

SHAVINGTON-CUM-GRESTY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER 2013

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

Apologies for absence: Councillor B Melling.

Also in attendance: Ward Councillor D Brickhill and four members of the public.

088. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND GRANTING OF DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Mrs R Hancock declared an interest in Minute No. 093 (Lighting Bar project) and took no part in the discussion or vote on that item.

089. PCSO'S AND POLICING ISSUES REPORT

The Council noted that no PCSO was able to be present on this occasion but noted the contents of a detailed report on policing activity during the previous month submitted by PCSO M Minton.

090. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Parish Council suspended the meeting to allow input from members of the public present and a number of highway and planning related matters were raised in relation to: representation at Cheshire East Council Planning Committee meetings; Cheshire East Council's planning strategy in respect of new housing provision; and progress on a safety barrier at the Southbank Avenue to Crewe Road footpath previously requested in 2012.

091. MINUTES

RESOLVED: a) That the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 7th August 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

b) That the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee held on 14th August 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

c) That the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 21st August 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING:

092. Footpath No.2 Rope (074a)

The Council noted the detail of a response received from Cheshire East Council's Public Rights of Way Unit indicating that further grounds would be required for it to consider the Parish Council's objections.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Cheshire East Council's Public Rights of Way Unit with the following objections:

The Parish Council submitted detailed objections to the Wain Homes planning application and these were supported by Cheshire East Council when it refused to grant permission for the development. Wain Homes subsequently took the matter to appeal and the Planning Inspector allowed the appeal presumably taking no notice of the existence of this footpath, or paying little regard to it.

The existing footpath follows its current route for a reason - there is a drainage ditch running alongside the rear of the gardens of those houses in Vine Tree Avenue and this would be a thoroughly unsuitable route for the location of a public footpath. There is no

mention of the water course being culverted which would be necessary for any footpath to follow this route.

A footpath diverted along the rear of properties in Vine Tree Avenue would be inappropriate because residents would be likely to suffer an increase in undesirable activities and anti-social behaviour at the rear of their gardens which would have a negative effect on the residential amenity for those properties.

093. Lighting Bar project (080)

The Council noted the recommendation from the Village Hall Management Committee and the advice of its insurers, and also noted subsequent correspondence from the drama groups stating that they would not be prepared to accept liability for the works.

RESOLVED: a) That permission for the works be not granted on the grounds proposed.

b) To enable the scheme to proceed, as a compromise arrangement the Parish Council is prepared to allow the installation of the brackets and insure them *provided* that the following were satisfied:

- i. The brackets are supplied and installed by an independent contractor commissioned by the Parish Council. The Parish Council would obtain quotations.
- ii. The drama groups each pay 50% of the cost of these works to the Parish Council before the contract is let.

094. Telephone allowances (081)

Councillor P Yoxall raised a query over the payment of telephone allowances to Councillors and the Chair replied.

095. Allotment Site Lease (085)

The Parish Council noted that the Vice-Chairman and Clerk had again met with the Asset Transfer Manager at Cheshire East over the question of trees on the site. He indicated that Cheshire East Council would not be able to carry out any works to the trees but would look at the large Oak tree at the site entrance. Since then he had confirmed that Cheshire East's tree specialists have been out, inspected the oak and reported back that since the nearest branch is 1.5m away from the power lines no work needed to be carried out at this stage.

However, Mr Allman had since advised that Scottish Power were carrying out some works elsewhere within the Cheshire East area and one of his staff mentioned the Gresty Lane allotments to them. As a result they would remove the offending branches as part of their routine maintenance programme.

RESOLVED: That once the tree had been attended to the Lease be signed.

096. VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

The Parish Council noted that some of the wall lights in the Lounge had been damaged and agreed that these be replaced.

097. CORRESPONDENCE

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

- i. A letter from Edward Timpson MP offering his support for the Council's campaign against the large scale housing development proposals in the Parish.
- ii. A letter from Came & Company detailing the renewal premium in respect of the Parish Council's policy (£2,953.33) and indicating that should the Council wish to enter into a new three year agreement the annual premium will be £2,786.85.
- iii. The successful outcome of the 2012/13 external audit by Messrs BDO.
- iv. Correspondence from Cheshire East Council Highways confirming the traffic Order for double yellow lines at the Orchards/Crewe Road junction.
- v. Correspondence from Cheshire East Council Highways confirming the arrangements for the resurfacing works to Greenfield Avenue.

