

**SHAVINGTON-CUM-GRESTY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON**  
**WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2012**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs G McIntyre, Mrs S Cheshire, Mrs A Yoxall, Mrs V Adams, P Yoxall, R Clarke, Mrs R Hancock, D Miller, S Hogben and Mrs B Kelly.

**Apologies for absence:** Councillor K Gibbs. Members also noted apologies from Ward Councillor D Brickhill.

**Also in attendance:** PC D Sambrook.

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**AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING MEMBERS OBSERVED A MINUTE'S SILENCE IN RESPECT OF MRS DAISY GRAY WHO HAD SADLY PASSED AWAY ON 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2011. MEMBERS THEN PAID INDIVIDUAL TRIBUTES FOR HER ENORMOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE VILLAGE HALL EVER SINCE IT FIRST OPENED.**

**162. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

**163. PCSO'S AND POLICING ISSUES REPORTS**

PC D Sambrook presented his verbal report on incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Village over the previous month and Councillors noted the detail.

A discussion took place over traffic congestion and parking issues at the Goodall's Corner junction and members noted that delivery vans were accessing the commercial premises from both sides causing potential hazards. The question of installation of bollards on the footpath adjacent to No.1 Crewe Road was also discussed and members gave their support to the Police to progress this with Cheshire East Council via Ward Councillor D Brickhill.

Issues over delivery vehicles parking outside the new Nisa shop were also discussed – this was the cause of some dispute between business premises in the vicinity and PC Sambrook was involved in discussions with the traders to resolve the issues.

Members noted that traffic counters in Vine Tree Avenue had been placed and would be repeated in the near future; and also that a counter would also be installed along Crewe Road to monitor flow and speeds.

Members asked PC Sambrook to continue with vigilance over checking the large number of scrap metal merchant vehicles which were continuing to circle the Parish on a regular basis.

In response to a query from members PC Sambrook confirmed that PCSO's made regular checks on parking at the Rope Lane/Main Road junction by the Co-op store and were continuing to issue tickets for parking obstruction offences in this location.

The Chairman then thanked PC Sambrook for his attendance and report.

**164. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**165. Youth Club – request for funding (159)**

The Parish Council considered a response from Councillor Mrs H Gaddum, Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services at Cheshire East Council, and from Tony Crane, Head of Service – Early Intervention and Prevention following a meeting they had had with the Youth Club Chairman. In that meeting they confirmed that they were committed to continuing the direct assistance of Youth Work staff post March 31<sup>st</sup> and had some preliminary discussions about accessing other financial assistance, although as yet they were not aware of the amount needed by Shavington Youth Club. They encouraged Shavington Youth Club to bid into this process, although the amounts available would not be more than £5,000. Councillor S Hogben informed Members of the 'Community First' grants programme which was being trialed in various areas across the Country and including £35,000 allocated to the Crewe South area.

**RESOLVED:** That consideration of grant aid to the Youth Club be deferred for the time being pending receipt of further information from Cheshire East Council over the funding arrangements for the Club from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

**166. Santune House (150)**

Further to the question raised at the last meeting by a resident the Clerk reported on responses received by himself and Ward Councillor D Brickhill from Cheshire East Council's Head of Property Services, Peter Hall. Mr Hall had advised that he had not informed anyone that the building had been offered to the Parish Council at no fee. In seeking to explain the opportunities available to Town and Parish Councils to acquire premise from Cheshire East Council Community Asset Transfer and the Devolution agenda had been discussed. It had been explained that with beneficial community involvement and a suitably robust business case Cheshire East Council had the opportunity to transfer property at less than market value and possibly at nil consideration.

**167. Park Estate 'No Cold Calling' Zone (149)**

Further to the report at the last meeting the Parish Council considered the implications of extending the 'No Cold Calling' scheme to the Park Estate, including Northway and Westway, and was mindful of the fact that due to the success of the initiative this could lead to further requests for similar 'No Cold Calling' Zones in other roads in the Parish.

**RESOLVED:** That a 'No Cold Calling' Zone be established at the Park Estate, Northway and Westway, subject to the response received by the PCSO's during their canvas of residents; the cost of relevant signage and documentation etc to be funded from the contingency budget.

**168. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Parish Council considered one planning application and

**RESOLVED:** That the following observations be forwarded to Cheshire East Council:

Planning application No.11/4221N – single storey side extension at 42 Main Road, Shavington – no objections.

**169. PLANNING MATTERS**

The Parish Council noted that the Cheshire East Strategic Planning Board had met in Macclesfield on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011 where the Taylor Wimpey application (11/3010N) was **refused**. Members were concerned to note that the notification advising of the arrangements for public participation at that meeting only arrived on 19<sup>th</sup> December, and that in the letter the location was referred to as Crewe Road, 'Crewe' and not Gresty.

The Parish Council expressed its appreciation to Councillor Mrs B Kelly for her attendance at short notice, and for her written report on proceedings at the meeting; and also to Ward Councillor D Brickhill for his support.

Members noted that as yet no date for consideration of the Bloor Homes application had been notified. The Parish Council also noted the content of correspondence from Edward Timpson MP in respect of this application; and from Councillor Mrs G McIntyre who had written to Cheshire East Council following the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the content of the letter sent by Councillor Mrs G McIntyre to Cheshire East Council's Monitoring Officer be endorsed.

