

PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Warburton Councillor Sarah Atkinson
Councillor John Atherden Councillor Emma Capp
Councillor John Erlam Councillor Richard Jackson
Councillor David Norbury

IN ATTENDANCE: Henry Brooks, Tatton Estate
Carol Clarke, Tatton Estate
Jonty Rawcliffe, Tatton Estate
Sally Buttifant, Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership
Amy Unwin, Neighbourhood Plan Group
PC Mike Dawber, Cheshire Police
Clerk Sue McDonald
Members of the public

1 APOLOGIES: None

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS: None

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve as a correct a record the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2017. Proposed by Councillor Capp, seconded by Councillor Atherden. RESOLVED: the minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising had either been dealt with or added to the Agenda

5 POLICE REPORT

Before commencing his report, Mike Dawber introduced his colleague Jim Stone who is part of Beat Management. Mike's report included::

- The police are liaising with Tatton Estate Management regarding the security at Ashley Hall during filming
- Police are investigating incidents of sheep worrying at Ashley Hall and also a serious case in Millington
- There had been a nine month operation regarding drugs in High Legh
- There had not been many incidents in the area recently. Ashley is in a low crime area having an average of 1.4 burglaries per calendar month. Altrincham, Bowdon and Hale, although close have many, many more burglaries per month
- The introduction of Operation Shield had successfully reduce burglaries and had resulted in offenders moving elsewhere
- Mike stressed that Rural Watch is very vigilant and it was important for member of the Council to inform both the Police and land owners before conducting any Neighbourhood Plan or HS2 surveys in local fields

The Chairman thanked Mike and Jim for their attendance before they left to continue their duties

6 HS2 CONSULTATION

6.1 Raj Chandarama

There had been an unconfirmed arrangement that Raj Chandarama, of HS2 Ltd., would be attending to introduce himself to the Council and residents in order to explain his role in HS2 and how he could assist Ashley with issues.

Unfortunately Raj was unable to attend and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Raj to arrange another date for him to attend

6.2 HS2 Residents' Meeting

Arrangements for this meeting were deferred until after Raj Chandarama had been contacted

7 ASHLEY STATION

7.1 Report from Sally Buttifant

Sally Buttifant, of Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership, provided Councillors with the following information:

- **Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership (MCCRP)**
 - The objective of the partnership is to connect communities with the rail network and so encourage rail travel which, in turn, promotes local spending

- The MCCRCP has produced booklets promoting rail walks from stations along the line. For example there is a circular walk from Ashley station which includes the Greyhound. Ashley's walk is included in both the Knutsford and Manchester booklets
 - There are also music trains which give passengers the opportunity to hear live music. The music is played both on the outward and homeward journeys and the events is free apart from the price of the train ticket are free, However, there is a collection for the musicians on the way home. Examples of music trains include a Jazz event from Knutsford to Manchester and another genre of music from Chester to Plumley
- **Rail Franchise**
 - The franchise for the mid Cheshire line (amongst other lines) was awarded to Northern in c. April 2016
 - New links and services will be introduced. For example it is intended that Middlewich and Gadbroke Park stations will be reopened.
 - There will be improved frequency of trains. Currently trains from Ashley are hourly (two hourly on Sundays) with half hourly services at peak times. From May of 2018 it is intended that trains will be half hourly throughout the day and hourly on Sunday
 - The rolling stock is old and in 2019 the class 142 will be phased out and replaced by refurbished class 150.
 - New investment will result in stations getting passenger information screens and ticket vending machines
 - A offsite station manager for Ashley Station had been appointed
- **Passenger Numbers and Statistics**
 - The viability or otherwise of a station is determined by passenger numbers. In the case of Ashley the figures are skewed because it is not always possible to buy a ticket on the train. The installation of a ticket vending machine at Ashley station will enable true passenger numbers to be recorded
 - Interestingly, although the mid Cheshire line is unique in that it has two cities at each end of the line, peak passengers numbers are shown as those leaving Manchester in the morning and those returning to Manchester in the evening!
 - Interestingly, although the mid Cheshire line is unique in that it has two cities at each end of the line, peak passengers numbers are shown as those leaving Manchester in the morning and those returning to Manchester in the evening!
 - There has been a 164% growth on the line since 2004. Disappointingly, in 2016, train reliability had dropped to between 91 and 92%

Councillors made the following comments

Can the ticket machine be placed either on the busiest side of the station or near the bridge?

Sally responded by saying that this would be decided at the time of installation:
- **Friends of Ashley Station**
 - This is a co-operative initiative between MCCRCP and volunteers from Ashley to keep the station in good order by clearing litter, weeding beds and planting bulbs etc and there is extra funding available for these activities.
 - Ashley PC provided the large planters at the station and MRCCRCP the smaller ones
 - Sally made a request for volunteers and that anyone interested should contact her (or the Clerk).

