

**AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 5th OCTOBER 2009**

**Present:** Cllr Mrs K Down – Chair                      Cllr R Furber                      Cllr P Bradbury-Smith  
                  Cllr B Consterdine                      Cllr N Huntbach                      Cllr M Hill  
                  Cllr P Morgan                      Cllr Mrs P Seddon

**Also present:** PC Ken Maple (to 9.74.1); Mr D Rowe (to 9.75); Mrs C Johnson & Mrs R Kemble (to 9.74.2);  
 Cheshire East Councillor Mrs R Bailey (to 9.75); Michael Watson of PlusDane Group and Michael  
 Rutherford of Arcadian Estates (Northwest) Ltd; Mr W Brown – Market Drayton Advertiser.

**PUBLIC FORUM** – No matters were raised.

Before starting proceedings, the Chairman invited Michael Watson of PlusDane Group and Michael Rutherford of Arcadian Estates (Northwest) Ltd to speak. Proposals for a small affordable housing development in Audlem were outlined and promotional literature provided. Mr Watson and Mr Rutherford then left the meeting.

9.70 **APOLOGIES** – Apologies received from Cllr Smith, Cllr Stretch, Cllr Mrs Stockton and Cllr Mrs Christie were accepted.

9.71 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – No declarations were made.

9.72 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**72.1 Community Pride Competition 2009** – The Chairman announced that Audlem had once again been successful, having been awarded first place in category. She thanked everyone involved for their efforts and congratulated them on winning the award for the fourth year in succession.

**72.2 Bus services** – As a result of representations made by the Parish Council and local residents, the Wednesday Market Drayton bus service would be reinstated at the end of October.

9.73 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7TH SEPTEMBER**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

9.74 **PARISH AFFAIRS – SECTION A**

**74.1 Village policing** – PC Maple reported that the village had been quiet over recent months. The speed camera was in frequent use and additional shifts were being planned for Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night. Cllr Furber commented that Cluster meetings were a useful forum as up to date information was being provided about the locality as well as the village. The Chairman thanked PC Maple for attending.

**74.2 Allotments** – Councillors were interested to learn that Mrs Kemble had carried out a survey of members to determine the optimum travelling distance; Cllr Bradbury-Smith's continuing discussions with the agent of land owner "Q" were promising; Cllr Mrs Seddon had had preliminary conversations with another land owner; limited legal support would be available to the Parish Council from NALC via the Cheshire Association of Local Councils, or possibly from Cheshire East. Enquiries were continuing.

**74.3 Shropshire Union Canal** – It was agreed that the closure was having a devastating effect upon local businesses and upon the atmosphere in the village. The Clerk had written to ask British Waterways for information about future maintenance needs and about plans for closure of permanent moorings. Cllr Consterdine and Cllr Mrs Seddon had arranged both topics to be discussed at the next Canal Users' meeting, which they would attend.

**74.4 Children's playground** – Cllr Morgan reported that the contractor had taken delivery of equipment and anticipated starting work during November. Cheshire East's programme for construction of the footpath from the car park to the playground was not yet known. It was anticipated that WREN and Cheshire

East would release funding at the appropriate time. Cllr Mrs Bailey suggested that Frank Keegan at Cheshire East be informed of progress.

Due to Cllr Mrs Bailey's schedule, the order of business was changed.

#### 9.75 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

75.1 Nantwich Local Area Partnership – The Chairman and Cllr Morgan reported on the meeting held on 10th September – it had been an informative meeting with positive aspects, although parish council representation was poor. Councillors were pleased to learn that the Chairman had been co-opted to the Partnership. It was also noted that a representative of Cheshire East Council, Kirsty Hercules, would be present at the Parish Council meeting on 2nd November to talk about the Partnership and answer questions. Neighbouring Parish Councils would be invited to send representatives.

75.2 Local Strategic Partnership (Tatton Park, 23 October at 9.30 am) – Cllr Hill to attend the Assembly if available.

75.3 Annual Town & Parish Councils' Conference (Congleton Town Hall, 13 October at 5.30 pm) – Cllr Furber and Cllr Morgan to attend if possible.

