

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2007**

Present: Cllr R Furber (Chairman) Cllr Mrs K Down (Vice Chairman) Cllr G Stretch
Cllr B Consterdine Cllr M Hill Cllr P Morgan
Cllr Mrs P Seddon Cllr Mrs I Stockton Cllr A Smith

In attendance: Mrs J White – Clerk; Mr J Kemble - RFO

Also present: Inspector Robert Hassall, PC Ken Maple, PSCO Nick Jarvis – to Min 7.89.1
Borough Councillor Mrs R Bailey
Nineteen residents, including representatives of the Audlem Planning Group
Mr O Clarke, Market Drayton Advertiser

PUBLIC FORUM

A group of residents voiced their opinions on planning application P07/1399. Traffic congestion in Heathfield Road associated with the “school run” was also discussed. Cllr Smith reported on measures being taken by St James’ School to encourage parents and children to make the journey on foot. Members of the Audlem Planning Group commented upon proposals for a review of the Audlem Conservation Area. Before closing the Public Forum, the Chairman assured residents that the Parish Council would take account of their views when making its decisions.

7.85 **APOLOGIES** – Accepted from Cllr N Huntbach and Cllr Mrs F M Christie.

7.86 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The Chairman was pleased to announce that Audlem had again won first place in its category of the 2007 Community Pride Competition. Audlem Action for Youth had been declared joint winner of the Children’s Award, which included a cash prize.
Resolved: that prize monies be passed to Audlem Action for Youth.

7.87 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
Cllr Jones declared a prejudicial interest in planning application P07/1399.
Cllr Consterdine declared a personal interest in planning application P07/1458.
Cllr Hill declared a personal interest in planning application P07/1175.

7.88 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st October.

7.89 **PARISH AFFAIRS**
89.1 Village policing – PC Ken Maple reported on incidents where “cold callers” had pestered vulnerable residents. His offer to investigate the practicalities of setting up “No Cold Calling Zones” was approved by Councillors. Inspector Bob Hassall reported that PCSO Nick Jarvis was now able to make unaccompanied visits to Audlem and was looking forward to working with residents. He also reported that crime in the Nantwich Neighbourhood Policing Area was down 21% when compared with the same six month period in 2006. It was confirmed that parking a vehicle so as to obstruct a driveway was an offence and that complaints about incidents in Moorsfield Avenue would be followed up.
89.2 Youth Council – The Chairman, Cllr Mrs Down, Cllr Stretch and Cllr Hill reported on the first meeting of Audlem Youth Council. Ten representatives had been elected by pupils at Brine Leas School and 7 had attended the meeting earlier that evening. This was encouraging as the meeting had unfortunately coincided with Bonfire Night.
89.3 Children’s playground – Cllr Mrs Stockton proposed that further improvement should take place it was agreed that details and costs for an up-to-date play surface should be brought to the next meeting.
89.4 Ambulance response times – No response as yet from NW Ambulance Service.
89.5 Dioramas – Cllr Consterdine reported that dioramas had been installed at the car park entrance and by the canal. Cllr Stretch’s dissatisfaction with the car park location was noted.
89.6 Cheshire Year of the Gardens 2008 – To be considered at the next meeting.

- 7.90 REVIEW OF AUDLEM CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER APPRAISAL (END DATE 14.11.07)
Resolved: that Cllr Morgan work with Mr Greville Watts and a member of the Audlem Planning Group to formulate a response; and that the response be approved by a majority of Audlem Parish Council before being forwarded by the Clerk to Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council.
- 7.91 ADOPTION OF NEW STANDING ORDERS
 The following amendments were agreed:
 No. 3 – “Four members shall constitute a quorum.”
 No. 6 (final sentence) – “The Public Forum shall be extended beyond 15 minutes at the Chairman’s discretion.”
Resolved: that Resolution 4.120 (1st November 2004) be rescinded and that new Model Standing Orders(as amended) be adopted.
- 7.92 FINANCIAL MATTERS
92.1 External Audit Report 2006/07 – Receipt of a clean report was noted.
92.2 Risk assessment – Insurance cover
Resolved: that the Parish Council increase the level of Fidelity Guarantee insurance to £30,000.
92.3 Authorisation of payments

Dickinson Catering Equipment – Public Hall cutlery (LGA1972s133)	£404.08
UHY Hacker Young - External audit (LGA1972s122)	£364.25
Poppy Appeal (LGA1972s137)	£25.00
J White - out of pocket expenditure August/October (LGA1972s122)	£23.40
Nemisis Fireworks – shared with ADAS/ASET (LGA1972s144)	£850.00
G Davies – street cleaning September/October (LGA1972s111)	£422.88
Delmar Press – Autumn newsletter (LGA1972s142)	£285.00

