

**AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2015 AT 7.30PM**  
**METHODIST MEETING ROOMS, SHROPSHIRE STREET, AUDLEM**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr Higham	Cllr Jones (Chair)	Cllr Christie	Cllr Johnson
Cllr G Seddon	Cllr Hill	Cllr P Seddon	Cllr Consterdine
Cllr Siddorns			

**In Attendance:** K Dixon (Clerk)**Present:** Mr John Tilling (AOL), CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey, Mrs Dilys BradshawPUBLIC FORUM

None

15.62 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Down &amp; Thompson

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had recently received Cllr Tilling's resignation.

15.63 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr G Seddon declared an interest in the Grant Application from Audlem Cricket Club (15.68.4) as he is a life member.

15.64 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

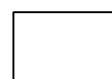
The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record with a small amendment (in response to a resident's comments) to 15.57, removing any reference to who may have mown the grass.

15.65 MATTERS ARISING**(i)** Coxbank Fingerpost – nothing further at present.

**(ii)** A525 – The Clerk had received information that the proposed changes to the speed limits in Burleydam, Buerton and the outskirts of Audlem are about to be issued for consultation. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey commented that these proposals will include signage and road markings to encourage speed reduction/adherence to the new limits. The Clerk commented that she had sought confirmation as to whether this might include additional traffic calming measures and had been informed by a CEC Highways officer that it did not. The Highways Working Group agreed to meet again to update their list of priorities for the Parish.

**(iii)** Trees on Windmill Drive – The Clerk reported that she had managed to get confirmation from ANSA that they would prune the trees but not until the sap had stopped rising to ensure that the silver birch tree was not killed by the work. The Clerk also reported that she had been able to establish that CEC Highways is responsible for the verges in Sycamore Close and had advised Mrs Gray of the appropriate contact information.

**(iv)** Play Area Repair – The Clerk reported that, following her reporting of the damage, she had now received confirmation from CEC/ANSA that the work would be carried out within 4



weeks.

**(v) Fracking** – The letter written to Audlem’s MP had been acknowledged but no response on the matter had yet been received.

**(vi) Buttermarket** – There continue to be challenges in getting an appropriate craftsman to confirm the work required.

**(vii) Water Supply Issues** – No response from United Utilities as yet.

**(viii) Communication with CEC** – The Clerk reported that matters had improved a little since the end of the summer holiday period.

## 15.66 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

### **66.1 Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Jones reported that the consultation period for the Audlem Neighbourhood Plan (ANP) had finished and there had been very few responses. There were 2 responses from developers but these have not yet been seen by the Steering Committee. The CEC response included suggested minor amendments which will be passed to the Independent Examiner. Cllr Jones attended the interviews for the prospective Independent Examiner; there are 2 candidates both of whom would be appropriate. The appointment will be made within the next week and the Independent Examination may be completed as soon as the end of October.

### **66.2 Planning Applications**

**(i) 15/1548N** Planning Permission for a dwelling on the Land adjacent to Little Villa, Paddock Lane, Audlem – The Parish Council had been dismayed to hear that this application for development outside the settlement boundary had been given permission by delegated authority. A letter to this effect had been written to the leader of CEC Cllr Michael E Jones, Audlem Ward Councillor and the Head of CEC Planning but there had not been any response to this letter. There was a discussion about the matter, particularly the lack of consideration of the emerging Audlem Neighbourhood Plan (ANP) in the Officer’s Report and Decision Report.

**(ii) 15/1964N** Planning Permission for one dwelling at Green Lane House, Green Lane, Audlem – This application had been referred to the Southern Planning Committee and Cllr Jones spoke at the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> September explaining the progress of the ANP. The Parish Council’s dismay at the lack of weight this was afforded in the Officer’s Report (which recommended the application be granted permission despite it being outside the settlement boundary and contrary to the ANP) was emphasised. The Committee then voted by a majority to refuse permission as it was contrary to the community’s emerging NP and outside the settlement boundary.

**(iii) 15/3053N** Variation of conditions at Kinsey House, Kinsey Heath, Audlem – no objection had been raised.

**(iv) 15/3132N** New access from Woore Road and construction of new garage/outbuilding with a room in the roofspace at Limehurst, Woore Road, Audlem - The Parish Council objected to this application on several grounds relating to position, materials and road safety. Cllr Jones reported that it was recently noticed that Highways had not been consulted on this application despite the new additional access onto Woore Road very near a blind bend. CEC Highways have been informed about the Parish Council’s concerns and are looking into the matter.

**(v) 15/3140T** Application for works to a Willow Tree at 17 Cheshire Street, Audlem – No objection has been raised.

**(vi) 15/3354N** Amendments to details of the Housing Development at 25 Stafford St,



Audlem – It was noted that the Parish Council had recorded concern about neighbouring properties being overlooked.