Cllr Mrs Bailey reminded the Parish Council of her various roles as Cheshire East Councillor: Strategic Planning Board, Local Development Framework Group, English Heritage Champion, Scrutiny Committee for Environment and Prosperity, Scrutiny Committee for Health & Adult Social Care, Public Rights of Way and Licensing. At the moment the Portfolio holder for Environmental Services was conducting an urgent review of Highways priorities and Cllr Bailey suggested she meet with members of the Parish Council's working group in order to prepare and submit a prioritised list of works.

#### 9.74 PARISH AFFAIRS - SECTION B

74.5 First Responders/Ambulance response times - Cllr Hill reported that 33% of dwellings had returned a questionnaire and an analysis of responses would be posted on [www.audlem.org](http://www.audlem.org) within the next few days. He was delighted with the evidence of support from the local area and would continue to press for improved training for volunteers.

74.6 Coxbank Brook water quality – Letter dated 10th August from the Environment Agency was received.

74.7 Footpath to Shroppie Fly via playing field – No meeting to date - the working group would report to the next meeting.

74.8 Bellyse Monument – Cllr Hill reported that ADAS had obtained a quotation of £445 for cleaning, sanding and repainting the monument.

***Resolved: that the kind offer of ADAS to share costs be accepted and that the quotation of £445 be approved.***

74.9 Public conveniences

***Resolved: that Cheshire East again be reminded of the deplorable state of Audlem's public conveniences.***

74.10 Lengthsman's skip – It was likely that a second skip would have to be accepted to accommodate the new fortnightly service. The situation was being monitored.

74.11 Complaint re leaking manhole – United Utilities' letter of 24th September was received. Cllr Hill to investigate.

74.12 Notice board – It was noted that the notice board could not be relocated as previously agreed.

***Resolved: that quotations for a new notice board be obtained and that remaining ring-fenced funds be used to part-fund the purchase.***

#### 9.76 FINANCIAL MATTERS

76.1 Authorisation of payments

SECTION 137 Royal British Legion - Poppy Day wreath (Min 8.102.2)

£50.00

Mr G Davies (street cleaning August/September)

£293.75

***Recommendation: that the above accounts be approved for payment.***

76.2 Finance Committee – It was noted that the next meeting would take place on Monday 30th November.

9.77 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Cheshire East Planning Applications

09/2831N – Variation of Condition 9 P08/1239 Construction of inland waterways etc

09/2769N – Extension @ Holly Cottage, Paddock Lane

09/2853N – Detached house and garage @ 32 Heathfield Road

**Resolved: that no representations be made in respect of the above applications.**

09/2573N – Shed and store @ Little Heath Barns, Cheshire Street

**Resolved: that an observation be made to the effect that the proposed building would be unsightly and would need (as a minimum) screening from residential properties in close proximity.**

9.78 HIGHWAYS

78.1 Signs, parking restrictions, etc - The Working Group had met and would table proposals at the next meeting. In the meantime a meeting would be arranged with Rob Welch and Cllr Mrs Bailey.

78.2 Speed indicator device – Application for loan of a device had been made to the Area Highways Office.

9.79 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE – No meeting.

Deleted: ¶

9.80 AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL – Nothing to report.

9.81 COMMONS & GREENS COMMITTEE

81.1 Churchfields Conservation Area – Cllr Morgan reported that trees had been felled as previously agreed. Logs and brushwood had been left on site to provide insect reservoirs. A length of new fencing was required to replace a damaged section on the corner bordering the Scout and Guide HQ.

**Resolved: that the Clerk arrange for new fencing to be erected.**

83.2 Registration of land – It was reported that the Parish Council held title documents for Churchfields and the small piece of land in Stafford Street. There was no evidence of title to The Green and Little Heath and initial enquiries were therefore being pursued with Cheshire East.

9.82 CONSULTATION ON SUBMITTED DRAFT NORTH WEST PLAN PARTIAL REVIEW

**Resolved: that comments be forwarded to the Clerk by 19th October.**

9.83 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

ChALC - Cllr Consterdine reported on a recent meeting of ChALC. It was regrettable that, although the relationship between ChALC and Cheshire West was cordial, no such rapport had been achieved with Cheshire East.

Parish Plan survey – Ref Min 9.59.1, printing would cost approx. £200, rather than £300.

**Resolved: that revised printing costs be approved.**

9.84 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – Items listed on the agenda were received.

9.85 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Use of Probation Service for project work; Transition Towns; Affordable Housing; Village Design Statement, Expenditure 2010-2011; Dates of Meetings 2010; Preparations for Annual Village Meeting.

9.86 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date