

**MINUTES OF THE CHEBSEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 1 APRIL 2019 at 7 pm
IN ST LUKE'S CHURCH HALL, NORTON BRIDGE**

Present: Councillor John Green, Acting Chair
Councillor Margaret Ainsworth-Hickman, (arrived late)
Councillor David Davis
Councillor Richard Hopley
Councillor Simon Hudson
Councillor David Williams

In attendance: Liz Harrington-Jones (Clerk)
10 residents
Councillor Jeremy Pert, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

Apologies: Councillor Mark Wilson
Councillor Peter Jones, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)

882 Welcome and Public Participation

Cllr Green took the chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting as Cllr Ainsworth-Hickman had notified everyone that she would be late. The owner of Izaak Walton Fishery informed the meeting that the official opening would be on 21 April 2019 from 12 noon to 4 pm, and all were invited. The Fishery would be hosting a Craft Class from 21 April 2019 on Fridays from 10 am to 12 pm, thanks to support from Cllr Pert SCC.

Residents of Norton Bridge had received leaflets notifying them of road closures from 10 April whilst repairs to the water supply lasting up to 3 days were carried out.

SCC Highways survey vehicle had been observed in Norton Bridge. Residents commented on the poor state of the roads and gutters.

A proposed development of 10,000 additional homes at MoD Cold Meece had been reported in the local press.

883 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Cllr Pert commented on the above press report; it would be a preferred site, controlled by the local authority, commensurate with the Local Plan, and if the proposals were successful would not proceed for a number of years.

Cllr Pert urged residents to report potholes as soon as they had been seen, and joined the general relief following the recent reopening of Worston Bridge. Weight restrictions and speed limits applied to many roads in the Parish and the vehicle that caused the damage should not have used the bridge. Councillors considered that additional signage would have helped to prevent the damage.

The 30 mph speed limit was scheduled to be imposed in Norton Bridge with effect from 22 April 2019; residents thanked Cllr Pert for his efforts to achieve this.

884 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Hopley and Hudson declared an interest in items relating to Network Rail.

885 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4 March 2019 and any Matters Arising

Cllr Hudson's apologies had been omitted from the minutes, and subject to their inclusion it was

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 March 2019 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Ainsworth-Hickman reminded Councillors that the History Society had arranged a display of photographs for the following weekend.

The potholes that had been reported (859/871) were on SCC Highways schedule.

The Clerk would chase up information on the state of the gullies in Scannel Lane, Hilcote, Parsons Bank (874).

No volunteers had been received as yet to assist with the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk in Chebsey (876). A request for help had been placed in the church magazine, and would remain there for two issues.

Volunteers were ready to install gates at both ends of the footpath between Shallowford and Chebsey; Cllr Ainsworth-Hickman would contact SCC Highways. The width of the footpath had been confirmed following discussions with land agents and solicitors (875).

The next litter pick would be on 11 May 2019 in the lanes around Chebsey; an incident of fly tipping had been reported at the top of Shallowford Bank and the litter had been removed.

886 Planning

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting, and no planning decisions had been received.

The Clerk had contacted SBC Planning regarding 19/29859/PAGR; the discrepancy in land area referred to was because reference had been made to the total land holdings of the applicant.

887 Finance

887.i Expenditure for April/May

Clerk salary and expenses to 1 April 2019	168.81
SPCA Annual subscription	176.00
Friends of Norton Bridge, bin box cover	<u>75.00</u>
Total monthly expenditure	£419.81
(Dawkes, payment of withheld amount	£2,465.20)

RESOLVED That the payments for April/May were approved, including the payment of a contribution of £75 towards the cost of a bin box cover (Minute 873.ii refers).

887.ii Appointment of Internal Auditor

Councillors confirmed the appointment of Mrs C Heelis, former Clerk to Eccleshall PC, as Internal Auditor.

888 Highway Matters

888.i Removal of hedge from Hilcote Lane

Councillors had received a number of complaints about the removal of a hedge from Hilcote Lane after the March deadline for working on hedges. SBC Planning had been notified and would be contacted again within two weeks.

889. Former BT Telephone box, Chebsey

This had been discussed under 885 – Matters Arising.

890. Bus Shelter, Norton Bridge

The Clerk had contacted SCC Highways, who did not appear to have any programme for the removal of redundant bus stops, so it should remain available for use by children journeying to and from school.

891 Maintenance of recreation area, Norton Bridge

The team from Oak Tree Farm would re-commence the grass cutting at the recreation area the following week.

892. HS2/Network Rail

Unfortunately Stone Railhead Crisis Group had not felt able to pursue residents' concerns over traffic and noise as they did not feel there was a facility to submit comments under the AP2 proposals. Individual residents were free to submit their separate concerns, and one resident had submitted a letter. SRCG had held a meeting at Yarnfield Park on the previous Friday but no feedback had been received as yet. Residents at Lakesedge, Cold Norton, had received correspondence described as 'opaque' from HS2. Cllr Pert commented that Royal Assent was due in the autumn; HS2 were under pressure to conform to their approved budget; a number of political changes were imminent.

893 Correspondence

The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC Members' Digest No 253; SBC notices of elections which had been displayed on Parish Council notice boards; a letter of thanks had been received from Sir William Cash MP in response to a letter the Clerk had sent thanking him for his assistance regarding broadband provision in the Parish. Cllr Hudson reported the spreading of slurry during a previous weekend and hoped local farmers would avoid Sundays in future.

The notice board at Norton Bridge was not adequate for the amount of local information available; Parish Council minutes were placed on the notice board at St Luke's, and agendas were placed in the main notice board.

894 Items for the next Parish Council Meeting

State of the site of the former Railway Inn, Norton Bridge; dog fouling in Norton Bridge. Councillors were asked to forward any other items for the next meeting to the Clerk

895. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Chebsey Parish Council will take place on Monday 13 May 2019 at St Luke's Church Hall, Norton Bridge, at 7 pm. The change of date was due to regulations and procedures following an election. **Voting would take place at St Luke's, Norton Bridge, and NOT at Chebsey.** There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 8 pm.

..... DateChair