

**AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th JULY 2011**

**Present:** Cllr Mrs K Down (Chair) Cllr B Consterdine Cllr M Hill  
Cllr J Langston Cllr D Siddorns Cllr Mrs J Sanders

**In Attendance:** Mrs J White, Clerk; Mr J Kemble, RFO.

**Also Present:** Cheshire East Councillor Mrs Bailey, Mr R Cartwright, Mr Jones.

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

11.50 **APOLOGIES** – Apologies from Cllr Mrs Christie, Cllr Furber, Cllr Mrs Seddon, Cllr Mrs Jones, Cllr Johnson were accepted. (A letter of resignation was received from Cllr Mrs Stockton.)

11.51 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – None made.

11.52 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH JULY**

Following deletion of the last phrase of Min 11.40.11 (Devolved Services) i.e. “and that ownership had passed to the Parish Council”, the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

11.53 **REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS & COMMITTEES**

**53.1 Law & Order (Cllr Furber)**

(i) **NPU Cluster Meeting** – Cllr Siddorns had attended the meeting, following which information about thefts and a suspicious vehicle had been circulated. Audlem would be featured in the Constabulary’s next newsletter.

(ii) **Letter of thanks** – Mr & Mrs Lewis had written to praise the police for the swift action taken to curtail the riding of scrambling bikes along the tow path.

(iii) **Car park CCTV** – Cllr Consterdine would obtain additional quotations for installation of a new camera.

(iv) **Trimming of trees at rear of Public Hall** – Cllr Consterdine was attempting to arrange a meeting with the contractor and residents’ spokesperson. He agreed to seek the Tree Warden’s advice.

(v) **Graffiti board** – Cllr Siddorns suggested that, in view of comments received, a local opinion survey would be useful. The Chairman agreed to obtain children’s feedback via Mrs Parkes.

**53.2 Community (Cllr Consterdine)**

(i) **Community Pride Competition** – Cllr Consterdine reported on the judges’ visit to Audlem. Five village representatives would attend the Awards Evening on Thursday 6th October at Ellesmere Port Civic Hall

(ii) **Installation of directional signs at Shroppie Fly steps** – Cllr Consterdine was pleased to report that the work was complete. An invoice would be presented at the next meeting.

(iii) **RNLI Street Collection** – It was noted that the collection will take place on Friday 9th September.

(iv) **£43 charge for second garden waste bin** – It was noted that Cllr Johnson and Cllr Mrs Seddon were pursuing this matter with Cheshire East Council and would report at the next meeting.

(v) **ADAPT Food Group: use of The Buttermarket on September 17 & 24, and October 8** – Permission granted.

**53.3 Local Tourism & Business (Cllr Langston)**

(i) **Events programme** - Cllr Langston reported that the Festival of Transport & Beer Festival had been very successful although the weather had been poor for the latter. A Remembrance Day event involving local organisations was being planned for November 11th. The Christmas lights would be switched on with late-night opening by local shops on November 24th.

**Resolved: that ASET and ADAS be congratulated on the success of their efforts over the summer.**

(ii) **Car parking issues**

**Resolved: that Cheshire East Council be requested to mark out parking spaces in the public car park.**

**53.4 Transport (Cllr Hill)** – Cllr Hill reported that LAP Highways meetings had recommenced and that funding had been allocated for A525 signage changes, surface planing in Cheshire Street, and relocation of parking bays etc in Shropshire Street. Further all-day traffic counts would take place in the coming weeks.

**53.5 Planning (Cllr Johnson)**

(i) CEC "Place Shaping" Consultation – The Chairman reported on a recent workshop and provided papers to be read in conjunction with the Parish Plan 2010. It was agreed that posters be displayed and information about exhibitions etc be sent to all local organisations to encourage interest and participation. It was also agreed that the Parish Council should register its disappointment at the quality of the questionnaire circulated by Cheshire East Council.

**Resolved: that the Parish Council formulate a response to the consultation at the next meeting.**

(ii) Proposals for new planning guidance to major developers

**Resolved: that the Parish Council support moves led by Suffolk Association of Local Councils.**

(iii) Open Spaces Survey – Cllr Langston tabled completed survey forms which required review. Cllr Mrs Sanders agreed to share the task.

**53.6 Wildlife & Ecology** – The Parish Council discussed a suggestion that, following the flowering of daffodils on the green near Tollgate Drive, there could be a succession of wildflowers with judicious planting. Councillors agreed that Little Heath was a larger and therefore more suitable site and that advice from a plantsman would be needed.

### **53.7 Health**

(i) Proposal to ban dogs from playing field – Clerk to write to CEC's Head of Safer & Stronger Communities for advice.

### **53.8 Youth & Education (Chairman)**

(i) Proposed Youth Hut – Results of the questionnaire were to hand and would be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Plan Youth & Education Working Group.

(ii) St James's School and the Governing Body

The Chairman reported that CEC had appointed an Interim Executive Board to replace the Governing Body. The four appointed members, all educational experts, would act as "critical friend" for a period of time prior to setting up a Shadow Governing Body to work alongside the IEB. The Shadow Governing Body will eventually act alone for up to 13 months before creation of a new Governing Body. It was noted that, although local councils had no right of representation on Governing Bodies, the Schools Liaison Officer had confirmed that a good relationship between the Parish Council and the school would be encouraged. He would ensure that the IEB made contact with the Parish Council to provide updates and foster a relationship.

