



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHURCH MINSHULL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THE 15th SEPTEMBER 2015**

Present: Cllr L Bannon Vice Chairman
Cllr K Bannon
Cllr C Challoner
Cllr B Charlesworth
Cllr M Carrs

Mrs S McBennett Clerk to Church Minshull Parish Council
Graham Russell Member of the Public

15.09.01 Apologies for Absence

Resolved

That apologies for absence received from Councillor D Wallis, Councillor J Stockdale and Councillor M Jones, be accepted. Councillor L Bannon Chaired the meeting.

15.09.02 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

No declarations of pecuniary interests were reported.

15.09.03 Minutes of the Meeting Held on 21st July 2015

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting on 21st July 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

15.09.04 Matters Arising from the Minutes

(21.07.05) Cllr Wallis had made contact with Mr C Shields to outline traffic problems in the village. The meeting was attended by Cllrs Wallis and Bannon and Mr C Barlow of Ashbank, Church Minshull. Routine maintenance such as signs that had been knocked by passing lorries and slow markers on the road were reported to take a matter of weeks to arrange and implement. The "slow" marker had indeed already been done. The issue of traffic speed would take longer to assess and implement. The Highways Department reported speed would not be addressed in isolation; it would be part of a route management study which in turn would be reviewed in Year 1 and implemented in Year 2. A timetable would be given in due course.

Concerns regarding the condition of the road surface was also discussed. The village and beyond had been repaired and repaired again. The surface showed raised iron work. Mr Shields reported the surface would be given structural patching; which would go further than the previous surface patching.

Cllrs agreed to make contact with the department again in October if notice of the timetable had not been received.

(19.05.18) The Litter bin had been reported to CE as missing. It had now been replaced.

Resolved

That the above matters arising be received.

15.09.05 Public Participation

The members of the public present wished to hear and comment on issues under Agenda Item 15.09.08 Planning Applications.

15.09.06 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr Jones had sent his apologies.

15.09.07 Housing Survey

John Heselwood of CCA Was invited to attend the meeting of the Parish Council to give a presentation to show Church Minshull residents the concept of a Housing Survey; the benefits and disadvantages.

JH explained the process would start with a questionnaire which in turn would show any concerns regarding housing in the area. The Housing survey would go towards the designated voice of the village; what is the village exposed to if no plan is in place. JH reported there were pro's and con's of doing a survey. He further explained a survey would only be a snap shot sample; it would however be challengeable. The survey would cover type; tenure and size. All parishes and communities would in the future be included in growth targets up to 2030. In rural areas such as CM this would be proportionate. Planning is evidence based. A survey would assess what the needs are for developers and planners to use. The survey would also provide useful data to put towards a Neighbourhood Plan. JH informed the Cllrs and members of the public that it was possible to apply for grants to fund such a survey. A needs survey would have a lifespan of approximately 5 years. Last year the cost was quoted in the region of £1400; there would now be additional costs. Cllr Challoner asked if the process would give more control to the villagers? JH re-iterated the survey would give evidence to



challenge not control. Cllr Carrs asked at what point of the process was impact? JH said that must be asked of the planners. Cllr Carrs asked if the Survey would be registered at CE and would it be referred to or considered when applications were received? This again would be answered by the CE Planners. JH concluded reporting in CE, 20 communities were doing a survey. The possibility of a more joined up approach or cluster surveys would be beneficial to all. Cllr Bannon invited questions from the members of the public. Cllr Bannon thanked Mr Heselwood for his presentation and concluded the consensus agreed that without a plan or survey the village was in a weak position as it would be hard to make a case against without evidence. Cllr Bannon asked the Council to consider whether there was a need for a housing survey in Church Minshull. Cllr Challoner proposed not to proceed with a survey in isolation but to take in the wider area. Cllr K Bannon agreed and seconded the proposal.

Resolved

That the report from Mr Heselwood be received.

Action

The Clerk would draft a letter to be sent to Clerks of neighbouring Parish Councils to see if there was interest in clustering on a Housing Survey.

The Clerk would contact Vicky Jeffries and Tom Evans of Cheshire East for further information.

The Chairman, Cllr D Wallis had sent his apologies for the meeting with a note to cover the Agenda Item on the Housing Survey. Cllr Wallis invited any other Council Member to Chair this topic in the future and added he would follow the consensus view.

Cllr Carrs agreed to take on the responsibility and to further engage with CE and the Council regarding the Housing Survey. Cllr L Bannon proposed to accept. Cllr K Bannon seconded the proposal.

