

**PRESENT:** Chairman Jeff Warburton Councillor Eddie Daniel  
Councillor John Erlam Councillor Kevin Gregory  
Councillor Angela Norbury Councillor David Norbury

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Jamie Macrae, Cheshire East  
Reverend Libby Lane  
Mr Henry Brooks

## 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Warburton was proposed for Chairman by Councillor Gregory. It was seconded by Councillor D Norbury and there was a unanimous vote in favour.

Councillor Gregory was proposed for Vice-Chairman by Councillor D Norbury. It was seconded by Councillor Daniel and there was a unanimous vote in favour.

RESOLVED: Councillor Warburton was elected as Chairman and Councillor Gregory as Vice-Chairman

**2 APOLOGIES:** Councillor Gemma Herbertson  
Councillor Peter Jackson

## 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

### 3.1 Declarations of Interest

None

### 3.2 Dispensations

It was recognised that dispensations would be required for Councillors to discuss and vote on HS2 matters. The Clerk had prepared dispensation forms for signing.

## 4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on 13th March 2013 and 21st March 2013 were accepted as true records.

RESOLVED: the minutes of the meetings on 13th and 21st March 2013 were approved and signed.

## 5 PCSO LINDSEY WHITHEAD'S REPORT

Lindsey was unable to attend the meeting but provided the Clerk with the following report:

- There were no incidents in Ashley
- Bowdon Roundabout. An Asian male was twice seen acting suspiciously and trying to flag cars down
- Mere Golf Club. Theft of golf clubs and a satnav from a car

## 6 COUNCILLOR JAMIE MACRAE'S REPORT

Councillor Macrae had been delayed and the Chairman announced that Item 7 would be discussed next. This item would be dealt with upon Councillor Macrae's arrival (8.30pm).

Councillor Macrae commenced his report by announcing that Cheshire East were about to embark on a massive Highways resurfacing program. A survey of all the roads had been conducted and a prioritised list of road repairs was produced. Details are available on the Cheshire East website

The Cheshire East Local Plan for Knutsford had identified two additional large sites as being suitable for residential development. These were at the old Ilfords site and some agricultural land near Smith Lane and Broadoaks.

Formal objections had been lodged against the proposal to expand Mobberley School. The intake had been increased from 20 to 30 pupils per year but, following the objections has had to be reduced back to 20. The whole matter will now be subject to a public hearing.

There had been an approach, by Cheshire Peaks and Plains, to Cheshire East Assets expressing an interest in developing affordable housing on the site of Hough Green Car Park. Councillor Warburton remarked that a similar approach, to build bungalows on the site, had been made some fifteen years ago

## 7 CHANGES TO ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

Libby was pleased to report that the plans for the internal reordering of St Elizabeth's Church have been prepared and would be on display at the Rose Queen Fete on 18th May 2013. There would be additional information available and Libby was also hoping to collect names and email addresses of anyone who would be interested in supporting the project. It was also intended to display the information in the Church itself.

## 8 HS2 PHASE 2

Councillor Gregory reported that at a recent meeting of the Parish Council Cluster Group, George Osborne had stated the HS2 phase 2 *will* go ahead although he was prepared to work with Parish Councils on aspects of the design.

All the representatives of the Parish Councils strongly agreed the biggest issue facing affected residents was property blight which was already taking its toll even at this very early stage. Houses were not selling.

Consideration of the plight of tenant farmers is being taken into account.

## 9 MATTERS ARISING

### 9.1 Hedge at Swallow Barn

The overgrown hedge partially obliterating the visibility display had been cut back but Councillors agreed that it constituted a trim and did not solve the problem. The Clerk will seek further advice.

Councillors reported that the hedge at Gallaghers garage had again become very overgrown. The Clerk was asked to contact Sterling Properties about this matter.

### 9.2 Website

The Clerk had made a preview of the website available to Councillors for comment. The Clerk had considered removing the Planning page but Councillors were of the opinion that it was useful and should remain as part of the website.