RESOLVED: a) That in respect of item i. above the Clerk write to Mr Timpson to thank him for his support but also to indicate that the Parish Council would welcome further, and more interactive, support from him.

b) That in respect of item ii. above the Parish Council enter into a new three year arrangement with Aviva via Messrs Came & Co.

098. PLANNING MATTERS

- i. **Planning application No.13/0427N** – Conversion of farm outbuildings to form three dwellings at Rope Farm Barns, Rope Lane
RESOLVED: That no objections be made.
- ii. **Planning application No.13/3499N** – Erection of dwelling at Puseydale Farm, Main Road
RESOLVED: That no objections be made.
- iii. **Planning application No.13/3373N** – Listed building consent to alterations to gate posts and flanking walls at Shavington Hall, Weston Lane
RESOLVED: That strong objections to the proposals be made as the Parish Council is of the opinion that these pillars and walls are historic monuments within the parish and are strongly of the view that they should be retained and protected, and not tampered with in any way. Any adjustments would they spoil the aspect and amenity of the Lane.
- iv. **Planning application No.13/3018N – 39 dwellings at Hill House, 414 Newcastle Road**
Further to the discussion at the last meeting the Council received the objections submitted in respect of this application.
RESOLVED: That the detailed objections as submitted be endorsed.
- v. **Planning application No. 13/2874N – Gresty Oaks**
RESOLVED: That the detailed objections to this application submitted on behalf of the Council and Rope Parish Council by Mr R Ellison be endorsed..
- vi. **Cheshire East Council Core Strategy**
The Parish Council noted that the Core Strategy may be circulated to Parish Councils during September.
RESOLVED: a) That on receipt of the document a Special Meeting of the Parish Council be arranged if required to discuss its contents. Should this be during the period of holiday of the Chair and Vice-Chair then the meeting be Chaired by Councillor K Gibbs.

b) That the Clerk write to the Leader of Cheshire East Council referring to the recent public meeting at Rope which he attended and at which Parish Councillors from Rope and Shavington-cum-Gresty were also present, to ask him to confirm his commitment of support for the communities of the two parishes as given at the meeting.

vii. Planning Leaflet

The Council placed on record its appreciation for the work of Councillors Mrs R Hancock and Mrs V Adams in photocopying and preparing the information leaflet which was circulated throughout the Parish.

viii. Gresty Green Lane

Councillor S Hogben reported that highway investigations by Cheshire East Council had revealed that this lane was only adopted up the railway bridge and was therefore totally unsuitable for pedestrian use for access to Pebble Brook School.

ix. Further publicity

The Parish Council agreed that a letter from the Chair to the Chronicle detailing the present situation in respect of large scale planning applications in the Parish would be useful.

099. FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLVED: That the following payments be approved:

i.	C Moulton – Clerk's salary August 2013 (£820.56 less tax/Ni)	£618.57
ii.	M Webster & Son – grounds maintenance work August 2013	£824.82
iii.	BDO for external audit of accounts 2012/13	£360.00
iv.	P Yoxall travel expenses reimbursement	£15.30
v.	Mrs B Kelly BKG expenses	£58.87
vi.	Petty cash reimbursement	£120.00
vii.	RJE Associates Gresty Oaks submission	£670.80
viii.	Came & Company Parish Council insurance (Broker Network Ltd)	£2,786.85*
ix.	HMRC Clerk's tax and NI deducted July - September 2013	£605.97
x.	HMRC employers NI contribution April – September 2013	£227.28
xi.	Best Kept Gardens Competition 1 st prize	£50.00
xii.	Best Kept Gardens Competition 2 nd prize	£30.00
xiii.	Best Kept Gardens Competition 3 rd prize	£20.00
xiv.	Best Kept Gardens Competition OAP bungalow prize	£10.00
xv.	Best Allotment Plot prize	£10.00
xvi.	P Yoxall BKG refreshments reimbursement	£143.76
xvii.	Mr W Swindell – materials reimbursement for wall reconstruction	£49.65
xviii.	G Maddocks – guest speaker Best Kept Gardens	£25.00
xix.	C Moulton Clerks fuel reimbursement at cost June-September 2013	£43.54

100. TRAFFIC CONGESTION/SPEEDING VEHICLES

The Parish Council discussed concerns raised over the traffic problems being experienced in Osborne Grove and Chestnut Avenue/Vine Tree Avenue. It was suggested that two separate public open meetings might be arranged with residents from the affected areas and Cheshire East Council's Highways officers.

RESOLVED: That two public open meetings be arranged once details had been agreed.

101. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Parish Council be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 2nd October 2013 commencing at 7.15pm.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.30pm.

Chair
2nd October 2013