting Cheshire had confirmed that cabinet and underground cable work continues. A connection date is not yet available but it should be this summer.

**57.10 Access & Inclusion**

Cllr Christie reported that the ADCA AGM had been held on 13<sup>th</sup> June and Dr Nancy Verso had been the guest speaker. The meeting reviewed the services that are provided including the volunteer driver scheme for which more drivers are required. Cllr Christie and Mr Peter Ellis were re-elected as trustees.

**57.11 Devolved Services**

The matter raised by Mr Bill Consterdine in the Public Forum was discussed and it was **resolved** that the Parish Council write to CEC Leader Cllr Michael E Jones to urge him to encourage his officers to prioritise Audlem's efforts towards devolution of the playing fields.

(i) Public Conveniences – Cllr Hill reported that he had received a glowing letter of thanks and praise regarding the public conveniences. There had been issues with the lock to the Disabled Toilet and Cllr Hill was at a loss as to why anyone would wish to vandalise the locks, leaving vulnerable people at risk of being locked in. Des Guerin was able to resolve the matter and Councillors agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr Guerin. There had also been issues with the ladies toilet door following the Party on the Park.

**57.12 ADAPT**

Cllr Johnson reported that he had been unable to attend the latest ADAPT meeting but he would circulate the minutes to councillors.

**57.13 Commons & Greens Committee**

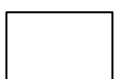
Mr Bonell, who rents Longhill Moss, has requested that the stock fencing between the field and the track be repaired as it is no longer fit to contain stock. Cllr Furber added that, despite Mr Bonell re-seeding it at his own cost less than 2 years ago, the field is ridden with docks. Cllr Furber asked that the Parish Council consider having it sprayed before the dock seeds and the situation is exacerbated. The RFO confirmed that there were ring-fenced funds available. It was **resolved** that Cllr Furber could arrange for the field to be sprayed up to a cost of £200 and additionally seek quotes for the fencing.

**57.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Langston)**

No new matters were reported.

**14.58 PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Cllr Jones reported that Cllr Siddorns had been invited to complete a questionnaire about the pharmacy requirements of local communities. He has contacted CEC Cllr Janet Clowes about this as he was concerned to find that Audlem's Pharmacy was not shown in the



appropriate area map and also that the consultation was not being promoted within the community. It was agreed that this item should be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

14.59 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllr Christie reported that the PROW statements that she and Cllr Hill had made regarding the proposed footpath from Cheshire Street and The Shroppie Fly had been received from CEC.

14.60 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Public Information Displays  
Cophorne Drive Bench  
Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment  
Neighbourhood Plan  
Leader Programme  
Review of Council policies

14.61 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

