

**PRESENT:** Chairman Jeff Warburton Councillor Sarah Atkinson  
Councillor John Erlam Councillor Richard Jackson  
Councillor Amy Unwin

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Jamie Macrae, Cheshire East  
PCSO Gary Fulton  
Rev. Keith Addenbrooke, St Elizabeth's Church  
Clerk Sue McDonald  
Members of the public

**1 APOLOGIES:** Councillor John Atherden, Councillor Emma Capp

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:** None

**3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve as correct records the minutes of the meetings held on 15th May 2017. Proposed by Councillor Erlam, seconded by Councillor Unwin. **RESOLVED:** the minutes of the meetings were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

To record an amendment to the minutes of 20th April 2017 Item 5, M56 Smart Motorway. *"There was no objection to noise barriers per se"*

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

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

**5 POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Gary Fulton provided the following report:

- There was fly tipping on Castle Mill Lane on public land
- No other local incidents were reported
- Rogue traders have been operating in the wider area and residents should phone 101 if they are aware of any such activity

Councillor Macrae understood that the fines for fly tipping had recently been increased

**6 COUNCILLOR MACRAE'S REPORT**

Councillor Macrae gave the following report:

Esther McVey MP was raising the matter of HS2 in the House of Commons tonight contending that the decision had no legitimate status. Councillor Macrae was to report back to Esther any new issues raised in tonight's Ashley Council meeting.

Councillor Macrae was aware of the many outstanding Highways issues and proposed that he arranged a meeting with Highways, Councillor Warburton, the Clerk and himself. He suggested convening the meeting at the beginning of August

The strategic Plan which included the smaller site allocations will be the next consultation

**7 TATTON ESTATE**

There was no representative from Tatton Estate available to attend the meeting

**8 ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH**

Rev. Keith Addenbrooke reported the sad passing of Nick Turnbull who was a stalwart of the Church and the village. He was editor in chief of Ashley News and was a wonderful ambassador for Ashley.

He was also an exceptionally nice and kind man and our condolences go out to his family

The Chairman echoed Keith's words and said how much Nick would be missed by everyone in Ashley

**9 PLANNING MATTERS**

**9.1 Planning Applications for Consideration**

None

**9.2 Other Planning Matters**

None

**10 FINANCIAL MATTERS****10.1 Pensions Registration**

The Council has to register its employees in a pension scheme. The Clerk completed a declaration for Ashley PC in May and a pension scheme has to be in place by September.

A pension scheme called NEST is the simplest for small councils and Ashley will use the base scheme with no frills. The scheme will be administered by the Clerk and John Atherden, who will be a nominated delegate with overall control where necessary

**10.2 Council Laptop**

Hi-end refurbished business laptop has been purchased for exclusive Council purposes to meet with the requirements of the Transparency Code. (Cost £306.93 inc new cost c £850).

The cost, excluding VAT plus any required software is reclaimable from the Transparency Code Fund. The next funding application is August, and 2017 is the last year for applications.

The Council has to authorise the application for funding. Proposed by Councillor Warburton, seconded by Councillor Jackson.

**10.3 Payments for Authorisation**

Proposed by Councillor Unwin, seconded by Councillor Jackson

£ 90.00	HMRC	PAYE Q1
£ 35.00	ChALC	Councillor Training
£144.00	A & G Blackburn	Grass cutting at school (4 occasions)
£306.93	J L McDonald	Reimbursement for laptop (invoice to Ashley PC)
£ 20.00	CCA	Annual Subscription Fee

**10.4 Other Financial Matters**

- **Signatories on the Council's Bank Account**

The Council currently has only two signatories on the account, due to Councillor resignations. Two additional signatories are required to ensure that cheques can be signed without difficulty (two signatures are required per cheque)

It was agreed that Councillor Atherden and Councillor Atkinson would become signatories. This will involve a visit to a branch of the Bank

**11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Unwin reported that:

- There was good attendance at the meeting on 26th June and people showed an interest and a greater awareness of what a Neighbourhood Plan comprises
- The Neighbourhood Plan Boundary area had been set and approved by Cheshire East
- It had been intended to apply for funding but more evidence of the Neighbourhood Plan was required
- Questionnaires would be produced and, hopefully, in the near future
- Details will be found on the Neighbourhood Plan blog/website

The Clerk had informed Ringway PC that, regretfully, Ashley could not include the Council in Ashley's Neighbourhood Plan due to the difficulties created by having to deal with two charging authorities

The Council congratulated the Neighbourhood Plan group for the splendid display created for the Rose Queen. It was visually very clever, and proved both useful and informative.

