

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SHAVINGTON-CUM-GRESTY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2016 IN SHAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL, SHAVINGTON, CREWE**

PRESENT:	Councillor P Yoxall	Chairman
	Councillor G McIntyre	Vice-Chairman
	Councillor V Adams	Councillor W Cooper
	Councillor S Cheshire	Councillor B Gibbs
	Councillor K Gibbs	Councillor W McIntyre
	Councillor A Yoxall	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Borough Councillor S Edgar	Ward Councillor – Shavington
	PC John Roberts	
	16 members of the public	
APOLOGIES:	Councillors E Ankers and R Hancock	

150 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

No declarations were made.

151 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the ordinary Meeting held on 6 January 2016 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 20 January 2016 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

152 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the public question time procedure, members of the public were able to ask questions, or address the Parish Council, in respect of any item on the agenda, or any business relevant to the Parish Council's business and the local area.

Borough Councillor Steven Edgar, as a Member of the Cheshire East Southern Planning Committee made a brief statement about planning prior to withdrawing from the meeting on the basis of his membership of the Planning Committee and did not wish to fetter his discretion when the application was eventually submitted to Committee.

Issues raised by members of the public included the following and related to agenda item 14 (Planning application 16/0015N – land to the rear of 46 Chestnut Avenue, Shavington, CW2 5BJ).

- The site was elevated and would result in loss of privacy for the existing bungalows;
- The access road was too narrow for additional traffic;
- Infrastructure such as doctors' surgeries and schools was inadequate;
- Difficulty manoeuvring traffic within the road was already experienced and would worsen;
- The development would cause loss of view for existing dwellings; (it was noted that this was not a planning consideration);
- Loss of natural light and the adverse impact on wildlife;
- The 'green gap' policy had been breached on two occasions previously and for this reason, one of the residents was of the view that if this was cited as an objection, it would not stand as a valid objection.

Members of the public were encouraged to submit their own objections to Cheshire East Council.

Other general issues not related to the planning application were as follows:

- Dog-fouling;
- Greenfields/Ashcroft: road name sign had been removed and was currently discarded on a wall and required re-positioning;
- Faulty manhole cover outside 97 Greenfields Avenue. This had been reported to CEC but no action had been taken. (The Clerk would follow up with CEC.)
- Parking issues and speeding traffic between the Co-op Store and Newcastle Road.
- Vehicle-speed display units required in the parish.

(Note: Borough Councillor Edgar re-joined the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

153 POLICE MATTERS

PC John Roberts was in attendance and reported on recent criminal activity in the parish and encouraged Members to be mindful of securing vehicles when parked.

Members reported on the parking problems experienced in the vicinity of the Nail Bar at the traffic lights on Newcastle Road. PC Roberts undertook to check the situation during shop opening hours.

154 MATTERS ARISING (Not detailed separately on the agenda)

154.1 Public Transport (Minute No. 146)

The Clerk reported the outcome of enquiries with Transport Service Solutions (TSS) at Cheshire East Council in respect of bus transport from Shavington to Crewe Bus Station and then to Leighton Hospital.

The Manager of TSS had commented that the service over Christmas had not been altered. He had previously suggested to D&G that the No. 6 service (Shavington to Crewe) be combined with the No. 12 service (Crewe to Leighton Hospital) to reinstate a direct service between Shavington and the hospital.

The Clerk would write to D&G.

154.2 Banner Over Road-way (Minute No. 138)

The Clerk had made a site-visit and did not observe any banners; the matter had not, therefore, been reported. Members now reported that the banner had been removed soon after the previous meeting.

155 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Parish Council received Minutes of the following Committee meetings:

155.1 Village Hall Management Committee (20 January 2016)

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee held on 20 January 2016 be received and noted.

155.2 Environment Committee (26 January 2016)

The Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held on 26 January 2016 were submitted and Members' attention drawn to Minute No. 4.