The Clerk was asked to put posters on the notice boards
- **Questions and Comments**

Sally thanked everyone for the opportunity to talk to them and invited questions and comments

 - There are problems with parking at the station. However there is a strip of land at the back of the station which could be used for parking. Is it owned by Network Rail and if so could it be sold off to another party?

Sally did not know but would find out the land and parking issues at Ashley

 - It was commented that between 10 and 15 parking spaces would be a sensible number
 - There had long been an intention to link Manchester Airport with the mid Cheshire line but, with the advent of HS2, the land is no longer safeguarded and a link seemed unlikely.

Sally commented that the MCCRCP had no view on the HS2 but if investment was forthcoming it would be an opportunity to acquire the latest rolling stock etc.

7.2 Parking at Ashley Station

This item was covered in Sally's report - Item 7.1

8 TATTON ESTATE

The following information was provided by Tatton Estate:

8.1 Ashley Hall Showground

- Ashley Hall Traction Engine Rally will take place from Saturday 27th May to Monday 29th May. The event will be open to the public from 10.00 to 17.00
- Rough Runner event planned for early October

8.2 Sheep Worrying

Recently there has been a number of sheep worrying incidents on Tatton Estate caused by dogs being off leash. The police have been informed and residents are requested to report any incidents they might see

8.3 Rachel Wilbraham

Henry Brooks welcomed Rachel to the Tatton Estate Management Team. Rachel will be working with Carol Clarke on Planning

8.4 Stock Farm

Carol Clarke handed a hard copy of the plans for Stock Farm, plus a CD containing the same information, to the Chairman. Carol went on to briefly describe the measures that would be taken to limit noise and potential traffic problems.

Henry Brooks added that it may be possible to increase patronage on the local railway if the Estate ran shuttle buses to and from Ashley station

See Item 13.1 Planning Application 17/1509M Stock Farm

9 COUNCILLOR JAME MACRAE'S REPORT

Councillor Macrae was unable to attend the meeting but provided information which has been included with the appropriate items on the Agenda

10 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Amy Unwin provided the following report:

- There was very positive feedback from the recent stakeholders' meeting and most expressed a desire to be involved with the Neighbourhood Plan
- The major concern emerged as being the loss of the greenbelt
- Amy would like to have a stand at the Rose Queen to inform visitors about the Neighbourhood Plan and to answer any comments
- The intention was to have a large 3D map of the Parish on the stand showing the geography of the area, houses et al and the placement of the airport, the M56 motorway and the proposed HS2 railway. Although not yet started it is envisaged that residents would be able to comment on a particular area on the map and some form of indicator would be placed on the map at the site of the comment. These indicators would be used to collate comments and so get a view of resident concerns and issues
- Amy made a request for an additional Councillor to join the Neighbourhood Plan Group. Unfortunately there were no volunteers

11 ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

The Rev. Keith Addenbrooke was unable to attend the meeting but had provided the following information:

- The Church has an offer of funding for most of the planned cinema technology and it looks possible to progress it
- The Church Annual meetings take place on Sunday 23rd April 2017 at 12 noon. Formal notices will be placed on the Church notice board

The meeting is in two parts - anyone living in the Ecclesiastical Parish can attend the first part but the second part is only for members of the Church Electoral Roll

The Clerk had contact Manchester Airport to explore the possibility of obtaining a grant from the Community Fund but had had no response to date

12 MANCHESTER AIRPORT**12.1 General Report**

Details of the Outreach Program and the temporary closure of Runway 2 had been received

12.2 Airport/Parish Council Meeting

Councillor Capp provided the following feedback:

- The airport is to continue development of Airport City and the industrial site
- Work on changing the A538 to a dual carriageway is ongoing and work will be starting on the tunnels in the near future. The right turn from Castle Mill Lane will be closed to traffic

13 PLANNING MATTERS**13.1 Planning Applications to be Considered**

17/1509M	Stock Farm, Ashley Road, Ashley, WA14 3QF Change of use and full application for a proposed wedding, conference, events (sui generis) and leisure venue (D2) use of the barn, change of use of the former agricultural building to a flexible studio (sui generis)/ wedding office (B1a), the flexible use of the house and garden (C3) also as a short-term let and for wedding ceremony, with access, car parking, landscaping and associated infrastructure.	19/04/2017
----------	--	------------

Carol Clarke was invited to speak during the discussion to answer questions and explain certain aspects of the proposal

The main concern of Councillors were:

- Noise from the music and people gathering outside thus allowing the music to carry
- Increased traffic on the already busy Ashley Road which is at the national speed limit
- Access
- Inappropriate development in the greenbelt

Carol explained that all the venue buildings were to be insulated and no music would be allowed outside the buildings. It is intended to have a two door system for entry and exit to the area where music would be played to ensure that the opening of a door would not allow the noise to escape to the outside. The Estate was working towards a decibel level of DB 35 which is far more strict than is actually required by law. Lessons were learned from the Ashley Hall problem and the noise level was reduced to an acceptable level

The Estate is intending to insist that a condition of approval included the installation of noise monitors in neighbouring houses to ensure that any noise nuisance can be accurately recorded

The access to the site would be redesigned to allow a safe two way entrance and exit

Carol stated that the Estate would be open to suggestions and would also welcome the opportunity to clarify any parts of the proposal which were unclear.