**(vii) 15/3686N** Installation of 4,000l underground Calor Gas Tank to serve multiple dwellings at 25 Stafford St, Audlem – There was a discussion about the benefits and disadvantages of a gas company supplied tank and also fuel tankers accessing the site. It appears likely that an alternative solution may now be used (individual oil tanks). The Parish Council has lodged its concerns about access.

**(viii) 15/3768N** Proposed 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Extension to Willow Farm, Bunsley Bank, Audlem – No objection was raised.

**(ix) 15/3923N** Listed Building Consent for altering the entrance at Holly House 21 Stafford St, Audlem – The Parish Council lodged its concerns about changes to the entrance's appearance and the use of new rather than original materials when it is within a conservation area.

**(x) 15/4202N** Planning Permission for First Floor Balcony at Mount Pleasant Farm, Mount Pleasant, Audlem – No objection was raised.

**(xi) 15/4240N** Extension and alterations at Cobb Cottage, Monks Lane, Audlem – No objection was raised so long as the neighbours are not overlooked.

CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey reported that the new Head of Planning was Sean Hannaby.

#### 15.67 APHAx PROJECT

The impact of the building work on the car park was discussed. It was agreed that there is a need to ensure that the contractors will be held to returning the car park to at least its original condition as well as minimising the impact on the car park use during the building work, through traffic management of deliveries, parking of contractors vehicles and size of site. It was then agreed that the Playing Field Complex Working Group would work on this matter, as it is likely that the car park will be devolved before the building work is completed, and that the group would draft a letter (for approval by the full Parish Council) to the APHAx committee and the Public Hall Trustees asking that they are robust in ensuring that the building contract protects the car park. The group will also look at the impact on the teenshelter. The matter of the recycling bins was also discussed.

#### 15.68 FINANCIAL MATTERS

##### **68.1 Finance Report**

The Clerk circulated financial information and reported that as the half year end is imminent she will be completing the second quarterly bank reconciliation and half year accounts this month. The Finance Sub Committee will meet as the Audit Review Panel to review the half year figures. The Public Conveniences' actual income is slightly exceeding predicted income and expenses are currently less than budgeted.

Cleaning Contract – The Parish Council resolved to award the cleaning contract for the Public Conveniences to 3 Counties Cleaning.

CCTV – The Clerk reported that Wistonia Electrical & Security had confirmed that the image quality is suitable and Cllr Higham's other queries had also been answered satisfactorily.

##### **68.2 Receipts**

The following recent receipts and transactions were noted.

BANK TRANSFER	From current a/c to reserve a/c	£40,000.00
Co-op AC	Interest	£1.38
TOILET	HONESTY BOX INCOME	£34.97



TOILET	HONESTY BOX INCOME	£96.83
TOILET	HONESTY BOX INCOME	£66.27
Santander	Interest	£11.52
Santander	Interest	£18.98
Cheshire East Council	Precept	£18,764.50

### **68.3 Authorisation of cheques**

1502	K Dixon	Salaries	£400.90
1503	G Davies	street cleaning	£367.50
1504	K Dixon	Office Expenses	£26.15
1505	Audlem Printers	NP Printing	£58.00
1506	Audlem Methodist Church	room hire	£40.00
1507	HMRC	Salaries	£300.80
1508	BDO	External Audit	£240.00
1509	Royal British Legion	Donation (Section 137)	£50.00
1510	Audlem Public Hall	village mtg - room hire	£85.00
1257	K Dixon	Cleaning Supplies	£55.20
1258	npower	Public Conveniences	£83.55
1259	3 Counties Cleaning	Public Conveniences	£169.00
1260	D Siddorns	Councillor Travel Expenses	£21.60
1261	PHS Group	Public Conveniences	£141.34
1262	Audlem Public Hall	NP – room hire	£140.00

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

### **68.4 Grant Applications**

**(i) Audlem Cricket Club** The grant application for £1290 for the purchase of a new sight screen was discussed. Councillors commended the club for producing an excellent application with evidence of their fundraising and clear records of expenditure from rent to match balls and the recycling of resources. After an initial proposal to grant the full amount, it was resolved to follow the Finance Sub-committee's recommendation to make a grant of £1000 and that the Parish Council suggest that the club approach other local Parish Councils for funding to supplement this grant.

**(ii) Audlem Football Club** The application could not be considered as the correct financial information had not been received.

**(iii) ADAS** The Audlem & District Amenities Society had applied for a grant of £1000 for the seasonal bedding plants for 2016. After some discussion, it was decided to defer the application until a later date when ADAS would be able to supply their next financial accounts as their year end was 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### **15.69 CORRESPONDENCE**

**(i)** The Nantwich Town Crier had written offering his services to Audlem. Though the Parish Council agreed that this was not a regular service which the council would wish to pay for, it might be of interest for certain special events.

**(ii)** Lower Farm Co-operative – an opportunity to see alternative energy options (farm waste) was outlined to Councillors, who should notify the Clerk if they wish to participate.