The Parish Council was invited to consider –

- (a) if the Best Kept Gardens Competition should be held on a biennial basis; and
- (b) if a 'best-dressed house at Christmas' competition should be arranged in 2016.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Best Kept Gardens competition be abandoned for the current year, but possibly re-introduced in 2017 with a view to it being held on a biennial basis;

(b) That the situation be re-assessed in due course at which time consideration could be given to participating in either Britain-in-Bloom or the Cheshire Community Action 'Community Awards' scheme; and

(c) That a 'Best-Dressed House at Christmas' competition be held in 2016, with the prize being funded from the Best Kept Gardens competition allocation for 2016-2017.

156 PCSO ROTAS

The Parish Council received a copy of the rotas for each of the PCSOs and noted that these were based on a rolling five-week programme.

157 VILLAGE HALL – DISABLED TOILETS PROJECT

Stewart Thorley, the Architect involved in the design of the disabled toilets at the village hall, had been invited to attend either a Parish Council meeting or a Village Hall Management Committee meeting.

A response had not yet been received. The matter would be considered at the next Village Hall Management Committee meeting.

158 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – PUBLIC MEETING: 29 FEBRUARY 2016

At the previous meeting, Councillors B Gibbs, K Gibbs and P Yoxall undertook to prepare a leaflet advertising the public meeting on 29 February 2016. The leaflet would then be issued to each household in the parish in mid-February, to give residents two weeks' notice of the meeting.

The Clerk had prepared an article which had been published in the Village Voice and had notified the date of the meeting to residents who had previously expressed interest in the process.

It was noted that there was only one speaker for this event (Lucy Hughes of Cheshire Community Action). Neither Bob Cartwright (Audlem) nor Trevor Lightfoot (Wybunbury) were available and Members were invited to consider if alternative speakers should be invited. Borough Councillor S Edgar agreed to be a second speaker and would outline the benefits of Neighbourhood Plans.

Councillor K Gibbs introduced the item and tabled a draft leaflet which when printed would be A5, double-sided.

Members discussed the leaflet and made suggested amendments.

A Member queried the accuracy of the list which had been provided by Cheshire East Council [December 2015] and referred to a number of streets which had been omitted.

RESOLVED: (a) That the leaflet be approved, as amended at the meeting;

(b) That Councillor K Gibbs arrange for printing 2,500 copies through Solar Press (on-line printers) and would be reimbursed for the expenditure at the next meeting;

(c) That The Leaflet Team be asked to collect the leaflets from Councillor Gibbs' house (by prior arrangement) on 12 February for delivery to households 15-16 February;

(d) That, in view of the concerns raised about the accuracy of the address list provided by Cheshire East Council, Councillor W McIntyre be thanked for his offer to review the list and revise as appropriate; and

(e) That, following the public meeting on 29 February, the Steering Group (currently comprising Councillors E Ankers, B Gibbs, K Gibbs and P Yoxall) hold its inaugural meeting on 16 March 2016 at which time it would appoint volunteer members to the Steering Group (in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference).

159 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Councillor Edgar reported on the following matters:

- Flooding problems on Dig Lane
- New pedestrian crossing to be installed outside the Wain Homes development and the Co-op store.
- Victory Housing Association (registered social landlord) would be managing homes for disabled soldiers at Gresty Green.
- Rope Lane had been identified as a Category 2 and 3 flood plain (zone). (Flood zone 2 indicated medium probability of flooding; and Flood zone 3 indicated high probability)
- Cheshire East Highways had agreed to install a dropped kerb on Gresty Green Road.

(Note: Borough Councillor S Edgar withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

160 FINANCIAL MATTERS

160.1 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: That the following payments be approved:

<u>Parish Council Payments</u>		
£809.22	Mrs C M Jones	Net salary – February 2016
£85.94	Mrs C M Jones	Reimbursement for ink cartridges (£80.94) and £5 for the cost of full size plan for disabled toilets (provided by Stewart Thorley, Architect) (£69.53 net plus £11.41 VAT)
£29.25	Mrs C M Jones	Mileage claim for displaying agendas on notice-boards. Audlem-Shavington return = 13 miles (Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan 2016, Feb) Total: 65 miles @ tax neutral rate of 45P per mile
£78.94	Mrs C M Jones	Reimbursement for purchase of 6 x cans of spray paint for use on dog faeces.
£248.69	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax on Clerk's salary (for the period to 5 February 2016)
£15.00	A J Hardy Ltd.	Payroll service (January 2016)
£25.00	C Willetts	Website maintenance
£10.80	P Yoxall	Travel expenses – 24 miles @ 45P per mile.
£853.00	M Webster & Son	Grounds maintenance work (£710.84 net and £142.16 VAT)
£15,733.00 ¹	PCC	Half year: April 2015 – September 2015 Half year: October 2015 – March 2016
£20.00	Shavington Village Festival Committee	Cheque payable to 'SFVC' Quarter page ad in Panto programme

¹ Notwithstanding that this payment was approved, at the close of the meeting the cheque was withdrawn pending confirmation of the amount due.

