

**CHOLMONDESTON & WETTENHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT ST.
DAVID'S CHURCH, LONG LANE, WETTENHALL CW7 4DN.**

PRESENT

Cllrs Helen Moss (**HM**), Philip Hollinshead (**PH**), Keith Gilby (**KB**), John Woodward (**JW**), Patrick Brunt (**PB**), and Heather Pope (**HP**)

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Sarah Pochin (Cheshire East) (**SP**)
Dr M Bailey (Interim Clerk) (**MB**)
Four members of the public

PART ONE – ANNUAL BUSINESS

14. ELECTION OF CHAIR

The sitting Chair, Cllr Helen Moss, opened the meeting and asked for nominations for Chair.

Cllr Keith Gilby was nominated for the position of Chair of the Parish Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Keith Gilby be Chair of the Parish Council until the next Annual Meeting.

Cllr Gilby took the Chair.

15. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Chair asked for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Cllr John Woodward was nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr John Woodward be Vice-Chair of the Parish Council until the next Annual Meeting.

16. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Gilby commented that, in relation to the development on the former Boot & Slipper site, he would donate £48.00 to the Parish Council following a donation from a resident.

Cllr Moss declared a personal interest in that her husband was due to speak under the 'Public Open Forum' item.

18. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – 26TH AUGUST 2020

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26th August 2020 were presented to Members for approval.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

19. **MATTERS ARISING**

The following matters were raised at the meeting from the above minutes.

- 2019/20 Audit – the Interim Clerk confirmed that all documentation had been sent to the external auditor and posted on the website
- Power cuts – Cllr Pope confirmed that the matter of power cuts in the parish had been reported to Scottish Power. The Chair confirmed that contact had been made with SP Energy Networks on several occasions and had been told that the issue was with overhead cables. It was reported that electricity providers had offered to come to a Parish Council meeting.
- Signs – a sign prohibiting vehicles over 7.5 tonnes has been erected on the main road and two signs are in place at the top of Long Lane. It has been made clear to such vehicles that they should not be using the road.

20. **STANDING ORDERS**

A copy of the Standing Orders was presented to the Council and this was **APPROVED** by Members.

21. **CODE OF CONDUCT**

A copy of the Members' Code of Conduct was presented to the Council and this was **APPROVED** by Members.

22. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

22.1 **Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer**

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to appoint the Interim Clerk as RFO until a permanent appointment can be made.

22.2 **Appointment of Internal Auditor**

The Parish Council agreed to defer this item until the next meeting, pending further information.

22.3 **Payments for Authorisation**

The following payments were presented to Members for approval.

Sandie McBennett	£600.00 (Clerk's Payment)
HMRC	£150.00 (Tax on Clerk's Payment)
Experior Systems	£150.00 (Internal Audit)
Sandie McBennett	£20.00 (Room Booking)
Mark Bailey	146.01 (Interim Clerk Payment)
ChALC	£121.68 (Membership)

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments.

22.4 **Ledger (1.4.20-30.6.20)**

Members noted the ledger for the above period.

23. DATES OF MEETINGS

The following meeting dates were **AGREED** by the Parish Council.

25th November 2020 – 7.30pm

23rd February 2020 – 7.30pm

25th May 2020 – 7.30pm (Annual Meeting)

PART TWO - ORDINARY BUSINESS

24. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Cllr Moss declared a personal interest under this item.

There were four members of the public present and the following issues were raised.

- A resident raised the issue of Delphic Transport on Minshull Lane – the issue is one of vehicles travelling along the parish’s roads and too many vehicles being sited at the business. It was agreed to contact Church Minshull Parish Council about the matter and pool resources if possible. It was also noted that Worleston PC and Cheshire East Council may wish to be involved. It was agreed to look at options and report back to the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Pochin agreed to flag this up with CEC Enforcement Team.
- Former Boot and Slipper site – it was reported that the Planning Authority had been slow in completing the planning work. All has been completed on the site and waiting for it to be signed off by the Planning Officer.
- A resident raised several points: -
 - Litter – it was reported that this is getting worse in the parish and signs and more litter bins are required
 - Planning – the Parish Council was asked whether it would look to protecting the area and whether it would look to develop a Neighbourhood Plan
 - Finance – what plans are there in place for the village green and how much would be dedicated to maintenance
 - Noise – the issue of South View was raised. The Chair mentioned that this had been raised with CEC. The resident mentioned that he had also made a complaint (Ref Reference N31/045092). The resident also mentioned that any issues should be directed to Mark Vyse at Cheshire East Council.

25. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Sarah Pochin attended the meeting and provided an update.

- Cheshire East Council is having a number of funding issues in light of the pandemic. Due to decreases in income and increases in expenditure, there is a shortfall of £42m in the budget, which may lead to cuts.

- Council Tax reminders are being distributed.
- The cashless parking scheme has been ended and cash can now be used (Cllr Pochin pushed for this in her role as a ‘business champion’).
- Funding has been secured for the widening of the A500 in the county.
- White Paper has been published on housing setting out a desire to build housing and will be a part of phase 2 of the Local Plan (site allocations)

26. HIGHWAY MATTERS/SPEEDWATCH

The following items were raised under this heading.

- Boundary sign is missing – past New Farm (**KG** to action)
- Speed Limits – will continue to consider the purchase of a Speed Indication Device (SID)
- Flooding – some flooding in Cholmondeston – needs to be looked at (**KG** will contact Cheshire East Highways – site is near the Venetian Marina)
- **KG** to ask Cheshire East about the general state of the roads.

27. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters affecting the parish.

28. COMMUNICATIONS/SHARED INFORMATION

The following matters were raised under this agenda item.

- Village green – **KG** will action work on developing a plan
- It was reported that the travellers have now left the area.
- Litter – it was agreed that this needs to be addressed
- Website – the Clerk will get a quote to do an audit of the site in light of recent legislation around accessibility and it was also agreed to get more information into the church magazine

29. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 25th November 2020 at 7.30pm (details to be confirmed).

30. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Due to their confidential nature, Members **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following matters in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. Reports relating to these items have been withheld from public circulation and deposit.

31. RECRUITMENT OF PARISH CLERK

It was **AGREED** that applications would be considered, and candidates interviewed at the next meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed 20.50pm.

Chairman.....