

**PRESENT:** Councillor Jeff Warburton Councillor John Atherden  
Councillor Sarah Atkinson Councillor Emma Capp  
Councillor John Erlam Councillor Richard Jackson  
Councillor Amy Unwin

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Jamie Macrae, Cheshire East  
Rachel Wilbraham, Tatton Estate  
Jo Phillips, Manchester University  
Clerk Sue McDonald  
Members of the public

**1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Erlam proposed Councillor Warburton as Chairman, seconded by Councillor Capp.  
RESOLVED: Councillor Warburton was unanimously elected as Chairman and the Acceptance of Office form was signed

**2 ELECTION OF VICE- CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Warburton proposed Councillor Atherden Vice-Chairman, seconded by Councillor Capp.  
RESOLVED: Councillor Atherden was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman and the Acceptance of Office form was signed

**3 APOLOGIES**

None

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

Councillors Erlam, Jackson and Warburton have declared an interest in and been granted dispensations to decide and vote on all matters concerning Tatton Estate. Refers to Item 11 Tatton Estate Report

**5 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve as correct records the Minutes of the meetings held on 27th March 2017 and 20th April 2017. Proposed by Councillor Erlam, seconded by Councillor Capp,. RESOLVED: the minutes of the meetings were unanimously approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment on Item 5 on the minutes of 20th April 2017 (to be noted in the next meeting's minutes) and signed by the Chairman.

**6 POLICE REPORT**

The police representative was not on duty and unable to attend the meeting

**7 MATTERS ARISING**

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

**8 NEW COUNCILLOR**

The Chairman welcomed Amy Unwin to the Council and wished her well in her role as Councillor. Councillor Unwin signed the Acceptance of Office form and returned the Register of Interests form to the Clerk

**9 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION AND COUNCIL VACANCY**

Councillor Norbury formally announced his resignation to the Clerk as follows:

"I hereby tender my resignation from Ashley Parish Council, with immediate effect. Having enjoyed my time as a parish councillor, I feel I cannot give it the full attention that is needed. If I can be of any help to the parish council, please do not hesitate to ask."

Everyone present thanked Dave for his valuable contribution over the years

The Clerk will advertise the vacancy and a new Councillor appointed following consideration of the applicants

**10 COUNCILLOR JAMIE MACRAE'S REPORT**

Councillor Macrae provided the following report:

- **Cheshire East Local Plan**

The Plan will be adopted by the end of July 2017

A consultation on Minerals and Waste is currently being conducted

The Rural Site Allocation Consultation reaches across all rural areas in Cheshire East up to 2030. Ashley is currently not identified as an area for consideration although this could change in the future

- **Traffic and Speeding Issues**

- **Speeding**  
Councillor Macrae was in the process of obtaining radar speed monitors for Ashley and was working towards obtaining SIDS  
He explained that speeding enforcement these days was proving difficult due to heavier pressures on police time but with fewer available resources
- **Speed Limit**  
Councillor Macrae had obtained agreement from Highways for the extension of the 30mph towards Moberley Bridge but the Police were not in agreement. Resistance from the police could be due enforcement issues
- **Crashes at the Crossroads**  
Following a spate of recent crashes at the crossroads, Councillors were becoming increasingly concerned that it will only be a matter of time before there is a serious injury or death,  
Councillors were of the opinion that a mini-roundabout would help prevent crashes but Councillor Macrae reported that it was highly unlikely this would be approved by Highways
- **Speed Management Strategy**  
The Speed Management Strategy recommends that some areas should introduce fixed 40mph zones to replace 30mph limits
- **Rural Watch**  
Funding for Rural Watch had been withdrawn although Councillor Macrae was of the opinion that it would be reinstated
- **Creating Jobs in Rural Communities**  
There is funding for the creation of micro businesses in rural areas. There are+ 1.75 million euros available aimed at rural diversity and set up funding has a range of 5,000 - 100,000 euros depending upon size  
  
Councillor Macrae was of the opinion that this initiative could have relevance when considering HS2 and Neighbourhood Plan matters

## 11 TATTON ESTATE REPORT

Rachel Wilbraham, from Tatton Estate, stated that, apart from filming, there was currently little activity at the Showground

Rachel was happy to assist the Council with general and planning matters relating to Tatton Estate

## 12 ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

Rev Keith Addenbrooke was unable to attend the meeting but passed on the sad news that Nick Turnbull had died after a short illness. Nick was the Church Warden at St Elizabeth's and worked tirelessly promoting and supporting both the Church and Ashley village. He was a driving force behind creating the very successful Community Centre and he was the editor for Ashley News

All present were saddened by the loss of a gentle, kind man who had contributed so much to Ashley and expressed their sympathy for Nick's family. The Clerk will write a letter of condolence on behalf of the Council

## 13 FINANCIAL MATTERS

### 13.1 Approval of Accounts for 2016-2017

Councillor Warburton proposed acceptance of the accounts for 2016-2017, Councillor Atherden seconded. RESOLVED: the accounts were unanimously approved as a correct record,

### 13.2 Risk Assessment Statement 2016-2017

Councillor Capp proposed acceptance of the Risk Assessment Statement for 2016-2017, Councillor Unwin seconded. RESOLVED: The Risk Assessment for was unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

### 13.3 Annual Return 2016-2017

#### 13.3.1 Governance Statement 2016-2017

The External Audit Governance Statement for 2016-2017 was approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

#### 13.3.2 Annual Accounting Statement 2016-2017

The Chairman and the Clerk signed the Annual Accounting Statement for 2016-2017 which was in full agreement with the Council's accounting figures (Item 13.1)

**13.4 Budget 2017-2018**

Councillor Atherden proposed approval of the Budget for 2017-2018 and was seconded by Councillor Warburton. RESOLVED: The Budget for 2017-2018 was unanimously approved.