Village Hall Payments

£265.00	Mrs B Fraser	Cleaning of community hall
£243.37	Scottish Power	£231.78 net and £11.59 vat (for the period 1 October – 29 December 2015)
£108.86	PPL (Photographic Performance Ltd)	Renewal of music licence for the Village Hall
£82.76	Dowding & Plummer Ltd	Purchase of 4 x 5 litres of Diamond polish for the main hall and two 17" red floor pads (£68.97 net: £13.79 VAT)
£84.14	ASH Waste	(£70.12 net - £14.02 VAT)
£126.47	M H Ascroft	Replacement floodlight at front of Village Hall £105.39 net: £21.08 VAT

160.2 LOCAL PLAN PUBLIC EXAMINATION

The Cheshire Association of Local Councils was proposing to represent all local councils in Cheshire East at the public hearings for the Local Plan and was seeking a contribution from each town and parish council whether or not affiliated.

Although this Parish Council was not affiliated to the Cheshire Association of Local Councils, Members were invited to consider if a contribution should be made. The proposed method of apportioning costs was based on the electorate for each local council. For Shavington it would be £506.49 (£422.07 excluding VAT): electorate of 3835.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council decline to make a donation towards the cost of examination in public of the Local Plan.

160.3 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS STATEMENTS

The Parish Council received Receipts and Payments statements as follows and noted the bank reconciliation in respect of each account:

➤ **Village Hall account: 1 April 2015 to 18 November 2015**

	£
Receipts	9,215.86
LESS Payments	<u>-6,773.35</u>
TOTAL	<u>2,442.51</u>
Bank balance at 18 November 2015	<u>2,442.51</u>
TOTAL	

➤ **Parish Council account: 1 April 2015 to 24 December 2015**

	£
Receipts	98,016.92
LESS Payments	<u>-32,522.18</u>
TOTAL	<u>65,494.74</u>
Bank balance at 24 December 2015	<u>66,290.81</u>
LESS Unpresented cheques	<u>-796.07</u>
TOTAL	<u>65,494.74</u>

160.4 CHANGE IN BANK MANDATE

The Clerk had reported on difficulties experienced with changes to the bank mandate following the removal of Chris Moulton's name as the correspondent on the Parish Council's bank account.

Subsequent to issue of the agenda, the matter had been resolved and the Clerk was receiving bank correspondence.

161 CASUAL VACANCY

The notice advertising the vacancy caused by former Councillor Melling's resignation was displayed on 16 January 2016, and the deadline date for the electorate to call an election was 4 February 2016.

The Parish Council was invited to consider arrangements for co-option in the event of there being no election.

RESOLVED: That in the event of no election being called, the Clerk publicise the vacancy on each of the notice-boards and the website.

162 STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Clerk had been unable to locate a copy of the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Mr Moulton (former Clerk) had advised that these were not retained electronically and were only available in paper copy.

At the meeting, the Chairman provided his own copy; these were dated 2004 and there had been significant changes in legislation since that date.

The Clerk advised that it would be timely to review these at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May. A copy of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations was submitted to allow Members sufficient time to review the contents prior to consideration at the May meeting.

163 LITTER BINS

At the previous meeting, Councillor Edgar undertook to enquire if Cheshire East Council (through ANSA) would be able to provide multi-use litter bins which could be used for dog waste and litter.

Earlier in the meeting, Councillor Edgar indicated that there was an offer of 'buy one, get one free' for the multi-use litter bins.

