

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY 11TH MAY 2015 AT 7.30PM
METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM

PRESENT:

Cllr Higham
Cllr Siddorns

Cllr Jones
Cllr P Seddon

Cllr G Seddon
Cllr Tilling

Cllr Down
Cllr Consterdine

In Attendance: K Dixon (Clerk)

Present: Mr J Tilling, Mr B Cartwright (AOL), Mr J Thompson, Mrs L Smith

15.01 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The newly elected councillors who were present signed their declarations of acceptance of office which were witnessed by the Clerk; they also completed copies of the personal interest and code of conduct forms as legally required.

15.02 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Hill, Christie and Johnson and were accepted.

15.03 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Jones was nominated and unanimously re-elected as Chair.

15.04 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr G Seddon was nominated and unanimously re-elected as Vice Chair.

- 15.05 APPOINTMENTS** – To consider appointments to Parish Council committees/portfolio holders and outside organisations – it was agreed to defer these appointments until the next meeting, with the previous portfolio holders agreeing to continue in their previous roles until then.

PUBLIC FORUM

Lynne Smith spoke on behalf of ASET. The group is grateful for the grant from the Parish Council for the Party on the Park event, as it is proving increasingly challenging to find event sponsors and without such a grant it would not be possible to put on such events for the village. Cllr Jones responded that she was sure all the village were grateful to the ASET team for all the work they do. Cllr G Seddon reported the recent untimely death of former Parish Councillor Mrs Irene Stockton. Cllr Jones called for a minute of silence which was observed by all in the room. Cllr Consterdine commented that fellow former councillor Peter Morgan had suggested that the Play Area be dedicated to Mrs Stockton in recognition of her significant work for the younger members of the community and the development of the Play Area itself. Cllr Jones agreed that this should be considered and as such should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

- 15.06 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - None.



15.07 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record.

15.08 MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Shop Signage – The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Ms Burdon of Flower Divas and confirmed that her sign had been approved by Cheshire East as part of the process of her gaining change of use for her new premises.
- (ii) The Clerk reported that she had as yet been unable to speak to the owners of Audlem Cyclesport herself and so the matter of the plaque relocation had not progressed. Once she has spoken to the owners, she will liaise further with Mrs Tarrant and St James' PCC.
- (iii) The Clerk reported that she had just received confirmation that the Tree Preservation Order for specific large trees on the Little Heath development site has been completed.

15.09 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

09.1 Neighbourhood Plan

The Village Meeting was held on 29th April and used as a consultation opportunity for the Neighbourhood Plan which entered its 6 week pre-submission consultation phase on 27th April. The meeting was attended by around 100 residents and the feedback is going to be reviewed at the Steering Committee at its next meeting on 13th May.

Cheshire Community Action have been very useful and produced the Basic Conditions Statement, a lengthy document required for the Plan. A group of volunteers has been looking at sustainability and the Steering Committee have also been developing the Community Asset Register of green and open spaces. There is a strategy on the CEC website but there may be a requirement to formally lg these spaces. Cllr Tilling asked whether the feedback forms are still available for residents to fill in, Cllr G Seddon responded that there are and it was agreed that Cllr P Seddon will ensure that this and where the forms in hardcopy can be found are publicised. Cllr Siddons asked about how useful the Neighbourhood Plan is whilst still only emerging and Cllr Jones responded that there has been precedent to demonstrate that an emerging Neighbourhood Plan does give some limited protection. She also commented that she had written recently to CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey and Tom Evans of CEC Planning & Development Dept asking about CEC's strategy for planning applications in light of the 5 year Housing Land Supply figures being rejected.

09.2 Planning Applications

15/1964N Outline Application for proposed residential building plot on existing garden area for 4 bed detached house at Green Lane House, 31, GREEN LANE, AUDLEM, CREWE, CHESHIRE, CW3 0ES

The planning application was reviewed along with the response lodged by the Environment Agency. It was agreed that councillors would look at the site and forward their comments to the Clerk by 15th May.