## 10 PLANNING MATTERS

### 10.1 Planning Applications Already Considered

The following planning application had already been examined and considered:

13/1499M	Extension To Time Limit only Police House, Cow Lane, Ashley, WA15 0QR two-storey, part single-storey rear extension and rear conservatory	06/05/2013
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The Council had previously responded to this application with no objections/comments. The application was for a time extension only and Councillors unanimously agreed that their earlier response still stood

### 10.2 Planning Applications to be Considered

The following planning application was considered:

13/1526M	Blackshaw Heys Farm, Breach House Lane, Mobberley, Knutsford, WA16 7NS Conversion of swimming pool building to dwelling including a replacement conservatory at the rear and partial demolition of the building	15/05/2013
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Councillors unanimously agreed that, in principle, they had neither objections to, nor comments upon this planning application but would visit the site and report back. If no concerns were raised by the visit, the Clerk would respond to Planning with no objections/comments. If any concerns were raised, an extension to time would be requested to enable the planning application to be reconsidered.

## 11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

### 11.1 Authorisation of Accounts for 2012-2013

The accounts for 2012-2013 were examined and proposed for approval by Councillor Warburton and Councillor Daniel seconded. RESOLVED that the accounts for 2013-2014 were unanimously approved. The Chairman signed each of the accounting sheets and the assets register.

### 11.2 Audit Commission Annual Return 2012-2013 Annual Risk and Governance Statement

Prior to dealing with the Annual Return, Councillors examined the Council's annual Risk and Governance Statement and unanimously approved it as being an accurate record.

#### Accounting Statements Section 1

The Accounting statements in section 1 were unanimously approved as being accurate and the form was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

#### Annual Governance Statement Section 2

Based on the approval of the Council's annual Risk and Governance Statement, the Audit Commission Annual Return section 2 was unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

**11.3 Budget for 2013-2014**

The final budget for 2013-2014 was examined, proposed for approval by Councillor Daniel and seconded by Councillor D Norbury. RESOLVED: The budget for 2013-2014 was unanimously approved

**11.4 Authorised Payments**

To record that the following payments were authorised by the Council at a meeting on 21st March 2013:

£ 47.84	Heart Internet	Web Hosting 1 year (will be paid by Direct Debit)
£300.00	J Warburton	Reimburse: Shelter for Playground
£ 20.00	D Norbury	Reimburse: Tractor paint for shelter
£350.00	S McDonald	Council website development and 1 year maintenance
£ 35.90	S McDonald	Reimburse: 10 years registration of ashleyparishcouncil.org.uk domain
£146.00	S McDonald	Reimburse: Planters for Ashley Station
£180.00	C Frankland	Trees for community orchard

**11.5 Authorisation of Payments**

The Council authorised the following payments which had fallen due since the last meeting:

£322.19	Zurich Insurance	Annual Insurance Premium
£ 68.40	ChALC	Subscription Fee

**12 ROSE QUEEN 2013**

Arrangements for the Rose Queen on 18th May are progressing well. Details will be displayed in the village.

**13 SPEEDWATCH**

Mobberley Parish Council had decided, at the last minute against lending their speed gun to Ashley which meant the formation of Speedwatch could not go ahead at present. A new speed gun, from a reputable trader, will cost approximately £150. Councillor Gregory suggested using some of the grant from Cheshire East for this purpose and Councillors unanimously agreed. The Clerk will look into the matter.

**14 MANCHESTER AIRPORT****14.1 Manchester Airport/Parish Council Meeting**

The Chairman and Councillor Gregory attended the meeting for Parish Councils on 19th March 2013. Topics covered included:

- Manchester Airport City, a large retail, leisure and hotel complex
- Manchester Airport Group is in talks with China
- Noise limits had been reduced slightly. The penalty system is enforced if aircraft exceed 81 decibels

Councillor Erlam reported that, depending upon wind direction, planes flying over his house cause severe rattling of the windows. Mr Brooks remarked that the Airport had refused to install double glazing on Tatton Estate properties.

**14.2 Outreach Program**

Manchester Airport has stated that it would consider holding an Outreach road show in smaller villages if there was sufficient interest. Councillors agreed it would be useful to hold one in Ashley especially if other villages such as Rostherne and Ringway were involved. The event could possibly be held at the Church or the Cricket Club depending upon the facilities needed by the Airport. The Clerk will contact Manchester Airport.