#### **170. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Parish Council received and noted the following items of correspondence:

- i. A letter from Cheshire East Council concerning the arrangements for the 2012/13 precept notification which was to be submitted by 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012.
- ii. A letter from Cheshire East Council Planning Department advising of the arrangements for public participation at the Strategic Planning Board on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011.
- iii. E-mail correspondence from Ward Councillor D Brickhill and the Clerk, with Peter Hall, Head of Property Management at Cheshire East Council concerning Santune House.
- iv. Details of the 2012 Training Programme for Councillors from the Cheshire Training Partnership.
- v. E-mail correspondence with Councillor Hilda Gaddum and Tony Crane of Cheshire East Council concerning the Youth Club and the question of support from Cheshire East.
- vi. A letter from SVFC advising the Parish Council of its proposals for HM Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Celebrations locally.

#### **171. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**RESOLVED: a)** That the following payments be approved:

i.	C Moulton – Clerk's salary December 2011 (£820.56 less tax/NI)	£618.57
ii.	M Webster & Son – grounds maintenance work December 2011	£744.68
iii.	Weaver Business Machines photocopier maintenance	£63.36
iv.	Network Rail – wayleave	£148.63
v.	C Moulton – Clerk's additional workload remuneration 2011/12	£750.00
vi.	C Moulton – Fuel reimbursement at cost October – December 2011	£42.55

**b)** That the establishment of a Finance Committee with responsibility for undertaking discussions relating to audit matters (currently carried out by the Audit Group), accounts and the budget process be approved; and that Terms of Reference be prepared for the new Committee with a view to it being formally constituted at the Annual Meeting in May 2012.

#### **172. 2012/13 BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT**

The Parish Council considered its budget requirements for 2012/2013 in detail and the effect that the total amount would have on an Average Band D precept. In doing so it considered current year's expenditure levels, the proposals contained in the Clerk's report, and advice received from the Internal Auditor in 2011.

**RESOLVED:** a) That the list of expenditure items set out below be agreed; and that the total budget for 2012/13 be set at **£52,776.72**, with the precept approved at **£50,776.00** which would result in an average Band D charge of £30.34 - identical to the 2011/12 financial year, and being the third consecutive year in which the precept had been held static.

b) That prudent reserve balances be retained at a minimum of 50% of annual precept in line with auditor's advice.

c) That an amount of £2,000 be used from balances to fund the difference between the precept and total budget.

d) That a fund of £3,931.28 being the balancing figure, be made available for grants to local organisations under S137 arrangements (this fund to again encompass the former Youth Initiative grants (£100), Grants to Village Organisations (£200), and Drop-in grants (£104.00) budget headings).

e) That for 2012/2013 the Clerk's salary be maintained at the current year's level of £9,846.72.

f) That a 'New Signage' item, for the renewal of external signs at the Village Hall, and also for the provision of new Village approach signs be included within the budget.

	£
Clerk's Salary	9,846.72
Parish Gardener	8,925.00
PCSO's	15,733.00
Insurance	3,100.00
Employers National Insurance Contributions	500.00
Stationery (including telephone/sundries)	300.00
Petty Cash	250.00
Audit Fee (internal and external)	800.00
Footpath Society Affiliation	10.00
Charge for use of school car park	1,100.00
Photocopier maintenance contract	250.00
Travel expenses (Members and Clerk)	250.00
Wreaths for War Memorials	50.00
Best Kept Garden Competition	330.00
Contingency/unforeseen repairs and renewals	500.00
Bus shelter maintenance	1,200.00
Allotment site water supply, wayleave, hedge cutting	400.00
Website development/maintenance	
and other communications/advertising (Village Voice etc)	600.00
Planning consultancy	1,500.00
Play equipment inspections and maintenance	500.00
New signage: Village Hall/Village approaches	2,700.00
Grants to local organisations	3,931.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>52,776.72</u></b>

**173. OTHER PARISH INFORMATION ITEMS**

**School car park**

The Parish Council agreed to ask the School Governors if they would be prepared to leave the car park gates open for a trial period initially, and monitored by the PCSO's, with a view to the parking facility being available for use by Villagers throughout the day and at weekends, and possibly even during school holidays if there were no incidents.

**Notice Board**

The Parish Council discussed whether a further notice board could be obtained for a suitable location in the area of Fuller Drive that was within the Parish, and Members agreed that the costs be investigated.

**Refuse Collection Service**

The Parish Council received several reports of confusion over when bins were scheduled to be emptied over the Christmas period and agreed that the Clerk write to Cheshire East Council to express its dissatisfaction with the levels of communication over this issue, and to suggest that sticky bin labels be used in future to alert residents of the correct dates for refuse collection rounds.

**Potholes**

The Parish Council received a number of reports of potholes in roads which had appeared during the recent poor weather and asked the Clerk to write to Cheshire East to ask what its policy for the filling of potholes was.

**Community Payback**

The Parish Council noted that Willaston Parish Council had received assistance in the Village from a Community Payback team via the Probation Service, and members asked the Clerk to investigate further and extend an invitation to the relevant Programme Manager to attend a future meeting.

**Piccadilly Footpath**

The Parish Council discussed the condition of the footpath and the overgrown hedges and asked that arrangements be made for a Cheshire East Officer to inspect the area with a view to some maintenance work being programmed.

**174. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the next Meeting of the Parish Council be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012 commencing at 7.15pm.

Chairman .....  
1<sup>st</sup> February 2012