15.10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Finance Report

The Clerk reported that the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015 were close to completion and the Councillors were furnished with a draft reconciliation. Councillors also received the first month's account for the new financial year.



10.2 Authorisation of cheques

1092	K Dixon	Salaries	£388.76
1093	G Davies	Salaries Street Cleaning	£420.00
1094	K Dixon	Office Expenses	£51.78
1095	Audlem Methodist Church	Room Hire	£40.00
1096	Audlem Angels	Public Conveniences	£144.00
1097	CPRE	Subscription	£36.00
1098	Audlem Printers	NP Printing	£433.00
1099	S Williams (Llovely)	Village Mtg Refreshments	£67.30
1100	Oxtail & Trotter	Village Mtg Refreshments	£150.00
1101	CPFA	Subscription	£20.00
1102	ChALC	Subscription	£528.32
1103	Delmar Press	Newsletter	£297.00
1105	ChALC	Office Expenses	£13.00
1104	K Dixon	Village Mtg Drinks Refreshments	£84.62

Resolved: the above accounts were approved for payment.

10.3 Payments made in the last month

1089	PHS Group	Public Conveniences	£141.34
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Resolved: the above account was approved for payment retrospectively.

1090	Audlem Carnival Committee	GRANTS	£500.00
1091	Audlem Festival Committee	GRANTS	£1250.00

The payment of the above grants was noted.

10.4 Receipts in the last month

CEC	PRECEPT	£20507.50
CEC	PARISH COMPACT	£1150.00

The receipt of the above was noted. It was noted that the Parish Compact is the contribution that CEC make towards the cost of street cleaning in Audlem.

10.4 Asset Register & Risk Register

It was agreed that three councillors, Cllrs Tilling, Higham and Consterdine, would meet with the Clerk to review and correct the asset register.

15.11 CORRESPONDENCE

- i) A local resident had reported that a tree near the Canal Bridge on Whitchurch Road had an overhanging branch that appeared to be dead and a risk to passers-by. The Clerk reported that the matter had been reported to the Parish Council's Tree Warden and he had inspected the tree and subsequently spoken to the landowner who subsequently removed the branch.
- ii) It was reported that signpost to Coxbank Well is missing. There was a discussion about the origins or the fingerpost. The Clerk is to speak to CEC and also investigate the possibility of a replacement.
- iii) ADAS have contacted the clerk to ask that no mowing be carried out in the next few weeks in the conservation area to allow the rare wild violets that have been found there to set seed. It was agreed that the Clerk should follow this up with Tony Seabridge.



15.12 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**12.1 Co-option**

Mr P Oxley was elected without contest to the Parish Council but has since decided not to take up his position, creating a vacancy. Since there has just been an election, the Parish Council is required to move straight to co-option. The Clerk will advertise the vacant post.

12.2 FOI & H&S Policies

Deferred.

12.3 Grant Policy review

Deferred.

12.4 Councillor Training

Cllr Tilling will be attending the Councillor Induction training held by ChALC. Councillors were asked to consider the training schedule previously circulated and to contact the Clerk with any requests.

15.13 COPTHORNE DRIVE BENCH

Cllr Higham reported that he had recently delivered 23 letters to local residents with details of the proposed bench site (on the east side of the junction of Whitchurch Road and Copthorne Drive) and had already had one reply; he is awaiting further responses.

15.14 REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES

14.1 Highways & Transportation – Cllr Siddorns spoke about the CEC initiative Wheels2Work to help young people in rural areas into work by loaning them a moped for commuting.

Cllr Siddorns also reported that he had written to CEC about the potholes in Paddock Lane and particularly the system for scheduling repairs but also the poor maintenance of road markings throughout the area not only at junctions but also along A roads. There was a discussion about the legal requirements for roadmarking and cats eyes on A roads. It was agreed to ask CEC Highways to attend a meeting as soon as possible.

14.2 Community – Cllr G Seddon reported that CCA Community Pride had been in touch, they have conducted their first visit (in April) and the second is scheduled for June.

