

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor J Macrae
Clerk Sue McDonald

1 APOLOGIES: None

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

2.1 Declarations of Interest: None

2.2 Dispensations: None

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting on 9th September 2013. Proposed: Councillor D Norbury, seconded: Councillor Warburton. RESOLVED: the minutes of the meetings on 9th September 2013 were approved and signed.

4 PCSO SOPHIE EMERSON'S REPORT

Sophie was unable to attend the meeting and no report was received.

5 COUNCILLOR JAMIE MACRAE'S REPORT

Councillor Macrae provided the following report:

- Core Strategy
 - The core strategy consultation document includes non-preferred development sites which are not part of the plan. Ashley sites may make a reappearance. It would be advisable for Ashley PC to concentrate on these non-preferred routes and the key points in the main document
- On the previous consultation CE included more safeguarded land and identifying land after 2020
- Investment Program 2014/2015
 - £10,000,000 had been earmarked for road improvements such as resurfacing. Ashley has been identified as an area for road resurfacing works
- Cheshire Railings
 - Cheshire East is issuing enforcement notices where hedges or other obstructions near Cheshire railings are preventing the intended visibility.
- Safe Walking Routes and Bridleways
 - Cheshire East is looking to maintain safe walking routes to schools and also bridleways. There is some central funding available and Councillor Macrae offered to look into this
- Cheshire East Budget
 - There is a 0% capital tax rise

6 CHANGES TO ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

The Chairman reported the following progress regarding the changes to St Elizabeth's:

- It was planned to build a small extension at the back of the church for kitchen and toilet facilities
- A small fund exists for the creation of a village hall which could be used for the church's intention to provide village hall facilities . The fund has been gathering interest for approximately 45 years but it was unclear of the amount involved or the names of the trustees - the Chairman will find out
- The Chairman is to meet with Nick Turnbull
- Additional fund raising ideas are needed

One suggestion put forward was another duck race at Councillor Norbury's because the previous one had been a great success

7 HS2 PHASE 2

7.1 General Report

Councillor Gregory reported the following:

- There is growing belief that the HS2 has no viable business case

- A meeting has been arranged with local PCs and George Osborne on 13th December 2013. Two representatives are invited from each Parish Council
- The plans are still based on the initial preferred route as it is not yet the definitive route

Councillor Gregory asked for volunteers to attend the meeting but no-one was able to attend. Councillor Gregory reluctantly agreed to attend.

Councillor Macrae commented that the route has had no geological/topographical survey and was based on OS maps.

7.2 Meeting at the Swan

The meeting at the Swan was well attended by Ashley residents

8 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 Telegraph Poles

There are two telegraph poles needing attention. The first is at Thorns Green and the second at Lamb Lane. Councillor Herbertson sent a report to BT as had the Clerk but neither received a satisfactory answer. Councillor Herbertson suggested reporting the situation to the local newspaper

9 PLANNING MATTERS

9.1 Planning Applications Already Considered

The following planning application had already been examined and considered:

13/4076M	Top Field, Mill Lane, Ashley, Cheshire, WA15 0RD <i>Lawful development certificate for an existing use, operation or activity - Erection of a building and its use as an office.</i> No objections or comments	31/10/2013
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9.2 Planning Applications to be Considered:

None

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Payments for Authorisation

No payments had fallen due since the last meeting

The Clerk was of the belief that there was an outstanding, mislaid invoice from Councillor Norbury. If so the Clerk would like it to be settled as soon as possible. Councillor Warburton proposed and Councillor Daniel seconded that, if this was the case, the payment be authorised upon receipt of a replacement invoice. It was unanimously agreed

10.2 Accounts Current Status

The Clerk reported that Ashley PC's financial affairs were currently very healthy although it was recognised that some funds have been set aside for various projects

10.3 Audit Commission External Audit

- The external audit is complete and there was no fee payable
- There were two comments from the external auditors
 - Assets register. Assets should not be written down but should remain at cost price until disposed of or fall into disuse
 - Internal controls need attention although no indication of what is required was included

11 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

11.1 Airport and Parish Council Meeting

There was nothing new to report although the Airport is still courting China. Councillors Warburton and Gregory were taken on a tour of the old control tower

11.2 Concert Tickets

To record that the Clerk donated the tickets to a person who had been ill for some time.

12 TATTON PARK

12.1 Parish Council Liaison Meeting

- Heritage funding is being awaited for the Mill and the Farm project
- The list old stable block is to be restored. Various proposals for its future use and being considered

12.2 BeWilderwood

Councillor D Norbury reported the following:

- There is to be a new survey on conservation issues
- other issues are being revisited and realistically nothing will be settled until 2015
- The traffic management plan for the A556/BeWilderwood contains a proposal to turn Clamhunger Lane into a cul-de-sac

Heather Clawson, via email, stated a contact in Cheshire East had reported that a new section 22 (request for information from the developers) was needed and it was expensive. The previous section 22 cost £125,000. This new requirement may result in BeWilderwood being put on a back burner

13 TATTON ESTATE

No representatives from Tatton Estate were able to attend the meeting

14 CONNECT CHESHIRE

The Clerk reported that Ashley, being on the Altrincham exchange, would not be included in the first round of upgrading the broadband service. Councillor Macrae stated that he believed that Ashley was included.

15 HEDGES AND GRASSLAND

15.1 Swallow Barn

The Clerk had contacted Cheshire East CE regarding the regulations on Cheshire Railings but had not had a definitive answer. The Clerk had also done some research on the Internet but could not find any relevant information. See also Item 5 Councillor Macrae's report

15.2 Gallaghers

The Clerk had contacted Sterling properties regarding the grass near the notice board but had had no reply.

Councillors reported that the hedge also needs cutting again. The Clerk was asked to send another letter to Sterling Properties

16 A556

A letter had been received regarding the implementation of the A556.

17 WEBSITE

The Clerk reported that the website will go live on 1st December 2013, it had been reported in Ashley News and she had received some photographs of the Rose Queen from Laura

18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18.1 Clerk's Resignation

The Clerk announced she was to visit Sicily in early December, after which she will be able to give a definitive timeframe for her resignation

18.2 School Playing Field

It was reported that the sandstone blocks in the playing field are now too near the climbing frame and need to be moved

18.3 Station Planters

Councillor Gregory reported that his wife Pat will be taking out the summer planting and the planters will need more compost

18.4 Brereton Trust

The Council unanimously agreed to present this year's Brereton Trust to Mr. Trevor Jones

18.5 Thanks to Noel Beresford

The Council extends their grateful thanks to Noel Beresford for laying the flags at the Jan Dolan memorial seat

18.6 Thanks to Liz Wright

The Council extends their grateful thanks to Liz Wright for cutting the grass in the playground

19 CORRESPONDENCE

Email correspondence - all information only emails forwarded to Councillors

- Cheshire East Local Plan - Pre-Submission
- BDO external Audit Report
- Cheshire East Precept Arrangements 2014/2015 advisory letter

- Planning Inspectorate regarding the A556

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE MEETINGS

All in Sunnyside Nursery, Back Lane Ashley at 8.00pm

Monday 13th January 2014 at 8.00pm

Monday 10th March 2014 at 8.00pm

Monday 12th May 2014 at 8.00pm (annual meetings)

Monday 14th July 2014 at 8.00pm

Monday 8th September 2014 at 8.00pm

Monday 10th November 2014 at 8.00pm

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

Signed: _____ **Chairman 13th January 2014**