Concern was expressed that the Budget appeared to be very similar year on year and the next budget should be examined in more detail. It was agreed future draft budgets would be drawn up at November Council meetings

**13.5 Authorisation of Payments**

The following payments were proposed by Councillor Atherden, seconded by Councillor Capp and unanimously approved:

£200.00	Cheshire Police	Replacement cheque for DNA Kits
£ 18.00	CCPFA	Playing Field Assoc. Annual Subscription Fee
£346.61	Zurich Insurance	Annual insurance renewal
£180.00	A & G Blackburn	Grass cutting at school (5 occasions)
£ 60.00	Ray Britland	Hedge cutting at school

**13.6 Other Financial Matters**

None

**14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

- Meetings**

Councillor Unwin reported that the recent stakeholder meeting was a great success and it was intended to hold a similar informational meeting for residents in the near future

- Presence at Rose Queen on 20th May 2017**

The group will have a stall at the event on which will be a large 3D map of the Parish showing the infrastructure and major structures such as the motorway and where the proposed HS2 line will be created.

The map will be used to:

- Provide the opportunity for the group to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan with residents
- Ask residents their opinions about Ashley, what they would want for its future, what they like and dislike about the village and what features they would like to preserve. Residents will be invited to different coloured pins on the map - each colour representing a separate category of opinion
- Analyse the outcome of resident feedback for input into the Neighbourhood Plan

- Ringway Parish Council**

The Clerk had contacted Ringway Parish Council to ask if it was interested in joining Ashley's Neighbourhood Plan but had had no response

Ringway is in a different charging authority from Ashley which complicates policies, regulations etc and, following further research, it was concluded that the complications outweighed the benefits and the Council had reluctantly decided that Ringway should not be part of Ashley's plan, The Clerk will advise Ringway PC of the decision

RESOLVED: Councillor Warburton proposed that the Neighbourhood Plan would relate only to Ashley, Councillor Atherden seconded and the vote was unanimously carried

- New Group Members**

John Atherden and Sue McDonald have joined the Neighbourhood Plan Group

**15 PLANNING MATTERS****15.1 Planning Applications to be Considered**

17/2060M	The Cottage, Ashley Road, Ashley, Cheshire, WA15 0QP Erection of conservatory and link extension	24/05/2017
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Councillors had no objections to this application but did express concern about the length of time the rebuild and other work had taken and hoped it would be completed in the near future.

**15.2 Other Planning Matters**

A very large wood and metal construction has been built in the garden of Ashley House, Ashley Road. It was reported - but not confirmed - that the structure is an aviary for approximately 2,500 birds and would be used for commercial purposes

Concerns were expressed about the sheer physical size of the structure, which can clearly be seen from the road, in a greenbelt area.

The Clerk will report the matter to Planning at Cheshire East.

**16 HIGHWAYS MATTERS****16.1 The Old Vicarage**

The repair to the drain had not been actioned in spite of visits from both Cheshire East and United Utilities. Cheshire East stated the repair would require a road closure and would schedule the work

It is understood that the drain turns into a field belonging to Tatton Estate which may be the source of the blockage. Rachel Wilbraham will report the matter to the Estate

**16.2 Other Highways Matters****M56 Smart Motorway**

The M56 between junctions 6 and 8 will become a smart motorway. Councillors were concerned about its structure and if it would increase the width of the motorway, The Clerk had contacted Highways England whose Design Team had promised a response by the end of the coming week

**17 HS2**

Councillor Erlam stated that there had been no communications from HS2 and therefore nothing to report. Raj Chandarana contacted the Clerk to apologise about the mix up over the arrangements for his visit at the last meeting. He was keen to visit Ashley but wishes to leave it until after the general election. The Clerk advised him that HS2 is now a core Council project, communications should be made via the Councillor rather than the Neighbourhood Plan project

**18 VILLAGE MATTERS****18.1 Bonfire Nuisance**

A number of residents complained about frequent bonfires at Ashley House, Ashley Road. The bonfires smoulder for days and give off acrid smoke resulting in residents not being able to use bedrooms in line with the smoke and children's health being adversely affected.

The Clerk had contacted Environmental Health who visited the householder on 2nd May and gained an undertaking that the bonfires would cease. She followed it up with a letter to confirm the position. The officer also visited the affected Hough Green residents and gave them her direct contact details. Since the residents now have a direct line to the officer, there is no need for further Council involvement

**18.2 Other Village Matters**

- **External Lights at The Greyhound**

The Chairman and the Clerk had met with the landlord and the area representative of the Greyhound and some agreement was reached about changing the angle of the external lights which were shining directly into the bedrooms of neighbouring properties and the time at which the car park and garden lights would be turned off - subject to Health and Safety regulations

Concern had also been expressed about the brightness of the lights in the garden although the Chairman was assured that they were less intense than the previous ones

Unfortunately nothing appears to have changed and these issues need to be addressed:

- The light over the storage shed is very bright and shines straight ahead rather than angled down resulting in it shining in neighbouring houses
- Neighbours have reported that the garden lights are brighter than before

The Clerk will contact the Brewery about these matters

**19 CORRESPONDENCE**

All email correspondence forwarded to Councillors

Post:

Cheshire Playing Fields	Annual Subscription details
Environmental Health	Letter regarding smoke nuisance
Zurich	Annual Insurance Renewal
Commercial	Mail Shots

**20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 17th July 2017 at 8.00pm in St Elizabeth's Church.

*The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting*

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman 17th July 2016**