(i) Community Projects Committee – No report

(ii) Public Hall – including APHAX – The first result of the Stage 2 of the Lottery Funding bid is expected within 2 weeks.

(iii) Audlem Burial Committee – Nothing to report.

14.3 Youth & Education – Nothing to report.

14.4 Law & Order – Cllr Siddorns had attended a Law & Order Cluster Meeting. The Police are pleased with things in Audlem, there being no real issues but would remind residents to always be aware of opportunists. There is a new speed camera that will be used in the area which records number plates so fixed penalty notices may be issued. The Police are also working with new strategies to reduce the number of speeding motorbikes in the area. The matter of agricultural contractors not adhering to regulations was also discussed at the meeting and the Police are to talk to NFU reps about this. The next Cluster meeting is on 21st July.

14.5 Local Tourism & Business – Cllr Higham had attended a Canal & River Trust meeting and was surprised to note that the volunteer group only contains one Audlem resident. The day to day



maintenance is now carried out by volunteers with the CRT focussing on the major repair and refurbishment projects. CRT provide materials required but local volunteer groups provide the manpower for the maintenance work etc. They also have a scheme for communities to adopt a section of canal to look after. It was agreed that this should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

14.6 Heritage & Localism – currently covered by Neighbourhood Plan

14.7 Wildlife & Ecology – Nothing to Report.

14.8 Health – The next PPG meeting is on 12th May. Cllr Jones confirmed to Cllr Siddorns that the Practice were ensuring that NHS England were aware of the development issues in Audlem.

14.9 Communications – Cllr P Seddon reported that the latest issue of the Newsletter had been published and stated that Kira Nicholls as editor was to be congratulated. Cllr Tilling also commented that the printing of the newsletter was also of excellent quality. Discover Cheshire had requested information on Audlem for their website and Mr Hugh Pocock, as Chair of Audlem Traders, and Mr Bob Cartwright of Audlem Online have been working on this.

14.10 Access & Inclusion – Cllr Higham reported that ADCA had held a meeting and working party to bring volunteers up to date. The continuing issue is the recruitment of volunteer drivers both for ad hoc trips and now also the Day Club on Tuesdays. Cllrs Higham and Tilling will liaise with Mr Cartwright (AOL) on advertising this requirement.

14.11 Devolved Services

(i) Public Conveniences – The Clerk reported that the soap dispenser in the Ladies toilet was broken and urgently needs replacing. It was agreed that the Clerk should order a new dispenser and Cllr Consterdine offered to install it.

(ii) Playing Field Complex Working Party Report – The report is now nearly complete. Cllr Siddorns commented that in the draft report the Car Park was categorised as low risk whereas he considered it to be high risk. There was a discussion on the risk analysis and Cllr Higham and Siddorns agreed to forward their comments to the Working Group as there is a need to ensure that this is carried out properly to ensure that the Parish Council manages the area correctly.

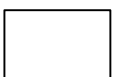
14.12 ADAPT – No report.

14.13 Commons & Greens Committee – The dock treatment that was required on Longhill Moss but had to be delayed last year has now been carried out by Mr N Huntbach.

14.14 Street Lighting – Cllr Tilling reported that there is a street light on Stafford Street that is buzzing and, following a discussion on the topic, she volunteered to review others in the village, including one on Heathfield Road which was mentioned in the discussion.

15.15 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllr Jones and Cllr G Seddon attended a ChALC meeting at which Adrian Fisher (CEC Planning) spoke stating that the Planning Inspector expects CEC to submit their revised Local Plan by the end of July and further meetings on the matter are to come. Cllr Jones raised the issue of Parish Councils, as



representatives of their local community, not having a say at the reserved matters stage in the planning process. As a result ChALC are to take up the matter as are other local Parish Councils.

15.16 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Leader Programme – awaiting CEC project

Canal Volunteer Scheme

Green Space Designation

Community Asset Register

Naming of Play Area

Policies Review and Adoption

15.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 8th June 2015

CHAIRMAN

Date