**12 COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Two applications have been received and the Council will consider their applications outside this meeting. The successful candidate will be contacted and installed at the September meeting

**13 HIGHWAYS MATTERS****13.1 Right Turn From Mill Lane**

Planning at Manchester Airport have confirmed that the no right turn from Mill Lane on to Wilmslow Road is temporary. Highways asked for the restriction whilst the tunnel works were carried out (safety issues - obscured view, near misses etc). The work will continue until October 2017

**13.2 Overgrown Pavements, Gulleys, Drains and Potholes**

The Clerk had contacted Lee Glover, the new Highways contact for Ashley, and sent list of all outstanding issues and with photographs. No reply received thus far. The issues listed were:

- Siding out of Pavements Ashley Road from North Lodge towards the Bollin Bridge. First reported as being overgrown in March 2016. In places, the overgrowth completely obliterates the pavement. Other parts are so narrow it barely passable for a single pedestrian

Councillor Atherden had reported that weed killer had been applied to some pavements

- Gulleys and Drains  
Previously reported defective drains and gulleys still not repaired - whether tagged or untagged
- The Old Vicarage Drain  
Visits from both Highways and United Utilities had failed to solve the problem.
- Pothole  
The latest pothole on Castle Mill Lane was reported to Lee
- Corner of Swallows Barn, Mobberley Road  
Ongoing problems with hedge overgrowth and lack of visibility

### **13.3 Crashes at Cross Roads**

None

### **13.4 Other Highways Matters**

- United Utilities had contacted the Clerk to report that the pressure on Castle Mill Lane had been increased. Councillor Jackson felt that had been some slight improvement
- New Access at I Love Trees  
The Council, having been initially concerned about the new access, subsequently established that it was the original entrance to the field and no further action was necessary
- M56 Smart Motorway  
The Clerk had contacted Highways England and Ashley PC is now on their stakeholder list.  
The design phase has not started yet although ecological surveys have started on land within 250 metres of the motorway.  
The current thinking is that the width of the motorway will remain the same by using the hard shoulder.  
Construction will not commence until 2020 and it will be the end of the year before the design is finalised

## **14 VILLAGE MATTERS**

### **14.1 Speedwatch**

Councillor Capp reported that Speedwatch session would commence in the near future.

### **14.2 DNA Kits**

This has taken a back seat of late but would be dealt with as soon as possible.

Each interested resident (some address only, no email or phone) would have to be contacted and a meeting arranged with Gary Fulton to register their kits (which have already been set aside for Ashley)

Councillor Capp and the Clerk will contact the residents and make the necessary arrangements

### **14.3 Ashley News**

Kathryn Wright will send an electronic copy of the next magazine for uploading to the website.

### **14.4 Garage Field**

The original gates have been reinstated by a contractor on behalf of Sterling Properties.

The fence is still in place but needs to be replaced by reinstatement of the hedges. The fence was also secured to the telegraph pole

There is damage to the pavement outside the field and the road sign is on a tilt

### **14.5 Other Village Matters**

- **Greyhound Lights**

The wattage has been reduced for the lights in the car park

The bulbs in the garden have been changed to provide a reduction in intensity

## **15 HS2**

There is a new contact for the Ashley area named Gillian Whitefield - Raj is now mostly in a different area.

The Clerk had a long telephone conversation with Gillian about the new approach to public and stakeholder engagement. The Clerk explained that Ashley felt that it had been ignored by HS2 and fed on non-deliverable good news hype

Gillian promised to send me an email in time for tonight's meeting. Unfortunately although the emails arrived they were too long for the Council to discuss at this meeting.

It was suggested that the Council holds an HS2 meeting

## **16 MANCHESTER AIRPORT**

The airport extended an invitation to the Chairman to see the overnight maintenance of the runways

## **17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME (10 MINUTES)**

A resident stated that signs throughout the village might be a speed deterrent. Councillors noted the comment but considered that there it could lead to visual pollution

**18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillors agreed that that Councillors Jackson and Atkinson should attend the next ChALC Councillor induction course. The Clerk will book them on the course

**19 CORRESPONDENCE**

All email correspondence forwarded to Councillors

Post:

Cheshire Community Action	Annual Subscription details
Manchester Airport	Flight Arrival Brochures Pensions
Regulator	Pensions scheme requirements
Lloyds Bank	Financial Compensation changes
Commercial	Mail Shots
Cheshire East	Subsidised Bus Consultation Poster

**20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 18th September 2017 at 8.00 pm in St Elizabeth's Church.

**21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

*The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45 pm*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman 15th January 2018