**Resolved: that the Parish Council register its interest in the school's affairs with the Interim Executive Board; also that the Headteacher be asked to keep the Parish Council informed of progress.**

(iii) Cheshire East Council - summer activities for children

Councillors agreed that the event in Audlem had been poorly publicised, although the Chairman pointed out that an advertisement had appeared in the end of term newsletter produced by St James' School. CEC would be asked to send publicity material direct to Audlem Online in future.

### **53.9 Communications (Cllr Mrs Seddon)**

**Resolved: that Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Cope be thanked for producing an excellent new-look newsletter, with new masthead, at no extra cost.**

**53.10 Access & Inclusion (Cllr Mrs Christie)** – No reports.

**53.11 Devolved Services (Cllr Siddorns)** – Nothing to report.

**53.12 Allotments Committee (Cllr Johnson)** – Cllr Langston reported on recent investigations.

### **53.13 Commons & Greens Committee (Cllr Furber)**

(i) Longhill Moss – Matters deferred to the next meeting.

**53.14 Street Lighting (Cllr Consterdine)** – A meeting with ADAPT and the Lighting Engineer was being arranged.

## 11.54 OTHER LOCAL MATTERS

**54.1 Public conveniences - refurbishment/transfer of ownership** – It was noted that work had been completed and the building locked up until transfer was effected. So far, CEC's performance in respect of legal and financial matters was disappointing but it was now anticipated that the transfer would take place within a month. It was further noted that an additional cost had become apparent in that a contractor would be needed to manage sanitary waste and associated risks. Canon Hygiene, known to be a reputable and reliable provider, would not consider a short term contract but had offered a 3 year contract fixed at current prices. Audlem Angels would provide cleaning services on the basis of time taken and it was anticipated that Business Rates would be zero following formation of a Trust. Current estimates of annual costs would be forwarded to the RFO for inclusion in budgets. The Parish Council approved proposals and actions taken.

**54.2 Winter preparations** – The content of the Area Maintenance Engineer's response to the Clerk's letter of 18th July was noted. Information regarding treatment of the car park was awaited.

**54.3 Sustainability** – Cllr Hill would be attending a meeting at Sandbach on 8th September.

11.55 FINANCIAL MATTERS

55.1 Report by RFO – Mr Kemble summarised the current financial position. It was noted that payment was due to HMRC in respect of taxation on salaries; also that rent for Longhill Moss due on 1st January had been collected.

**Resolved: that the RFO make payments as and when demanded by HMRC.**

55.2 External Audit 2010/11 – It was noted that a clean audit report had been received.

55.3 Authorisation of payments

B Cartwright – refreshments supplied for Community Pride judges' visit	£30.00
CVS – hire of projector for Community Pride visit	£7.50
Audlem Methodist Church – accommodation for Community Pride judges' visit	£48.00
Audlem Public Hall – accommodation for Parish Council and Parish Plan meetings	£180.00
D R Jones – repairs to wall at Shroppie Fly steps	£60.00
Delmar Press – summer newsletter	£294.00
United Utilities – water supply to public conveniences October/March	£50.15
Sign Studio (Cheshire) Ltd – public conveniences	£1056.00
G Davies – street cleaning July	£242.50
Mr J Kemble – salary	£50.60
Mrs J White – salary	£433.42
A P Smith – refund of postage (grant application 18.4.11 – Parish Plan group)	£5.45
A P Smith – refund of postage (grant application 21.7.11 – Parish Plan group)	£5.45
A P Smith – refund for bunting purchased	£125.52
A P Smith – refund for supply of Union flags	£216.00
Audlem Action for Youth – “Funky” event	£750.00
Audit Commission – external audit	£480.00
<u>Contractual payments made since July 4th</u>	
G Davies – street cleaning June	£192.42
Mrs J White – salary	£433.42
Mr J Kemble – salary	£50.80
CMS Audlem Ltd – public conveniences	£13,246.80

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

55.3 Request for donation: Heartstart

**Resolved: that a donation of £180 be made.**

55.4 Request for donation: South Cheshire CLASP – Deferred to next meeting.

11.56 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT56.1 CEC Planning Applications

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

11.2651N Part 2 storey, part 1 storey rear extension @ Rose Cottage, Monks Lane

11/2772N Proposed increase in height of rear gable roof including a pike side gable; also reinstatement of storage area roof and window to front elevation @ 15 Cheshire Street

11/2828N Creation of new window to side elevation @ Moonpenny Cottage, Audlem Road

11.57 AUDLEM BURIAL COMMITTEE – No report.

11.58 AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL – No report.

11.59 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – Items listed on the agenda were noted; also:

Audlem Community First Responders – letter dated 5th September

CEC – Invitation to Mayor's Civic Service on 16th October at St George's Poynton Parish Church

11.60 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING – Allocation of responsibilities to new councillors; solar panels in conservation area.

11.61 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2011

The meeting closed at 9.42 pm.

11/13

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Following the meeting, Mr Jones expressed his opinion regarding the relationship between St James' School and the Parish Council as representative of residents.