Members agreed that a total of eight bins was required.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Clerk place an order with ANSA for the purchase of four litter bins (as identified on the photograph submitted) at a cost of £323.00 per bin, plus VAT;

(b) That ANSA be asked to confirm if it could include the emptying of an additional eight bins in its refuse-collection rounds; and

(c) That the Street Cleansing Senior Team Leader be asked to meet the Chairman on site (by prior arrangement) to agree locations for the bins.

164 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council was invited to comment on the following planning applications:

16/0200N 25 Greenfields Avenue, Shavington CW2 5HQ
Two-storey rear extension and front dormer cheek

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised in respect of planning application No. 16/0200N.

16/0015N Land to rear of 46 Chestnut Avenue, Shavington, CW2 5BJ
Outline application for the demolition of 46 Chestnut Avenue and
erection of 44 dwellings (including access) and associated works.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Parish Council object to planning application No. 16/0015N on the following grounds:

- (i) Egress from the development onto an over-used and under-sized highway will exacerbate the problems already experienced.
- (ii) Flooding: There are significant problems of flooding in the parish in respect of previous sites and the flood plain in the area is such that it will add to the problems.
- (iii) Traffic from Chestnut Avenue into Crewe Road junction is not wide enough for current traffic flow and the development would exacerbate the situation.
- (iv) Erosion of the Green Gap: The development will further erode the Green Gap between the built-up areas of Shavington and Crewe and will adversely affect the visual character of the landscape which would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the scheme, notwithstanding the shortfall in housing land supply. The development is therefore contrary to Policy NE4 (Green Gap) of the Borough of Crewe and Nantwich Replacement Local Plan 2011 and guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework.
- (v) The roads in the village are inadequate and unable to cope with the current level of traffic. This development will worsen the situation.
- (vi) The documentation submitted by the applicant contains numerous inaccuracies.

(b) That, following research into the inaccuracies of the documentation to support the planning application, the details be sent to the Clerk who would add these into the objections before the deadline date of 25 February 2016;

(c) That when the draft Local Plan was published on or around 10 February 2016, if the site under discussion did not appear in the land allocated for development, this be added as a further objection; and

(d) That, in the event of the application being approved, Cheshire East Council be asked to add a condition to the effect that any affordable housing should be 'pepper-potted' throughout the site.

165 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence had been received:

- Shavington Drama Group: 'Thank you' letter for the Parish Council's donation of £50.00.
- Shavington Scouts: 'Thank you' e-mail for the recent grant of £150 for T-shirts.
- Councillor R A Bailey (Leader of Cheshire East Council) – update on Local Plan
- Borough Councillors S W Hogben and D Flude had requested inclusion on the distribution for Parish Council agendas and other notifications.

166 SHARED ITEMS

Parish Councillors were able to share information.

- Request for item for a future agenda: Purchase of vehicle-speed display unit.
- As a consequence of recent road re-surfacing, double-yellow lines had been concealed and not reinstated.
- Comment on the number of pot-holes not repaired.
- Boundary signs (Minute No. 115): At the previous meeting, the Chairman had undertaken to provide details of the precise locations for replacement boundary signs to display the name 'Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council'. The Chairman now advised the meeting that replacement signs were required at the following locations:

- Rope Lane: opposite to Rope Farm showing entry into the parish.
- Jack Mills Way: on the opposite side of the road to the 'Crewe' sign.
- Gresty Lane: At the end of the row of houses past the end of the allotments site.

- Raven Inn, Davenport Avenue: Opposite side of the road to the public house.
- Fuller Drive: Adjacent to the Parish Council's notice-board
- Stock Lane: In the vicinity of No. 10.

167 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2 March 2016

168 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Paragraph 1(2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1969, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, and the public interest would not be served in disclosing the information.

169 VILLAGE HALL – WINDOW CLEANING

(Reason for exclusion: commercial sensitivity and identification of individuals)

The window cleaner who was contracted to clean the village hall windows had recently sold part of his business to another contractor and had ceased cleaning the windows, with immediate effect.

The Parish Council was invited to consider awarding the contract to the new contractor. Councillor W McIntyre had met with the new contractor on site and reported to Members.

RESOLVED: That the contract for cleaning the Village Hall windows be awarded to 'Squeaky Windows' at the same rate charged by the previous contractor.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.15 pm and concluded at 10.50 pm