

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY 9TH JUNE 2014 AT 7.30PM
METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM

PRESENT:

Cllr Johnson	Cllr Jones	Cllr G Seddon	Cllr Higham
Cllr Furber	Cllr Christie	Cllr P Seddon	Cllr Siddorns
Cllr Down			

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

Also Present: John Tilling (AOL & Community Projects Committee), Bob Cartwright (AOL), Jill Lowe, Tom Lowe, Jane Marshall (all from ADAPT), Daivd Sandiford, Phil Johnston (Healthwatch Cheshire East), CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr David Sandiford of Corbrook Lodge spoke regarding 14.27.1(i). Having heard Mr Sandiford's concerns, councillors agreed to discuss the matter out of agenda order. Cllr Higham spoke of his many concerns regarding the application (including the insufficient amount information within the application, environmental impacts, suitability of the proposed structure for mass storage of biofuel, access and loss of amenity) and Cllr Christie agreed that she also had concerns over the emissions and noise pollution. Cllr G Seddon commented that it was a very large building to be sited so close to residential properties. Cllr Siddorns spoke about concerns over the traffic implications due to fuel deliveries and the difficult entrance point onto the main road. It was unanimously **resolved** to object to the application 14/2310N, stating concerns over dangerous vehicular access, Environmental Health and amenity issues, specifically fume emissions and noise pollution, disruptions to wildlife (particularly bats) and its proximity to residential properties, particularly a dementia unit.

VISITING SPEAKER

Mr Phil Johnston, of Cheshire East Healthwatch spoke and answered questions from the Parish Council. As well as discussions around Healthwatch's responsibilities and the re-organisation of Health and Social Care nationally, the difficulties encountered by Audlem residents were spoken about, particularly the incomplete transfer from Chester and Wirral to Cheshire East causing delays for patients referrals to consultants. It was resolved that a letter be written to the Clinical Commissioning Group as well as CEC leaders and Stephen O'Brien MP voicing these concerns. Mr Johnston also urged the reporting of individual case studies/examples to Healthwatch to lend weight to their lobbying on residents behalf. Mr Johnston was strongly urged to take Councillors' concerns back to the relevant individuals at Healthwatch so they could ensure the transfer was completed urgently.

14.23 APOLOGIES

Cllr Hill (holiday)

Cllr Loweth had tendered her resignation as she is in the process of moving out of the area.



14.24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr Furber declared an interest in 14.27.2(i)

14.25 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the meeting held on 12th May 2014 were amended to reflect that the Accounts for 2013/14 were the final accounts and The Annual Governance Statement was also signed and then accepted as a true record.

14.26 MATTERS ARISING

Outcome of conservation officers' report on installation of tiles at Kebab Shop – No further information received from the Enforcement Officer at CEC.

Commercial bin collection issue – Resolved.

Noticeboard at Bagley Lane Canal Bridge – CEC and CRT have been contacted and have agreed to investigate.

Contribution to cost of projector from CEC – The Clerk had contacted Tina Jones at CEC, Ms Jones investigated however there are no funds available.

Dog Signage – 2 quotations have been received and the sign will be erected in due course.

14.27 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

27.1 Planning Applications – To consider the following:

(i) 14/2310N Proposed construction of an outbuilding to house biomass boilers to serve Corbrook Court Care site at Morris Care, Corbrook Court Care Home, Corbrook, Audlem, Crewe, CW3 0HF - See Public Forum above

(ii) 14/2206N Construction of a two storey extension with cellar, adoption of farm access & block domestic access at Rose Cottage, Green Lane, Audlem, CW3 0ET - The application was considered and it was unanimously **resolved** that no objection be raised.

(iii) 14/2470N Single storey side extension, internal remodelling, replacement windows & external render to building at Honeysuckle Cottage, Hardys Lane, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 0EU - The application was considered and it was unanimously **resolved** that no objection be raised.

27.2 Planning Appeals

(i) Audlem Road – Cllr Jones proposed a formal vote of thanks to the Planning Group for their hard work on this. Particular thanks went to Cllr G Seddon who spoke on behalf of Audlem at the Appeal and indeed was referred to as “the excellent Mr Seddon” by the Inspector. Cllr Seddon reported that the appeal had been much about the Local Plan and the 5 year Housing Land Supply but that as good a case as possible had been presented. The outcome date is not known as yet.

(ii) Heathfield Road – It is now believed that an appeal is to be made. There was a discussion about how this might be dealt with and what CEC’s stance might be, the planning group agreed to find out about this latter point. With so many factors still unresolved, the council agreed to make a decision in principle. It was unanimously **resolved** that, should CEC decide to fight the appeal, of the refusal for planning permission of application 13/5162/N, Audlem Parish Council would speak as an interested party in support of the original decision to refuse.

27.3 Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors had received a training session on Neighbourhood Planning and Heritage & Localism on 5th June.



