

CHURCH MINSHULL PARISH COUNCIL

**The Next Meeting of Church Minshull Parish Council
will be held in the Village Hall
on Monday 21st November 2011 at 7.30pm**

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA
(Members are required to declare any interests at this point, or whenever it becomes apparent that there is an interest)
3. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 21st SEPTEMBER
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
6. TO CONSIDER ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS
7. TO CONSIDER PROGRESS ON A STRATEGIC VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNITY
8. TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON CHARITABLE DONATIONS
9. LOCAL TRAFFIC ISSUES
10. REPORT ON POLICE 'CLUSTER' MEETING
11. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH SCHEME
12. TO CONSIDER THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012
13. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & AUDIT TRAIL
14. CORRESPONDENCE
15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
(Members are asked to note that whilst this Agenda item may be used to raise issues of concern, substantive decisions can only be taken where business has been specified on the Agenda)
16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Meetings of the Parish Council are open to the public.
You are warmly invited to attend.**

Clerk: Gwyn Griffiths
18 Holly Mount
Basford CREWE CW2 5AZ
Tel. 01270 663832
griffiths725@btinternet.com

November 2011

CHURCH MINSHULL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 21st NOVEMBER 2011

Present:

Cllrs D Wallis (Chairman), K Bannon, L Bannon, M Carss, and C Challoner.
Seven members of the public.
Borough Cllr Jones (from min.4).
G Griffiths (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence had been received from Cllr Peter Harper.

RESOLVED

That the apology be accepted as a valid reason for absence under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972

2. Declarations of Interest

Members considered declarations of interest in agenda items at this point. Cllr Challoner declared a personal interest in the item relating to the Council's policy on charitable donations, as he was a volunteer with the local Citizens Advice Bureau which has received Council support in the past.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of 19th September be approved as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

[Borough Cllr Jones joined the meeting at this point]

4. Matters arising

Poultry House Application

Cllr Jones summarised the current position regarding the application for a poultry house on land at Minshull Lane. The planning application had originally been viewed favourably by planning officers of Cheshire East Borough Council (CEC). It had been 'called in' at the request of the Parish Council and local residents and had been referred to committee. The committee had considered the matter at two meetings (at which Darren Carr and Dave Wallis had spoken as representatives of local objectors and the Parish Council), and the end result had been an unanimous refusal by the members of the Planning Committee.

The applicant had now lodged an appeal against the refusal, which would be dealt with by an independent Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate by consideration of written documents (both documents connected to the original application and any further representations made in respect of the appeal). There would be no opportunity to make direct personal representations or to speak with the Inspector.

Cheshire East Council was duty-bound to defend its decision and to resist the appeal, and the Parish Council would also be making a further submission. The closing date for representations was 5th December, and this date would be strictly observed.

There was a lengthy discussion of the key points which should be made at this stage.

(During consideration of this item the Chairman adjourned the meeting as appropriate to allow public participation)

Members then considered the Parish Council's further submission, based on a draft document prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be authorised to draw up a final submission on behalf of the Parish Council, based on the document prepared with the addition of the following points:

a) to highlight the discrepancy between the claim in the applicant's appeal statement that employment would be created/ maintained, and the applicant's past assurances that there would be very little additional traffic generated;

b) to highlight the remoteness of the application site from the applicant's other sites at The Pinfold and Crowton, and the weaknesses in the claimed association with the other sites;

c) to illustrate the ways in which previous permissions at The Pinfold and Crowton were materially different from the circumstances of the current application;

d) to introduce Local Plan Policy NE.2 as a relevant factor as the application clearly failed to meet the requirements of that Policy;

e) to refer to the previous decision in the area which had stressed the need to avoid 'proliferation' of new buildings in the open countryside, which was clearly relevant to the subject of the appeal.

Local Area Partnership

Cllr Wallis advised that he had still not receive any information from the Borough Council regarding his nomination to the LAP's Highways Group. However, Cllr Challoner had received an invitation to the next meeting of the Rural Transport Group.

River Bridge

The Clerk advised members that he had contacted the Environment Agency with regard to the river bridge but had received no direct reply. Cllr L Bannon advised that a representative of the EA had visited the site to discuss the issue.

It was noted that a letter had been received by some residents regarding a walkover of the catchment to be carried out by an ecologist on behalf of the EA. Oddly letters had been sent to properties well away from the river, but not to some adjoining the river! The Clerk would draw this to the attention of the relevant authorities.

