

PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Warburton Councillor John Erlam
Councillor Kevin Gregory Councillor Gemma Herbertson
Councillor Peter Jackson Councillor Angela Norbury

IN ATTENDANCE:

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Ed Daniel
Councillor David Norbury

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

2.1 Declarations of Interest: None

2.2 Dispensations

Full term dispensations had been granted to all Councillors to discuss and vote on HS2 matters.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve as correct records the Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting on 13th May 2013 and the Annual Parish Council meeting on 13th May 2013. Proposed: Councillor Gregory, seconded: Councillor Jackson
RESOLVED: the minutes of the meetings on 13th May 2013 were approved and signed.

4 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

The Chairman reported the finding of sheep's heads in Ashley most likely as the result of rustling.

5 COUNCILLOR JAMIE MACRAE'S REPORT

Councillor Macrae was unable to attend the meeting.

6 CHANGES TO ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

Reverend Libby Lane was unable to attend the meeting.

7 HS2 PHASE 2

Councillor Gregory reported there had been a Parish Council Cluster meeting on 20th May. The significant points from this meeting were:

- The need for Parish Councillors to have full term dispensations to discuss and vote on HS2 matters
- The Group's resolve was to stop the HS2 from happening. Councillor Gregory was of the opinion that concentrating all efforts on its prevention may, if the HS2 does go ahead, mean that input and influence on the placing and design of the route will not have been thoroughly considered
- The Cluster Group has to form an association because a Parish Council cannot hold the funds for fighting the HS2 purposes

The Stop HS2 group were in attendance at the Cheshire Show and had given out opinion leaflets. Of the 2,000 responses given on the day only 6 were in favour of the HS2.

Councillor Herbertson enquired if there was any provision for the replenishment of housing stock, lost to the HS2, in Ashley. The Clerk will contact Cheshire East on this matter.

All Councillors wanted to provide residents with a greater awareness of the massive impact that the HS2 will have on Ashley village. Councillor Erlam mentioned the beer festival at Ashley Cricket Club and suggested it would be an ideal event to put some HS2 posters up. Councillor Gregory had an A1 map of the HS2 route through Ashley and the Clerk said that her husband could provide large photographs showing before and after depictions of the HS2. Councillors unanimously agreed that posters should be displayed at the Cricket Club, subject to the Cricket Club's agreement.

Councillor Gregory believed it was time to organise an HS2 meeting for Ashley residents. Options and times were discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the meeting should take place in November with reminders in the two Ashley News issues prior to the date. The exact date will be agreed nearer the time. It was also agreed that the best venue would be the Church. Councillor Gregory will discuss the matter with Reverend Libby Lane.

Councillor Gregory suggested the Council might consider erecting a structure/sign, maybe from hay bales, which would show people the height of the HS2. Councillors Erlam and Warburton were of the opinion that, given the height needed, hay bales would be unsuitable. Councillor Warburton suggested erecting two poles with a sign between them would be comparatively simple to erect. He also suggested using a simple message "NO 2 HS2". The Council unanimously agreed that Councillor Warburton's ideas be taken up.

8 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 Planters at the Station

Councillor Gregory reported that his wife, Pat, was prepared to do the planting and had suggested Geraniums as they required little watering. All present were in agreement with this suggestion.

Councillors Warburton and Erlam would position and prepare the planters in readiness for planting and agreed to carry this out on the morning of Saturday 13th July. They would also weigh the planters down to deter theft.

The Geraniums would be planted as soon as possible after this time.

9 PLANNING MATTERS

9.1 Planning Applications Already Considered

The following planning application had already been examined and considered:

12/1166M	Tatton Park BeWilderwood theme park	05/07/2013
----------	--	------------

The Council had previously responded to this application with significant objections and comments and had nothing further to add

9.2 Planning Applications to be Considered: None

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Payments for Authorisation

Councillor Gregory proposed and Councillor Jackson seconded that the following payments be authorised for payment. It was unanimously agreed.