Resolved

Cllr Carrs would take responsibility for all the Housing Survey henceforth.

15.09.08 Planning Applications

a) Application No: 15/3390N Ash Bank, Nantwich Road, Church Minshull, CW5 6DY

Resolved

That the Parish Council had no objections to the planning application.

b) Application 15/3157N Land Off Paradise Lane, Church Minshull

Resolved

That the Parish Council had no objections to the planning application.

c) Roy Spruce, Planning Consultant/Agent for Sotrex

Mr Spruce produced display boards of the planning application. RS reported on the timing of the consultation which closed the next day. He suggested any comments be forwarded to Philippa Radia. He informed the Cllrs and members of the public that this was the third application his consultancy had handled in this location. This application was from the owners of the site; Sotrex. It was hoped the sale and development of the site would fund a relocation of the business currently on site. The application was for a large farmhouse, courtyard barns and worker cottages. The Leylandii hedging would be removed. Only two objections had been received. All offices at CE had shown support. Cllr Bannon asked about the four affordable houses; what was the definition? RS reported this would be decided by the Housing Officer. The houses could be shared equity or offered for community rent using Cheshire Home Choice for example. Cllr Bannon then asked about the 38 car parking spaces included in the plan. RS reported the ratio was stipulated by CE. Concerns of increased traffic had been noted; how would the plan deal with traffic volume? RS reported a Traffic Consultant had been employed and the Highways consultation had been published with their full backing. Cllr Challoner asked about the plans to change the traffic measures on Paradise Lane. RS reported there were no changes to the current status. He did confirm that he had had a conference call with Cllr Jones of CE to discuss speed limits in and around the village and how the planning application could help with a contribution to traffic calming. A clause would be considered when a figure for the contribution had been found. Cllr Carrs asked if sustainable energy had been considered in the plan. RS reported it was not part of normal CE policy.

Questions were invited from the members of the public present. A resident asked if current traffic problems had been considered? The problems were not said to be significant and had been endorsed by the Highways Agency.

Another resident quoted from the planning application section 3.4 stating"the plan did not satisfy environmental plan and the local planning authority should avoid new isolated planning".... The resident suggested the volume of traffic would be trebled. The owner of the site; Mr C Moir reported that thousands of vehicles had been exported from the site in the past and a conscious effort had been made to minimise the effect on the village. The vehicles plus the service traffic such as staff and deliveries would be gone; therefore lessening the volume of traffic. RS reported the number of movements of traffic with the proposed development would have less impact than the road's present use. Cllr Carrs encouraged the resident to make his objections known at CE. A resident asked if there had been a trade off regarding the traffic calming contribution and planning. RS reported the contribution was not a trade off in any way and it was not a suggestion from the consultancy or site owners.

Cllr Bannon reported young family members of residents were not able to stay in the village due to cost. How would Section 106 help? RS reported Section 106 would give a legal agreement to secure the 4 "affordable" houses in perpetuity. Section 106 would set up affordable housing and landlord deals. There being no further questions; Cllr Bannon thanked Mr Spruce for the information and presentation.

Resolved



That the Parish Council had no objections.

15.09.09 Reports from Meetings

(a) Police Cluster Meeting

Cllr Charlesworth had no report from the Police Cluster Meeting. Cllr Challoner would attend the forthcoming meeting PCC Meeting with Town and Parish Councils in Cheshire on 17th September 2015.

(b) Canals and Rivers Trust

Graham Russell of SUMBA reported. A working party had completed works during August around the Disabled Picnic Table cutting back vegetation. A 2 day work party at Minshull Lock had utilised approximately 30 volunteers. Cllr Bannon asked about the towpath around locks 11-12. Were there any plans to back fill? GR reported it would be completed the following weekend. GR reported as part of the auditing of Authority Mooring Sites; part of the towpath was found to be sunk and causing a trip hazard. These works would be addressed in the near future. Cllr L and K Bannon reported the signs had come off the BBQs. GR would arrange to have them re-applied.

(c) Community Speed Watch Scheme

No report received.

(d) Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy

Cllr Carrs had attended the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy meeting and reported it was all a little too late. The plan had already been submitted and was not a consultation. The plan covered urban areas and not villages like CM. From a parochial point of view – there would be no impact in Church Minshull.

Resolved

That the above reports be received with thanks.