Resolved: that the above accounts be approved for payment.
92.4 Report of RFO – The RFO was welcomed to the meeting. He reported on changes to the Parish Council’s internal audit arrangements and summarised the current financial position. It was noted that the year’s rent for Longhill Moss was still outstanding.
92.5 Lengthsman’s workload – Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should seek advice regarding employment status. Cllr Hill agreed to obtain the lengthsman’s suggestions about additional work.
- 7.93 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
93.1 CNBC Planning applications
P07/1396 Loft conversion and rear dormer window @ 7 Hillary Drive
P07/1406 Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension @ 24 Windmill Drive
P07/1420 Listed building consent for removal & replacement of 2 ground floors along with forming 1 new opening between existing kitchen & dining room & enlarging another opening @ The Lymes, Woore Road
P07/1458 New front porch & extension to dormers on rear elevation @ 16 Moorsfield Avenue
P07/1443 Relocation of vehicular access etc @ 40 Heathfield Road
Resolved: that the Parish Council has no objection to the above applications.
P07/1399 One dwelling @ land at rear of Lilac Cottage, Monks Lane
Resolved: The Parish Council, having noted the lack of detail on the plan provided and having heard representations from several neighbours, objects to the proposal for the following reasons: (a) the development of backland should be discouraged, being detrimental to the character and appearance of the wider area; (b) Heathfield Road is already congested and additional traffic generated by further development would increase the hazard to pedestrians, including children walking to and from primary school; (c) the proposed development, being of 2 storeys, is unacceptable due to its height and would be an overly dominant and intrusive feature in an area of low rise dwellings, overlooking surrounding properties and threatening the existing amenity of neighbours; (d) there is insufficient space for a vehicle turning area so that vehicles would have to reverse either up or down the track which has a narrow access point, resulting in a threat to highway safety; (e) existing problems relating to drainage of surface water could be exacerbated by further development; and (f) essential access for maintenance purposes to underground services is under threat.
P07/1012 Amended plan – 8 new dwellings @ 72 Heathfield Road
Resolved: that the Parish Council objects to the proposals and reiterates comments made previously (Min 7.58.2)

P07/1175 Ten dwellings @ The Workshops, Kettle Lane

Resolved: that the Parish Council approves the amended proposals and is particularly anxious that the developer should meet the full planning requirements with regard to provision of affordable housing in this rural location.

93.2 CNBC Planning notices – The following Notices were received:

P07/0993 Single storey rear extension, garage & new access @ Ashleigh, Paddock Lane – Refusal

P07/0978 Detached double garage @ Springfields Cottage, 50 Whitchurch Road – Full Permission

P07/0988 First floor & single storey rear extension @ 34 Stafford Street – Full Permission

P07/1122 Change of use of building from crop spraying business to service/repair of vehicles and extension of building for agricultural storage @ Rose Cottage, Green Lane – Refusal

93.3 CNBC Local Development Framework: Core Strategy – Issues & Options Consultation

The Chairman, Cllr Morgan and Cllr Hill said they would attend the Parish Conference on 13th November to take part in discussions.

Resolved: that comments be forwarded to the Clerk for submission to CNBC by 26th November.

93.4 CCC Minerals Development Framework – Issues and options consultation

Resolved: that no comment be made.

7.94 HIGHWAYS

94.1 Maintenance matters - Cllr Consterdine gave a verbal report on his recent site meeting with Bob Williams. It was anticipated that written notes of the meeting would be available in the near future.

94.2 Safety of walls (Whitchurch Road and Vicarage Lane) – No response as yet from Highways/Legal Services.

Deleted: ¶

7.95 PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society – Report dated 1st August was received.

7.96 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE – It was noted precept for the year 2008/09 which has been set at £1310 for Audlem.

7.97 AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL – Cllr Stretch reported that the new bar licence system continued to be a problem. The most recent film show had unfortunately resulted in a large loss but it was hoped that the next show, on 17th November (Atonement and Ratatouille), would be more successful. New cutlery had been purchased and estimates had been received for kitchen tiling and decorating. Six hundred people had attended for the flu jab session on 3rd November.

7.98 COMMONS & GREENS COMMITTEE

Longhill Moss – The Chairman reported that upon investigation the contractor had found 2 areas of crushed pipe which had not been back filled. He had been unable to contact other members of the Committee but had decided to treat the matter as an emergency because the weather was currently dry and it would ultimately be more expensive to refill the hole and delay action until next year when the weather could be wet. He had therefore authorised the contractor to continue with installation of shuttering and the replacement of 100 metres of pipe. The cost was likely to be at least £4,000. Cllr Morgan informed colleagues that he would do his best to ensure that the Borough Council and County Council made a contribution towards costs.

Resolved: that the Chairman's decision be confirmed.

7.99 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED – Cllr Mrs Down and Cllr Morgan had attended the Cheshire Planning Forum at Winsford on 5th October.

7.100 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – Noted.

7.101 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING – Asset inspections.

7.102 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 3RD DECEMBER

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

_____ Chairman