£ 75.00	HMRC	PAYE Q1
£ 26.92	S McDonald	Administration shared 50% with Styal PC
£ 16.00	CPFA	Cheshire Playing Field Association subscription
£ 111.92	S McDonald	To purchase a speed gun for Ashley Speedwatch (see item 14)

10.2 Internal Audit

The internal audit on the accounts had been completed and had raised no issues. Councillors examined the report and unanimously agreed that no further action was required.

Councillors examined the audited accounts for 2012-2013 and declared them in order

10.3 Audit Commission Annual Return

To note that the Audit Commission Annual Return has been submitted for the external audit. The Council had been selected as a random 5% sample for submitting additional audit information which had also been submitted to the Audit Commission.

10.4 VAT Refund

A VAT refund of £117.82 has been credited to the Council's bank account

11 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

The Clerk had contacted the Airport regarding holding an Outreach session in Ashley but had had no reply to date.

12 TATTON PARK

12.1 Royal Horticultural Show

Councillor D Norbury is the Council's representative for RHS matters but he was unable to attend the meeting, hence there was no report.

12.2 BeWilderwood

Councillor D Norbury is also the Council's representative for Tatton Park BeWilderwood matters. He had attended a BeWilderwood/Parish Council meeting on 21 May 2013. Feedback from this meeting will be presented at the next Parish Council meeting.

13 TATTON ESTATE

No representative from Tatton Estate was present at the meeting

14 SPEEDWATCH

The Clerk had researched into the purchase of speed guns and had found one at a reasonable price from a reputable seller. Councillors unanimously agreed that the speed gun would be purchased and the Clerk paid in advance for the on-line transaction. See item 10.1

The Clerk had contacted the people interested in forming the Speedwatch group of the latest situation.

15 HEDGES

15.1 Gallaghers

The maintenance manager from Sterling Properties had contacted Dominic Fenton to quote for hard cutting back the hedge.

Councillor Erlam reported that the grass needed cutting along with some weed control to combat ragwort. Councillors Erlam and Gregory would visit the site and report back to the Clerk who would, in turn, contact Sterling Properties.

15.2 Swallow Barn

The owners had trimmed the hedge but had not reduced the height sufficiently for the visibility splay to be clear. The Clerk was asked to contact the owners again to request a significant reduction in the height of the hedge.

16 WEBSITE

The Clerk requested some photographs and information about the Rose Queen to put on the website. Councillor suggested that she contact either Peter Wright or Laura Jackson

The Council unanimously agreed that the Clerk should publish the website. It was hoped the website would be live by the end of July.

17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

17.1 Invitation from the Police Commissioner

The Council had been invited to send a representative to a meeting on 23rd July 2013. No Councillors were able to attend and the Clerk will send apologies

17.2 Drain Outside Magnolia Cottage

The Chairman reported that this drain caused constant flooding, especially in winter. The Clerk will report this matter to Highways.

17.3 School Playground

There were some sandstone blocks in the playground which the Chairman thought could be used to build a hide and seek area if they were securely fixed in place.

Councillor Gregory reported that the playground seat was in very bad repair and needed replacing. The Chairman announced he had already got a replacement which would be installed in the near future.

18 CORRESPONDENCE

18.1 Email Correspondence

All information only emails had been forwarded to Councillors. Included in emails were:

- The decision to allow filming of Council proceedings - does not apply to Parish Councils.
- Invitation from Police Commissioner for Ashley PC to attend meeting (ref: Item 17)
- Study to identify suitable Gypsy and Traveller Sites

18.2 Postal Correspondence

- Lloyds TSB to become Lloyds and TSB. Does not affect Ashley PC - no action required
- Manchester Airport Runway Closure Apology - didn't send as nothing can be done
- CD of A556 Knutsford to Bowdon improvement
- Letter from Cheshire Community Action asking if Ashley wants to renew its membership (useful for Parish Plan etc.)

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 9th September 2013 At 8.00pm In Sunnyside Nursery, Back Lane

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30pm

Signed: _____ **Chairman 9th September 2013**