Cllr Jones read out a letter from CEC Leader Michael E Jones regarding a new initiative called 'Resident First' Neighbourhood Plan, in which CEC are proposing that Parish Councils will be supported in leading a 'fast track process' within their community and be completed in a significantly shorter timeframe than a standard Neighbourhood Plan. There was a discussion about many aspects of this, which was contributed to by CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey. It was **resolved** that, as the letter requested, the Parish Council would register an interest by 20th June and would ask Cllr Michael E Jones for a written response to many outstanding queries. It was then **resolved** that a public meeting be held before the next council meeting (14th July) to gauge the level of public support for such an undertaking, as community involvement is crucial to the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. The Planning group will organise and publicise this event with the aid of the Clerk.

27.4 Thornton House Redevelopment – Cllr Higham reported that he had spoken to CEC and that there is no objection to the Thornton Gardens name. Cllr Higham is to approach Wulvern about erecting a plaque on completion to reflect this.

14.28 HERITAGE FUND AND LOCALISM ACT

Further to the training session on 5th June, Cllr Higham asked for agreement from the Parish Council to put a group together which would draw up a list of assets within the locality for the Right to Bid Register. It was unanimously **resolved** that a list should be created by March 2015. Public awareness and involvement will be promoted through the Newsletter and it was agreed that the previous Parish Plan would provide a suitable starting point for the list.

14.29 REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES

29.1 Highways & Transportation (Cllr Hill) – Cllr Siddorns reported that the A51 will be closed from 11th with the diversion passing through the village and that road repairs and re-marking of white lines are both scheduled for June/July. The Damson Lane drains have been examined and will have to be repaired by hand. The Whitchurch Road Bridge traffic lights had been removed today and there is to be awareness signage erected to try to reduce the risk of further incidents. At the LAP meeting Cllr Rachel Bailey had raised the possibility of a 40mph limit between Audlem & Hankelow, which she had not discussed with Audlem Parish Council, who had previously disagreed with a similar proposal. Bank issues along Whitchurch Road, beyond the confines of the village, were also mentioned.

(i) Highways Safety Issues – Cllr Siddorns reported that the A529 (Swanbach) speed restrictions are currently out to tender and are to be installed in July and also the Bagley Lane gullies have now been fixed.

The Clerk reported that, following the resurfacing of the pavements along Cheshire Street, Cllr Hill had enquired about the resurfacing of the pavements on Stafford Street and CEC Highways confirmed that, as the road would have to be closed for this work to be completed, it was scheduled to be carried out later in the year with other works on A525 to minimise the disruption to road users.

29.2 Community (Cllr G Seddon) – Nothing to report.

(i) Community Projects Committee – minutes had been circulated, no comments made.

29.3 Youth & Education (Cllrs Higham & Loweth) – Cllr Higham reported that he had received a letter from the Head Teacher of St James' Audlem Primary School and that he would be arranging to meet her soon.



29.4 Law & Order (Cllr Furber) – Cllr Furber had nothing to report, but he had yet to hear about the Speedgun location from the Police. Cllr Higham reported that there had been an incidence of graffiti and littering on the public bench at the end of Windmill Drive which had occurred on Friday night. As a result the bench may need refurbishment.

29.5 Local Tourism & Business (Cllr Langston) – Cllr Langston reported that the village was looking fabulous now that the summer planting had been done and the flags had been put up. The Music Festival had been well attended despite the inclement weather, as had the RNLI event at Overwater Marina. Cllr Langston also reported that there was a water pooling issue by the Butter Market due the concrete base of the Bus Stop Information Point blocking the run-off to the drain, the Clerk will raise this with the appropriate CEC department.

29.6 Planning (Cllr Johnson) – see 14.27

29.7 Wildlife & Ecology (Cllr Down) – Nothing to report.

29.8 Health (Cllr Jones) – See Visiting Speaker report above.

29.9 Communications (Cllr P Seddon) – The deadline for the next newsletter is 10th July.

(i) SuperFast Broadband – Cllr G Seddon will endeavour to get a report from Connecting Cheshire for the July meeting.

29.10 Access & Inclusion (Cllr Christie) – Cllr Christie reported from the last meeting of ADCA on 6.6.14, they now have 30+ volunteers; the various groups continue to flourish. The Volunteer Car Driver scheme is very successful and as a result more volunteer drivers are needed to spread the load. The third ADCA AGM is on Friday 13th in The Lord Combermere at 2pm, Dr Nancy Verso will speak on the latest developments in the Medical Practice, all are welcome.

29.11 Devolved Services (Cllr Siddorns) – Cllr Siddorns reported that he had spoken to Sharron Angus-Crawshaw about the lack of response to letters sent to CEC about devolution of services and she will look into this. Running costs for the past 5 years are needed in order to progress matters.

(i) Public Car Park and Playing Fields Devolution – public perception of the Parish Council's motives might be incorrect and it may be worthwhile reiterating that devolution is about protecting resources for the community. It was agreed that this would be included in the next newsletter.