**15 TATTON PARK****15.1 Tatton Park/Parish Council Meeting**

Councillor D Norbury reported on the outcome of the meeting on 19th March 2013. The main points were:

- The aims for Tatton Park were to reduce running costs, currently £500,000 per year
- BeWilderwood: the planning application would be probably be resubmitted in April/May.  
A meeting will be arranged with local Parish Councils  
It is expected that there will be 6 peak days per years with a maximum of 1500 cars including coaches.  
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The loss of agricultural land has been reduced to 44 acres, comprising 34 acres to parkland, 6-7 acres for parking and 4 for banks
- Tatton Dale. A play trail, den building, maze trail and picnic areas are to be developed  
There are two holiday lets but in 2014 it is hoped to develop the top yard for holiday lets and a camping experience. In addition it is intended to turn the stables into hostel accommodation with basic facilities

## 15.2 RHS Meeting

Councillor D Norbury reported on the outcome of the meeting on 4th May 2013. The main points were:

- The event is not currently making a profit and there would be no Members Day this year. There will be a VIP area within the show grounds.
- Dates for the show are Thursday 25th July to Sunday 28th July inclusive.
- There will be a higher concentration of traffic due to the show being on four rather than five days. It is expected that Thursday will attract 40% of the traffic with the remaining 60% spread evenly across the other three days
- Traffic control will be the same as last year. Councillor Norbury will distribute any required permits

## 15.3 BeWilderwood

### 15.3.1 General Report

Most had been covered under item 15.1, however Councillor D Norbury remarked that the model traffic figures were significantly higher than the latest announcement but there was no downsize in projected revenue

### 15.3.2 Loan by Cheshire East

Councillor Macrae was asked to explain why Cheshire East was lending over £5,000,000 to Bure Valley Adventures, a private concern. Councillor Macrae said it was a sound commercial decision by Cheshire East. When asked what would happen if the venture failed Councillor Macrae explained that Tatton Park was currently subsidised by £500,000 per year which Cheshire East had successfully reduced from £1,100,000 over four years. Councillor Macrae was of the opinion that the Council would be better served by concentrating on the activities at Manchester Airport rather than focusing too much on BeWilderwood.

### 15.3.3 BeWilderwood/Parish Council Meeting

Councillor D Norbury will attend this meeting on 21st May 2013

## 16 SMELL OF GAS

British Gas had done some repairs on Ashley Road and the smell of gas appears to have gone

## 17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 17.1 Tatton Estate

The Chairman invited Mr Henry Brooks to report on Tatton Estate plan for Knutsford. The main points were:

- Tatton Estate's land to the north of Parkgate industrial site is the only non green belt development site in Knutsford
- The site will be mixed use with 170 homes, including affordable housing, and offices, car parking plus required infrastructure to the east.
- Parkgate Lane will be improved to allow for freer flowing traffic and there will be improvements to the junction of Parkgate Lane and Mobberley Road leading to less congestion.
- There will be an exhibition at the old Town Hall on 21st May 2013 from 12.00pm to 8.00pm

Mr Brooks briefly referred back to the loan by Cheshire East to Bure Valley Adventures and pointed out that normally the granting of a loan would be assessed on a 30% debt to equity basis but Bure Valley has no money, making the loan questionable.

### 17.2 Planters for Station

The planters for Ashley Station needed plants. Councillor Gregory suggested his green fingered wife would do it. Proposed by Councillor Warburton, seconded by Councillor D Norbury. RESOLVED Mrs P Gregory will be asked to carry out the planting.

## 18 CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence was received email and forwarded to Councillors. Anything of public interest had been added to this meeting's Agenda. The only relevant correspondence by post was Cheshire East Local Plan 'Possible Additional Sites Proposed by Developer and Land Interests' Consultation: 3rd to 30th May 2013 .

## 19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 8th July 2013 at 8.00pm in Sunnyside Nursery, Back Lane

## 20 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.15pm

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chairman 8th July 2013**

*Notes: Councillor D Norbury was called away to an emergency at 9.20pm and returned at 9.45pm  
Councillor Macrae left the meeting at 9.20pm*