[Cllrs K & L Bannon, and D Wallis declared personal interests in this matter as residents of properties adjoining the river]

Website

Cllr L Bannon advised members that he had met again with the webmaster for a further training session. Progress was being made and he hoped that handover could be as early as the January meeting of the Council.

5. Borough Councillor's Report

Badger Inn. Cllr Jones reported that the Borough's Conservation Team and Environmental Health Department had visited to review the current situation. In the view of the Borough Council there was no smell nuisance at neighbouring residential properties, but there was at the Church and it was likely that the owners would be asked to provide alternative ventilation arrangements.

Budget. At the mid-year point the Borough Council was running a £1.6million overspend. However he was confident that this would be eliminated by year-end. For 2012-13 he anticipated a balanced budget with some additional funding for ward budgets and up to £1million for traffic calming measures.

6. Planning Matters

Members considered application 11/3775N for minor amendments to the approved scheme at Woodgreen Farm.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council has no objection to the application.

Members considered the Borough Council's consultation on Rural Issues within the Local Development Framework.

RESOLVED

That members be invited to comment on an individual basis.

7. Strategic Vision for the Future of the Community

Members reported that the meeting organised by the Village Vision Group had taken place as scheduled on 24th October, attracting 35 attendees and a further 10 apologies. Thanks were extended to Sarah Barron of Cheshire Community Action and Borough Cllr Jones for their contributions, and to Cllrs K Bannon and Wallis for co-ordinating the event on the night. Groups on the evening had drawn up their thoughts on their likes, dislikes, and aspirations in respect of the area and these had now been collated.

8. Police Cluster Meeting

Cllr Harper had attended the most recent meeting. Unfortunately it had been poorly attended and there was some despondancy that the police were no longer giving due attention to matters raised.

9. Community Speed Watch Scheme

Cllr Challoner reported that he had contacted Tony Hall at Cheshire Police and that a training session could be arranged for a Saturday morning, possibly for 14th January or shortly after. One site which had been used in the past was now considered to be unsuitable, and would have to be reviewed.

10. Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012

It was reported that a Group was now in place to organise a suitable event to mark the Jubilee.

11. Accounts for payment & Audit Trail

RESOLVED

That the following be authorised for payment:

G Griffiths	salary & expenses	£278.82
D Wallis	Village Vision event	£ 37.90

As there were only two signatories present (Cllr D Wallis & G Griffiths), who were also beneficiaries of the payments, it was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for the third signatory (Cllr P Harper) to sign the two cheques in due course. It was also **RESOLVED** that the Clerk take necessary steps to increase the number of councillor signatories to the account.

Appropriate bank statements were examined by members and signed by the Chairman.

12. Correspondence

The Clerk presented his report on correspondence received since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED

That the Council has no objection to the draft boundary proposal for parliamentary constituencies in the area, but urges that the name of Eddisbury be retained.

13. Local Traffic Issues

Cllr Bannon submitted a paper setting out various suggestions to address local traffic issues. These included:

- a) provision of 'speed humps' at the 30mph signs approaching from both Nantwich and Winsford;
- b) provision of a 'speed hump/ raised pedestrian crossing/ wheelchair crossing' close to The Badger Inn;
- c) prioritisation to eastbound traffic over the river bridge, linked to a narrowing of the carriageway/ widening of the pavement over the bridge itself;
- d) prioritisation to eastbound traffic over the canal bridge, particularly in view of the blinding sun for such traffic early on winter days;
- e) possible relocation of the bus stop at Lea Green, with provision of bus shelters.

It was agreed that these ideas would have to be reviewed by highways officers to check their practicability, and provide an estimate of cost. Work would then have to be done to identify whether a programme of work could be drawn up which was practical and capable of being funded.

Cllr Jones undertook to take the proposals to the relevant highways officer and to arrange a site meeting to discuss options.

14. Policy on charitable donations

It was agreed to defer consideration to the January meeting.

15. Any Other Business

Members raised a number of issues.

Parish Magazine. Members received a report outlining planned changes to the production and funding of the parish magazine.

RESOLVED

That appropriate representatives of the parish magazine be invited to the January meeting to explain what support was being sought from the Parish Council.

16. Date of next meeting Monday 23rd January 2012.