

PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Warburton Councillor Eddie Daniel
Councillor John Erlam Councillor Gemma Herbertson
Councillor Kevin Gregory Councillor Peter Jackson
Councillor Angela Norbury Councillor David Norbury
Clerk Sue McDonald

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Jamie Macrae, Cheshire East
PCSO Lindsey Whitehead
PCSO Sarah Emerson
Members of the Public: Mr M Gauden, Mr N Gilbert, Mr D Penney

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

2.1 Declarations of Interest None

2.2 Power of Dispensation

'To RESOLVE that the Council delegates the power to grant dispensations to the Clerk. The power rests with the relevant authority under section 33(1) of the Localism Act 2011 and the basis is set out under section 33(2). To receive declarations of interest in the meeting's proceedings, to resolve that the Clerk will be given the power to grant dispensations and to deal with any dispensation requests received.'

RESOLVED: The Clerk will be granted the power to grant or deny dispensations for pecuniary interests..

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2012 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Councillor Warburton, seconded by Councillor D Norbury. RESOLVED: the minutes of the meeting on 12th November 2012 are true records.

4 HAND HELD SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

Mr Gauden, Mr Gilbert and Mr Penney, who had expressed interest in forming a Speedwatch Group in Ashley, had attended the meeting to find out what was involved in using hand held speed guns to record and report speeding drivers.

PCSO Lindsey Whitehead outlined the process as:

- Two people needed to be present. One to use the gun and another to manually record the number plates of speeding cars
- The list of number plates would be sent to Lindsey and she, in turn, would write to the registered keepers and warn them that they had been speeding
- No speeding tickets could be issued but the letter usually has a positive effect
- Free training would be given on use of the device. The training last approximately 30 minutes and is undertaken by Tony Hall, the official trainer

Lindsey did not have exact prices for the device but thought it was of the order of £500. Councillors considered there may be a possibility of borrowing one from a neighbouring Parish Council and it was agreed that this would be explored.

The Chairman thanked Lindsey for her advice..

5 PCSO LINDSEY WHITHEAD'S REPORT

Lindsey introduced PCSO Sophie Emerson to the Council and explained that Sophie will be working in the same area as herself and will attend Parish meetings in rotation with Lindsey. Sarah presented the report on crime in the locality:

- Theft of a grass cutter from Ashley mowers
- Catalytic converter stolen from Tabley Garage
- Burglary from a property being renovated in Mere

The rise in poaching at Tatton Park had resulted in special deer watch patrols.

The Chairman thanked Lindsey and Sophie for attending. They left at 8.30pm to continue their duties.

6 MATTERS ARISING**6.1 Community Orchard**

Chris Frankland generously donated six fruit trees, five apple and one cherry, which were planted at the school. In the future it is hoped to plant more trees in the Church grounds also to create an avenue of trees at the school. The occasion also included a limited litter pick.

Councillors agreed that another litter pick should take place at the end of February. Once the date is confirmed the Clerk will place details on the notice board and in the shop..

6.2 Fire at Stock Farm

Chris Frankland assured the Clerk that he was not responsible for the almost constant fire at Stock Farm and suggested that it could be due to other people who use the same area. Councillor Daniel will speak to the people at the site and try to get the matter resolved.

7 HOUGH GREEN CAR PARK

Cheshire East is to apply for retrospective planning permission for Hough Green car park as an internal matter. The land can continue to be used as a car park and the licence is still valid and will remain so. Ashley Parish Council need take no further action regarding this matter.

RESOLVED: This item can finally be removed from the Agenda.

8 COUNCILLOR JAMIE MACRAE'S REPORT

Jamie reported that Cheshire East that formal internal approval had been given for the expansion of Mobberley School increasing the number of intake pupils from 20 to 30. Children in Ashley will be given priority. It is generally accepted that Cheshire County Council's policy of closing schools had, in this area, caused problems. He remarked that children in Sunnyside Nursery were predominantly from Mobberley.

Jamie also reported on the lack of investment in Highways in recent years and that Cheshire East took a strategic decision to allocate an extra £10,000,000 in 2013/2014 for Highways maintenance. In total there was £30,000,000 earmarked for investment in infrastructure.

The maps of the Local Plans for Knutsford are now on the Cheshire East website.

Councillor Herbertson wished to know how to determine which land is greenbelt. Jamie explained that the information could be found on the Cheshire East Website.

The proposed HS2 route and link to the airport will be announced at the end of January 2013

9 PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters for the Council to consider.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Chairman declared that this matter would be discussed at the end of the meeting because the Council needed an in-depth discussion to set the Precept and Budget prior to the figures being published. Once agreed the figures will be made available to the public.

11 CHANGES TO ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

There had been no updates to report nor information received.

12 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

There had been no updates to report nor information received.

13 TATTON PARK

There had been no updates to report nor information received.

14 TATTON ESTATE PLANS FOR KNUTSFORD

There had been no updates to report nor information received.

15 HIGHWAYS MATTERS**15.1 Blocked Gulleys**

There had been no updates on the blocked gulleys. The Clerk will had contact Cheshire East.

15.2 Missing and Broken Road Signs

There are two road signs missing from between the railway bridge and South Lodge. The Clerk will report this to Cheshire East

The road sign near Councillor D Norbury is dirty and hard to see. Councillor Norbury has volunteered to clean the sign.

16 ASHLEY STATION**16.1 Daffodil Bulbs**

Two bags of daffodil bulbs were planted at the station at the end of November.

16.2 Flower Seeds for Ashley Station

The Clerk had contacted Sally Buttifant (Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership Officer) to ask if she had a contact who could provide flower seeds for the station. No reply had been received at the time of the meeting.

17 BRERETON TRUST

The Brereton Trust was presented to Mrs Stella Grassby who was delighted with the hamper

18 CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas party, held at the Egerton Arms, was a great success. Thanks are due to Councillor D Norbury for arranging everything.

19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**19.1 Cricket Club**

Ashley Cricket Club is applying to Sport England for a grant to improve the outfield and drainage at the Club. The Chairman, Brian Birtles, has asked the Council to provide a letter of support to accompany the grant application if Councillors are in agreement with the project. It was unanimously agreed that the Council would support the project.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will produce a letter of support for Ashley Cricket Club.

19.2 Grants and Donations

The Clerk reminded Councillors that grants and donations could not be 'given' but had to be applied for and a completed application form must accompany any request.

19.3 Gate at South Lodge

Councillor Herbertson reported that the gate at South Lodge is almost off its hinges. The Clerk will report it to Tatton Estate

19.4 Smell of Gas

Councillor Herbertson reported there is a smell of gas on Ashley Road near South Lodge. The Clerk will contact the gas company.

19.5 Overgrown Hedges

The hedge outside the Old Vicarage is very overgrown forcing pedestrians on to the road. The Clerk will contact Dominic Jones.

The hedge at Coppice Cottage is also very overgrown and the Clerk will contact Tatton Estate.

19.6 Gallaghers

A resident reported that Gallaghers is systematically being burgled. The Clerk will contact Stirling Properties to inform them and also contact the Police.

20 CORRESPONDENCE***Emails:***

ChALC	Technical reforms of Planning Dispensations Planning Conference NALC Briefing e-news December Newsletter
Cheshire East	Highways Satisfaction Survey Proposed expansion of Mobberley School Partnership Newsletter

Fire Service Survey
Manchester Airport E-newsletter

Letters etc:

Cheshire East Precept Application Form
 New Electoral Roll
 Details of Grant

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 11th March 2013

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 10.30pm

Signed: _____ **Chairman 11/03/2013**