

SHAVINGTON-CUM-GRESTY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON
WEDNESDAY, 6th JULY 2011

Present: Councillors K Gibbs, Mrs B Kelly, Mrs S Cheshire, Mrs A Yoxall, D Miller, Mrs G McIntyre, Mrs V Adams, D Brickhill, S Hogben and R Clarke.

Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs R Hancock and B Melling.

Also in attendance: Eight members of the public.

046. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

047. SHAVINGTON LEISURE CENTRE INITIATIVES

The meeting welcomed Gerard Baldwin, the Manager of the Leisure Centre who commenced his address by circulating details of the success of the interactive initiative which the Parish Council contributed funding towards two years ago. This had been successful with a very good take up by the children at which it was aimed.

Rope Parish Council had agreed to sponsor one evening activity per week from September 2011 to Easter 2012 at a cost of £1,000. Each 2 hour session (6pm till 8pm) was expected to attract between 20 and 30 local children, and Mr Baldwin invited the Parish Council to possibly consider allocating similar sponsorship for a second evening per week. He suggested that Parish Councillors may wish to visit the facility to see for themselves how popular the sessions were before a decision was made.

Mr Baldwin also said a few words on behalf of the High School which was considering the provision of an ice rink in the school hall during the run up to Christmas 2011 which could be opened up to families during the evening and asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to receive a presentation on this idea from Lisa Hayes at its September meeting.

Members then thanked Mr Baldwin for his attendance and presentation, and it was

RESOLVED: a) That consideration of whether to award grant funding to this project be considered at the August meeting.

b) That Lisa Hayes of Shavington High School be invited to attend the September meeting to explain the proposals for a temporary ice rink at the School in December 2011.

048. MINUTES

RESOLVED: a) That the minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 1st June 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

b) That the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee meeting held on 8th June 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

c) That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 13th June 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

049. Vice-Chair (002 and 028)

RESOLVED: That Mrs G McIntyre be elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for 2011/12.

050. QUARTERLY INSPECTION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT (011(b) and 030)

The Parish Council considered the report of Mr D Espley following his first quarterly inspection of the Vine Tree play area and noted that some remedial works were necessary.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact Mr Espley to arrange for a quotation for carrying out the works.

051. PLANNING MATTERS

The Parish Council agreed that members of the public present be permitted to speak on this item.

A. Planning Applications

The Parish Council considered three planning applications.

RESOLVED: That the following observations be submitted to Cheshire East Council.

- i Application No. 11/2326N – Advertisement consent for signage and external graphics at 2 Weston Court - no comments.
- ii. Application No. 11/1982N – Construction of dual carriageway Crewe Green Link Road South on land between Weston Gate roundabout and the A500 – no observations.
- iii. Application No.11/2212N – Demolition of buildings, residential development with associated access and landscaping at land at Gresty Green, Gresty Green Road – the following objections be submitted to Cheshire East Council and the Ward Councillor be requested to ensure that the application is called-in for consideration by the relevant Committee.
 - The application is premature because houses will not be needed until the Basford East employment sites are completed
 - Access will be dangerous until the Basford East Spine Road is completed and removes traffic from Crewe Road
 - The local Crewe and Nantwich plan is still in force and this site is outside the settlement boundary shown on it
 - A new Parish Plan for Shavington-cum-Gresty is currently underway and this proposed development should await its findings
 - The access roads are dangerous and inadequate - Gresty Lane is already a dangerous rat-run with a fatal accident only recently
 - Gresty Green Lane is a narrow cul-de-sac unsuited to traffic. It is not a through road
 - The junction with Crewe Road at the Cheshire Cheese is dangerous enough already without any further traffic movement
 - The proposed modification to the junction would make things worse and not improve the situation
 - There have been three fatal accidents in the vicinity
 - The site is green field farmland, originally green-gap itself and now adjacent to the green gap. It divides Crewe from Shavington
 - There are protected bats on the site and the remedial measures are considered inadequate. The proposed seating area would become a magnet for rowdy undesirables
 - The building of the houses will kill or remove all bats contrary to the law which is in place to protect them - there would also be no food supply for the bats once the houses were built
 - The local infrastructure is inadequate to cope with additional house building
 - There are insufficient places at local primary schools: Pebble Brook and Shavington Primary Schools
 - There is already a significant drop in electricity supply voltage at peak times

- The existing drains are already unable to take heavy rainwater now
- Crewe Road extremely busy and overloaded with traffic, particularly at peak hours
- Mains water pressure in the drops dramatically at peak times already
- The doctors surgery is at capacity, and there are no local dentists - the waiting time at Leighton hospital has increased considerably already
- The development is outside the settlement boundary
- The boundary is currently defined by the local plan which has not yet been replaced and which was confirmed on appeal by an Inspector
- The Council's current policy is for development IN villages and NOT at the edge of Crewe
- The Council's current policy is for the villages to be separated from Crewe not joined up with Crewe by new housing sites
- The site is subject to flooding
- The Gresty brook takes all surplus surface water from the surrounding area and it already floods the site
- This development and the approved Basford West Industrial site will reduce the grass soakaway areas
- There will therefore be even more surface water and this site will flood badly and often
- Noise and Smell - the site is adjacent to a busy railway and the noise level would severely disturb new householders
- The site is adjacent to the Morning Foods factory with odours and noise which would reduce the amenity of new houses
- Loss of Amenity to Others - the development will cause loss of amenity particularly to the homes on Gresty Green Road
- Additional pressure on the infrastructure will cause loss of amenity to all local residents
- The increased development in Shavington parish will substantially change the locality and destroy its suburban village ethos

B. Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

The Chairman and Clerk introduced this item with an update on the current situation in respect of investigations into securing the services of a professional Planning Consultant to advise the Council over the coming months and possibly years. The Consultant used to great success over the wind Turbine application has been contacted and had expressed an interest in working with the Council and would shortly be meeting with the Clerk to discuss the Parish Council's requirements and possible terms of appointment. The Clerk would then report back to the Parish Council at the August meeting with the information and to obtain further instructions.

Members also noted that the Spatial Planning team at Cheshire East would be undertaking the next stage of consultation on the Local Development Framework between July and September, called the 'Place Shaping' consultation. They propose to work closely with the people of Cheshire East to look at the issues and challenges facing town and village communities and finding out how people think the towns and villages should look in the future, and would be holding several consultation events over the summer with the first for our area to be held on Monday 11th July 2011 at Crewe Alexandra Football Club between 6:00pm and 8:30pm.

During a lengthy debate the Parish Council restated its commitment to minimizing the level of additional housing development in the Parish and discussed with residents the way forward which included measures to inform every household in the parish about the potential for large scale additional housing development on the sites identified in the SHLAA. A public open meeting with Cheshire East Councillors and officers was suggested, and prior to that a leaflet drop to all properties to include the SHLAA map

was also proposed. These would be considered further at the next meeting once professional advice had been obtained.

052. PARISH PLAN WORKING GROUP

Councillor Mrs G McIntyre reported that the Group had now completed the first draft of the questionnaire and this had been circulated to a sample group of respondents. The responses from this would then be analysed prior to the full questionnaire being sent out in September.

053. VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

Members noted that Mrs Newall of St Mark's Church had again asked about the gate being opened and agreed that in order to make progress on this issue, representatives from the Church be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss the matter.

The Clerk also reported on the appointment of Mrs B Fraser as the new cleaning contractor for the Village Hall following the tendering process and recent interviews.

054. CORRESPONDENCE

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

- i. Minutes of the Willaston Green Gap Action Team meeting held on 16th June 2011 for information.
- ii. A thank you letter from the Shavington Village Festival Committee for use of the Village Hall for the Festival on 11th June.
- iii. E-mail correspondence from the Cheshire East Planning Department over the reason for not consulting with the Parish Council over planning application No.10/3798N revised – 1 Southbank Avenue. In respect of this application copies of letters submitted by neighbouring residents had been sent to the Parish Council for information.
- iv. A letter from Lexington Communications on behalf of Taylor Wimpey concerning their pre-application consultation on proposals to build 40 homes on land at Crewe Road Gresty (also circulated by the company to Councillors).
- v. A letter from Cheshire East Head of Planning, Adrian Fisher concerning the place shaping consultation for the Local Development Framework which will commence in July (referred to in minute 051B above).
- vi. A letter of resignation from Councillor D Brickhill which detailed his reasons for giving up his seat on the Council.

RESOLVED: a) That Councillor Brickhill's resignation be reluctantly accepted in view of his outstanding service to the Council over the past four years, and members paid tributes to his work during that period.

b) That the Clerk make the necessary arrangements to advertise the vacancy on the Parish Council's Notice Boards with a view to the Council co-opting a new Councillor at the August meeting if possible.

055. FINANCIAL MATTERS

i. Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED: That the following payments be approved:

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| i. | C Moulton – Clerk's salary June 2011 (£820.56 less tax/Ni) | £618.57 |
| ii. | M Webster & Son – grounds maintenance work June 2011 | £744.68 |

iii.	Mr C Walker – reimbursement for materials – tap wall plate	£7.36
iv.	Alison Bulman – for HMS Shavington ships crest	£30.00
v.	Mr D Espley – banding of concrete planters, supply of new chain for allotment gate and quarterly inspection of play area	£110.00
vi.	Weaver Business Machines photocopier maintenance	£63.36

ii. Audit of Accounts 2010/11

The Parish Council noted that the annual audit of accounts was currently being undertaken by Mr A Green the Internal Auditor and that his report would now be presented to the August meeting.

056. PCSO'S AND POLICING ISSUES REPORTS

On this occasion neither of the PCSO's was able to be present but the Chairman presented a report prepared by PCSO P Corbett. Members noted that there had been six reported crimes during the previous month and seven instances of anti-social behaviour.

057. PARISH INFORMATION ITEMS

Members reported and noted the following items:

- Mrs A Yoxall reported on some difficulties she had experienced recently in her role as Administrative Trustee for Wybunbury United Charities and explained the concerns to the Council. Members asked the Clerk to write to request further information and observations from the parties involved.
- The Clerk was asked to contact Cheshire East Council to enquire over the 'school' sign which had been removed from outside the Village Hall, and to ask when it would be replaced.

058. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 3rd August 2011 commencing at 7.15pm.

Chairman
3rd August 2011