Councillors concluded that the application was too large and complicated to make a decision at the meeting and a planning meeting would be convened in the near future to discuss this matter

17/1600M	Station Yard, Ashley Road, Ashley, Cheshire, WA15 0QP Stock Farm, Ashley Road, Ashley, WA14 3QF Summer house in rear garden	19/04/2017
----------	---	------------

Councillors agreed to also defer this matter to for discussion at the planning meeting

13.2 Ashley Smithy Garage Field

No updates were available about the site

13.3 17/00247E Station Yard

A complaint has been submitted to Planning Enforcement over a breach of conditions. The roof lights are clear glazed and opening where the conditions state non-opening and opaque glazing

13.4 Other Planning Matters

None

14 FINANCIAL MATTERS**14.1 Payments for Authorisation**

The following payments were authorised for payment. Proposed by Councillor Atkinson, seconded by Councillor Erlam and unanimously agreed

£ 10.00	HRB Settlement	Rent for car park
£ 90.00	HMRC	PAYE Q4
£ 76.30	ChALC	Annual Subscription Fee
£180.00	St Elizabeth's	Room Hire
£120.00	S B McDonald	Use of office/computer/phone/internet

14.2 Other Financial Matters

None

15 HIGHWAYS MATTERS**15.1 Blocked Gullies**

- **Ashley Road outside the Old Vicarage.**

Highways had raised a job for digging the road up but it is on the work schedule for the next financial year in April. Permission for a road closure/partial closure takes some time. Councillor Macrae has undertaken to ask Highways to make this matter a top priority

- **Gulley outside Downings**

This has been jetted through

15.2 Overgrown Pavements

Siding back of the pavement from the Cricket Club to Birkenheath Lane junction has been added to the siding out schedule for the new financial year

15.3 Other Highways Matters

- **Crash at Ashley Crossroads.**

Councillors were of the opinion that a mini-roundabout and better road markings were required

The Clerk had contacted the Police Management Officer who had responded that this was a Highways matter. Highways were contacted but no reply was received in time for the meeting. Councillor Macrae had stated that he would contact both Highways and the Police on the Council's behalf. He also stated he would arrange for some radar monitors to be installed to monitor traffic speed and flow

- **New Driveway**

A new driveway has appeared on the left hand side of Ashley Road just before the Bollin bridge (when travelling towards Hale) and seem connected to I Want Trees. No further details were available.

The Clerk had contacted Highways but had not yet had a response

16 VILLAGE MATTERS**16.1 Ashley Rose Queen Fete**

The Rose Queen will take place on Saturday 20th May 2017

16.2 Other Village Matters**Re-roofing on Hough Green**

Residents had complained about problems with the re-roofing of Peaks and Plains houses on Hough Green.

The Clerk wrote a letter to Peaks and Plains and the response received seemed to suggest the complaints were unfounded.

Ultimately this is a private matter between affected residents and Peaks and Plains. Consequently the Council will play no further part

17 HS2 PROJECT

Councillors discussed the setting up of a core Council project dedicated to HS2 matters because it was all invasive and too large an issue and all invasive to expect the Neighbourhood Plan to deal with it alone.

Councillors agreed to set up a project and Councillor Erlam volunteered to head up the project with assistance from Councillors Atherden and Sarah Atkinson. Jo Phillips, from Manchester University, was invited to contribute to the project

18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME (10 MINUTES)

Residents expressed their disappointment at the non-appearance of Raj Chandarana of HS2

19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

20 CORRESPONDENCE

All email correspondence forwarded to Councillors

Post:

Manchester Airport

Fisher German

ChAIC

BDO

Commercial

Outreach and runway change notices

Invoice for Playground rent

Invoice for Annual Subscription Fee

External Audit Annual Return Form

Mail Shots

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Planning Meeting - Date to be arranged

Annual Parish Meeting: Monday 15th May 2017 at 7.30pm

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Monday 15th May 2017 at 8.00pm

22 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members of the press and public will be excluded from this part of the meeting on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business as per Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.45 pm

Signed: _____ Chairman 15th May 2017