15.09.10 Annual Return

The Clerk reported the BDO Noticed of Conclusion of Audit had been received and would be displayed on the noticeboard. No fee invoice was received. The following issue was raised and reported to the Council:- The council produced printed minutes, which were submitted for audit purposes. The pages were not initialled by the person signing the minutes. This council submitted minutes for audit purposes which were not maintained in accordance with schedule 12, paragraph 41(2) of the Local Government Act 1972. The council should ensure with immediate effect that if a loose leaf minute book is maintained the loose leaf pages are consecutively numbered and initialled by the person signing the minutes.

The Clerk reported the minutes supplied to BDO had been copies from computer file and therefore not numbered. Original signed copies of minutes of meetings were always kept in a numbered book (not loose leaf).

Action

With immediate effect, the minutes should be signed and the numbered page of the minute book be initialled by the person signing the minutes.

Resolved

That the Annual Return is approved and accepted by the Parish Council and the Action Plan adopted.

That the following accounts be authorised for payment:-

15.09.11 Authorisation of Payments

Resolved

That the following accounts be authorised for payment:-

- a)

SUMBA (plaque)	£ 13.20
CM Village Hall Hire	£ 32.48
Foundation Materials	£ 25.90
Lengthsman	£170.00

- b) Funding requests:-
To subsidise the costs of transport for residents to attend the CCA Awards in Ellesmere Port at a cost of £112.00. Passengers would pay the balance of £28 proportionately.
Proposed by Cllr M Carrs; seconded by Cllr C Challoner.
Transport Subsidy £112.00

- c) Donation to SUMBA to cover the costs of tools:-
Donation £100.00
Proposed by Cllr M Carrs and seconded by Cllr C Challoner.

- d) Donations received for Arena Directory listing:-
2 x £12 donations £ 24.00



Resolved

That the funding requests and donations be agreed.

15.09.12 Transparency Code

The Cllrs agreed that Church Minshull Parish Council was already compliant with the transparency code. The matter would be deferred until the next meeting of the Parish Council.

15.09.13 Review of Standing Orders

Charities Policy Statement
Notification/Disclosure Relating to Complaints to Standards Committee at CE
Public Sector Duties under Equalities Legislation
The Localism Act 2011 – Disclosure Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations
Standing Order for Delegation and Urgent Business

Resolved

That the above policies having been reviewed and agreed were signed by the Chair, Cllr L Bannon.

15.09.14 Correspondence

The defibrillators offer from Mr Schofield would be deferred for discussion at the next meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr L Bannon reported on an article received from "Lifelinks" which had been published on the website. The Clerk reported correspondence from Mrs Philp regarding safe pedestrian access into the village from her property.

Action

Cllr Carrs would visit Mrs Philp to assess the problem. Mrs Philp would be invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved

That the above items of correspondence be received and noted.

15.09.15 Website Competition

Cllr L Bannon suggested a competition to be played on the CM Website based on finding the Minch Character. A £10 voucher would be offered to the winner. The character would be hidden on one of the web pages to encourage browsing throughout the website. A draw would be held to select the winning entry. Cllr L Bannon proposed and Cllr K Bannon seconded.

Resolved

That the Church Minshull Website; Village Arena could hold a monthly competition with a monthly prize for the correct entry of £10 payable from the donations for Arena Directory listings.

15.09.16 Any Other Business

Cllr Challoner reported on the Remembrance Service on 8th November 2015 at St Bartholomew's church at 10.45am. A wreath had been ordered through John Headon at a cost of £25.00. The Chair would attend and lay the wreath. Authorisation for payment would be on the agenda of 3rd November 2015.

Cllr L Bannon and Cllr K Bannon presented a letter to Cllrs Charlsworth, Challoner and Carrs in which Cllr L and K Bannon tendered their resignations from Church Minshull Parish Council. Cllr K Bannon with immediate effect and Cllr L Bannon on 16th October 2015. Both Cllrs wanted to record how much they had enjoyed their 6 years of service on the Parish Council and making a difference in the village. Cllrs L and K Bannon would encourage any prospective residents to come forward and get involved.

Cllr Challoner was saddened to receive the resignations and added it was to the Parish Council's loss. Both Cllr Larry and Kerry Bannon should be commended for their remarkable and unstinting efforts on the Parish Council. Cllr Carrs agreed with those sentiments and thanked Cllr L and K Bannon for their efforts, time and contribution to the village.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

15.09.17 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Annual Meeting of the Church Minshull Parish Council will be held at St Bartholomew's Church on **Tuesday 3rd November 2015 at 7.30pm.**

Signed..... Chairman