**(iii)** Mr Cooper of Copthorne Drive had written to praise Cllr Jones and the Parish Council on



their successful use of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan to object to the proposed building of a house outside the settlement boundary in Green Lane (15.66.2(ii))

**(iv)** Off the gas grid heating initiative – this is at research stage within the rural areas in Cheshire East and Audlem has been chosen for a pilot survey. It was agreed to invite them to speak at the November meeting.

**(v)** Notification of the Order for the new footpath from Cheshire Street to The Shroppie Fly has been received.

#### 15.70 PLAYING FIELD COMPLEX

It has been confirmed that the submission document sent to Cheshire East has been received by the Asset Management Department and we will hear in due course. Cllr Consterdine reported that an expert has looked at the playing field and commented that the surface was not of a suitable standard. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey suggested that a meeting with Charlie Griffies might be arranged to discuss this.

It was agreed that the Working Group would review the list of outstanding information regarding the devolution and report this to the next Parish Council meeting.

#### 15.71 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

71.1 Communications Policy – the clerk reported that this is in development and will be circulated for review in due course.

71.2 Use of Buttermarket – It was agreed to approve ADAPT's request to hold a Homemade Christmas event under the Buttermarket on 5<sup>th</sup> December.

71.3 The vacancy created by Cllr Tilling's resignation will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Mrs Tilling has kindly offered to continue to assist with monitoring street lighting on a voluntary basis.

#### 15.72 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

To receive reports on actions required.

**72.1 Highways & Transportation (Cllr Hill)** – nothing further to report (see 15.65(ii))

**72.2 Community (Cllr G Seddon)** – nothing to report

**(i)** Community Projects Committee – no report

**(ii)** Public Hall – including APHax – no report

**(iii)** Audlem Burial Committee – next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> October

**72.3 Youth & Education (Cllr Higham)** – nothing to report

**72.4 Law & Order (Cllr Siddorns)** – Cllr Siddorns is attending a meeting with the Police on 20<sup>th</sup> October and asked councillors to forward any questions to him.

**72.5 Local Tourism & Business (Cllr Johnson)** – Cllr Johnson raised a local trader's query about a pedestrian crossing in the village. There was a discussion about this with CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey who had looked at this possibility with a Highways officer. If a crossing were put in, the amount of space required to give appropriate visibility would remove a significant amount of the on-road parking in the centre of the village, crossing without proper visibility could leave pedestrians with a false sense of security. The use of the Audlem roads by local HGVs was also discussed and it was agreed to write to local haulage firms to request that they consider other routes. The Clerk also informed that the A529 is to be closed for resurfacing between Adderley and Market Drayton for 5 weeks from 19<sup>th</sup>



October. The diversion route will be from Audlem along the A525 to Whitchurch, down the A41 to Tern Hill and back along the A53 to Market Drayton.

Cllr Higham is unable to attend the next Canal & River Trust meeting, the information will be circulated to councillors in the hope that another Councillor is able to attend.

**72.6 Heritage & Localism (Cllr Higham)** – The garden at Lock 15 is to be formally handed over by CRT's Wendy Chappell to ADAPT to manage as reported on AOL.

**72.7 Wildlife & Ecology (Cllr Down)** - No report

**72.8 Health (Cllr Jones)** – nothing to report. Cllr Siddorns asked Cllr Jones whether the Medical Practice had made any comment on the recent news about incentives for non-referrals. This will be raised at the next PPG meeting.

**72.9 Communications (Cllr P Seddon)** - The next Newsletter deadline is 14<sup>th</sup> October.

**72.10 Access & Inclusion (Cllr Christie)** – Cllr Christie reported that the ADCA AGM had been very well attended and had celebrated the huge progress that has been made in 4 years. ADCA now has a contract from CEC rather than a grant, which gives more certainty of funding. News of ADCA's latest success will be published in the newsletter. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey commented that the achievement of ADCA is second to none. There continues to be a lack of casual volunteer drivers.

**72.11 Devolved Services (Cllr Hill)** – nothing further (see 15.70)

(i)Public Conveniences – Nothing to report.

**72.12 ADAPT** - see 72.6

**72.13 Commons & Greens Committee (Cllr Down)** – nothing to report

**72.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Tilling)** – Cllr Consterdine reported that a vehicle had knocked the light off the Mill Shop. It was agreed that details on how to report issues should be included in the next newsletter. CEC Cllr Rachel Bailey stated that the person to contact re lighting was Ian Darlington.

15.73 **COPTHORNE BENCH**

After a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Higham would circulate options for dates for a site visit.

15.74 **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED**

The Clerk and Cllr G Seddon are to attend a ChALC meeting on the Pensions Act 2012 (Auto enrolment)

Cllr Consterdine reported on the recent ChALC LAP meeting.

15.75 **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING**

Fracking

United Utilities

Councillor Vacancy

Pension Meeting Report

Communications Policy

15.76 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

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

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