29.12 ADAPT (Cllr Johnson) – No report. Cllr Langston stepped down as Parish Council Representative.

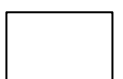
29.13 Commons & Greens Committee (Cllr Furber) – Cllr Furber reported that he had spoken to Peter Morgan (ex-NFU and former APC councillor) about the Longhill Moss drainage and he agreed that it was not the responsibility of the Parish Council once it had passed on and through other land and this was supported by previous correspondence from the Chief Executive of Nantwich and Crewe Borough Council.

29.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Langston) – Cllr Langston reported that the Car Park light had been reported to Property Services but they will not come out to fix a single 'daylight burner' as the costs outweigh the benefits. He also drew to the council's attention the fact that these lights are not maintained by the same department of CEC as street lighting and the different departments will not resolve issues for each other.

14.30 FINANCIAL MATTERS

30.1 To receive RFO's report and amended figures for April

The RFO reported that the carry forward is £63,000 and that this leaves £6,900 unallocated



as the budget was set at a lower figure.

(i) Grants made to ASET – the RFO’s list was received.

30.2 To receive final accounts 2013/14 – see 14.25

30.3 Authorisation of cheques

347	K Dixon – monthly salary	£306.28
348	J Kemble – monthly salary	£50.81
349	G Davies – monthly salary	£258.78
350	K Dixon – Office Expenses	£13.80
351	Audlem Angels – Public Conveniences (May)	£144.00
352	Audlem Methodist Church – Room Hire	£40.00
353	H Jones – Printing Expenses (Planning Appeal)	£37.98
354	G Seddon – Councillor Expenses (Planning Appeal)	£103.40
355	A P Smith – Village Flags	£216.00
356	K Dixon – Projector	£220.83

Resolved: the above accounts were approved for payment.

30.4 Cheque Signatories

It was agreed that Cllr Jones and Cllr G Seddon (as Chair and Vice-chair) would become cheque signatories alongside Cllr Hill and Cllr Down, and Cllr Johnson would no longer be one. The RFO will obtain the necessary paperwork for this to be carried out at the next meeting.

14.31 **PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

31.1 Refurbishment of Assets

It was agreed that the assets require inspection and the costs of refurbishments ascertained to draw up an appropriate refurbishment schedule Cllr Jones to contact local tradesman to carry out an initial inspection. It was agreed that the Buttermarket would need inspection by specialists and the Clerk would progress this.

31.2 Use of Buttermarket

A draft policy for use of The Buttermarket was reviewed by councillors and it was unanimously **resolved** that this be adopted. The policy will be placed on AOL and on the noticeboard.

32.3 Update of Council Website Pages

Cllr P Seddon and the Clerk will review the content and layout and propose appropriate revisions.

14.32 **PUBLIC INFORMATION DISPLAYS**

It was agreed that the funding of this be reviewed in a couple of months.

14.33 **WHITCHURCH ROAD BENCH**

The possible provision of a bench at the junction of Whitchurch Road and Copthorne Drive was discussed. Cllr Higham reported that there was concern amongst the residents of Copthorne Drive. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed further at the next meeting.



14.34 RIGHTS OF WAY

The process of identifying all footpaths in use within the Parish was discussed and it was agreed that Audlem Ramblers Society be asked to help and the matter promoted in the Newsletter.

Cllr Christie spoke on behalf a resident who is concerned about the overgrown nature of the 2 footpaths at the bottom of School Lane, especially that there is a fallen tree blocking the brook and the path along Audlem Vale. The path up Holmes Bank is also overgrown. It was agreed that the Parish Council would get in touch with the landowner. Cllr Siddorns queried whether the lack of monitoring of footpaths was another reduction in CEC services, the Clerk will enquire as to their policy on the inspection of Rights of Way.

14.35 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Clerk advised the council that a bill from nPower had been received but the account holder name was incorrect and she was working to resolve this.

14.36 AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL

Further to Cllr Loweth's resignation, a new representative for the Parish Council on The Public Hall Committee needs to be appointed, this was discussed. Cllr Jones will talk to John Tilling about this along with the APHAX committee's request for a trustee.

14.37 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE

There is a meeting next month.

14.38 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllr Christie met with a representative of CEC regarding the path from Cheshire Street to The Shroppie Fly.

14.39 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Councillors were asked to consider attending the Nantwich Community Hub Event, details of which would be circulated.

14.40 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Vacancy

The Royal British Legion's Centenary Poppy Campaign

Audlem Public Hall Representative

Superfast Broadband Update

Website Update

Cheque Signatories

Budget (review and revision)

SEPTEMBER MEETING - Public Information Displays

14.41 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 14th July 2014

DATE OF EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC MEETING – 10th July 2014 at 7pm



CHAIRMAN _____

Date _____

UNCONFIRMED

