

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk Sue McDonald

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Peter Jackson

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 meeting on 17th November 2014. Proposed by Councillor D Norbury, seconded by Councillor Warburton. RESOLVED: the minutes of the meeting on 17th November 2014 were approved and signed.

4 POLICE REPORT

No police representative was in attendance

5 MATTERS ARISING

There had been a complaint regarding buses on the Knutsford to Altrincham route not stopping at Ashley. The route actually goes via Town Lane Mobberley and Wilmslow and to stop at Ashley would involve a large diversion so is not feasible.

6 COUNCILLOR JAMIE MACRAE'S REPORT

Councillor Macrae was on holiday

7 CHANGES TO ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

Progress on the project continues and by Christmas the project will be a lot further on:

- Plastering and first fix electrics will be followed by second fix electrics and plumbing
- The new doors have been ordered
- Quotes for the heating will be considered once the other aspects of the project are complete
- An application for a grant has been submitted to the Cheshire East Community Fund

8 HS2 PHASE 2

8.1 General Report

There is nothing new to report and it is unlikely that anything new will be announced until the Bill for HS2 Phase 1 has passed through Parliament

8.2 HS2 Signs

- Councillor Herbertson had distributed all the signs received so far
- Mr Brooks senior had given permission in principle to display signs on stated Tatton Estate properties but wants to see examples prior to giving a final decision. The decision will not be given until a meeting on 1st December
- Large HS2 signs. Mr Brooks senior would need to know where these signs would be placed prior to giving permission. They have not yet been ordered

Discussions regarding the placement of these signs included Ashley crossroads and either side of the Mobberley Road bridge.

9 PLANNING MATTERS

9.1 Planning Applications Already Considered

None

9.2 Planning Applications to be Considered

14/4883M	Thistle Wood, Ashley Road, Ashley, Altrincham, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 0QP Demolition of rear extension and construction of new two storey side and rear extension <i>The Council had no objections in principle but had concerns about the size of the terrace causing loss of privacy to neighbours</i>	10/12/2014
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10 FINANCIAL MATTERS**10.1 Authorised Payments**

Payments already authorised since the last meeting: None

10.2 Payments for Authorisation

£36.00 BDO External Audit Fee

11 HIGHWAYS MATTERS**11.1 Dog Fouling on Ashley Mill Lane**

Councillor Gregory reported that this area was in a disgusting state and dog walkers had even put bags of waste on a tree. The Clerk will contact the Dog Warden at Cheshire East to request no fouling signs and a dog waste bin

11.2 Hedge at the Corner of Ashley Mill Lane and Ashley Road

Ideally this hedge needs removing or replacing because it is obstructing the pavement. The Clerk will contact Tatton Estate.

11.3 Hedge at Swallow Barns

The hedge has been trimmed and the Cheshire railings are visible but the greenery is still obstructing the visibility splay. The road in this area is also frequently greasy.

12 SPEEDING IN ASHLEY**12.1 Corner of Ashley Road at North Lodge**

The accidents and the poor state of the road at this corner have been reported to Cheshire East on a number of occasions without result. Councillor Macrae also reported the problem to Councillor Topping on 28th October but no response has been received as yet.

12.2 Speed Watch

Two volunteers, who work for themselves, were unavailable for training until just recently and can only train in the evening. Arranging a suitable time for everyone has proved unsuccessful to date

13 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

No report is available. No Councillors were able to attend the meeting on 30th September

14 SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD

There has been little progress although the sleepers have been acquired. The contractor is currently on holiday

15 TATTON PARK

Councillor Norbury is to attend the Tatton Park/Parish Council Meeting on 27th November

16 EXTERNALLY ACCESSIBLE DEFIBRILLATOR

The Council decided against getting a defibrillator for the village at a cost of approximately £2,000 because of the close proximity of Wythenshawe Hospital and also Altrincham Hospital, once completed

17 CHESHIRE PLOUGHING MATCH

A resident had asked if villagers were to be compensated for the disruption caused by the ploughing match. The Council was of the opinion that this was not a realistic option

18 ASHLEY STATION

Sally Buttifant (Mid Cheshire Line) contacted the Clerk to say that there is a possibility that fewer trains will stop at Ashley as it does not have enough ticket sales (<10,000 per annum)

- The idea is to reduce stopping times so that more passengers can get on at Hale and similar sized stations
- This is part of a move to increase the number of fast trains on the line
- Ashley would probably be the only station on the line where trains stops would be reduced - a total saving time of 2 minutes and trains are already obliged to slow down through stations

The Council decided that the Clerk should write to Northern Rail pointing out the following:

- Ashley has no bus service
- There is a high proportion of pensioners in the village some of whom have no alternative means of travel
- The station is the nearest public transport facility for Tatton Park

19 TATTON ESTATE

Councillor Warburton and the Clerk have been invited by the Estate to meet for drinks on 19th November

20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

20.1 Councillor Resignations

Councillor Ed Daniel has, regrettably, announced that he will have to resign from the Council due to business pressures.

The Chairman sadly announced that Councillor Peter Jackson has decided to retire from Council duties.

The resignations will be formally accepted at the next meeting on 19th January 2015

20.2 Connecting Cheshire

The BT Cabinet near Dairy House Farm has been upgraded and Ashley now has access to high speed fibre optic broadband. Councillor Gregory reported that the cost of upgrading was very high

20.3 New Internal Auditor

The Council is delighted to announce that Mr Michael White has agreed to become the new internal auditor.

20.4 Brereton Trust

The Brereton Trust for 2014 will be presented to Mr Geoffrey Chapman

20.5 Christmas Party

It was agreed that the Council's Christmas get together will be at the Greyhound

21 CORRESPONDENCE

Emails: Sent to Councillors

Post:

- *Manchester Airport - notice of runway 1 closure*

22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 19th January 2015 at 8.00pm in Sunnyside Nursery, Back Lane Ashley.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.00pm

Signed: _____ Chairman 19th January 2015