

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

Present:

Councillor Margaret Ainsworth-Hickman, Chair
Councillor Richard Hopley, Vice Chair
Councillor David Davis
Councillor John Green
Councillor David Williams

In attendance: Liz Harrington-Jones (Clerk)

20 residents
Councillor Jeremy Pert, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)
PCSO Williams

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

926 Welcome and Public Participation

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Three residents had earlier expressed concerns to the Chairman that the area of land off Park Lane at The Green, Chebsey, and used for parking by residents should continue to be available for public use by future generations of residents. It was currently maintained by several people for general use. The option of erecting a sign designating the area as for parking was considered, and the possibility of checking procedures available with The Land Registry was discussed (Minute 934 refers).

Two residents had applied for planning permission for Land off The Green (Planning application 19/30637/COU, Minute 930 refers) ; full details had been set out in a planning statement and the heritage assessment; all documents could be viewed on SBCs website. Although the building was to be changed to residential use, the field would remain as open agricultural land.

The Friends of Norton Bridge had proposed the name of 'Tommy's Trail' for the new footpath from Shallowford to Chebsey, with the Tommy outline figure to be sited permanently at the Shallowford end. This message was reinforced by a Shallowford resident. Two other names had also been proposed by a Chebsey resident (Minute 932.i refers).

A resident raised concerns over the Parish Council website. The Clerk reported that work had started on updating it, and should be completed in the next few weeks.

A Chebsey resident reported that there were very few funds available from Chebsey Conservation Trust to help with the refurbishment of the telephone box and that it was the responsibility of the Parish Council to repair and maintain. This would be discussed later in the meeting; the Chair reported that five volunteers had come forward to sand, prime, and paint the telephone box and this should be carried out later in the summer, probably during August.

(7.25 pm, Cllr Pert left the meeting.

Another resident pointed out that the post box also needed refurbishment; this is the responsibility of Royal Mail. Several residents complained of the lack of action by SCC Highways to repair the numerous potholes in the Parish, particularly those on the B5026 Stone Road off the 'old' roundabout. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should report them again and request a site meeting with SCC Highways. **Action: Clerk**

The Chair advised that the excessive rubbish at Old Mill Farmhouse had been reported to Environmental Health.

A Shallowford resident expressed his gratitude for the work done by the Parish Council in recent years to achieve the 30 mph and 40 mph speed limits now applying to Norton Bridge and Shallowford, which had resulted in a noticeable improvement in driver behaviour.

The Chair reported that only three houses so far had the new fibre broadband in Chebsey, although work had been scheduled for completion by the end of June, and Shallowford had poor reception. Problems with Openreach over Superfast Broadband had been reported, and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact SCC and Bill Cash MP to ask for a speedy resolution. **Action: Clerk**

Young people had been reported smoking illegal substances in parked cars in the Parish and residents were advised to report this to the 101 number. Residents commented on the number of empty cider cans amongst the litter strewn along local lanes.

PCSO Williams had nothing to report specifically for the Parish. He would request the attendance of the speed camera van in Shallowford. The Chair closed the public session of the meeting.

927 Reports from Borough and County Councillors There were no reports from Borough or County Councillors.

928 Declarations of Interest Cllr Hopley declared an interest in any items relating to Network Rail. Cllrs Ainsworth-Hickman and Green declared an interest in Planning Application 19/30673/COU (Minute 930 refers).

929 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3 June 2019 and any Matters Arising

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 June 2019 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

929.i Matters Arising, Vacancies on Chebsey Parish Council

Two applications had been received, from residents in Chebsey and Cold Norton, and these would be discussed at the end of the meeting (Minute 941 refers). The Clerk would check on the availability of training for new Councillors.

The Clerk would follow up matters with SaRH and the clearing of gullies in the Parish.

Action: Clerk

Cllr Green confirmed that the weeds at the recreation area, Norton Bridge, had been sprayed, and was thanked for completing the work.

The Clerk would follow up contacting contractors routing HGVs through Norton Bridge and the obtrusive sign reported at Shallowford.

Action: Clerk

Councillors expressed concerns over the damage to pavements resulting from the installation of the 30 mph speed limit in Norton Bridge. The Clerk would forward photographs of the damage to SCC Highways.

Action: Clerk

930 Planning

As Cllr Ainsworth-Hickman had declared an interest in this matter, Cllr Hopley assumed the chair. Cllr Green had also declared an interest. The following planning application had been received:

19/30637/COU , Land North of Fairbanks Cottage, The Green, Chebsey – Change of use of agricultural building to residential with minor alterations, formation of a domestic curtilage with erection of fence and hedge-planting, formation of a parking area, plus demolition of pole barn

After discussion Councillors agreed they had no comment to make. Councillors noted that Cllr Pert had called in this planning application.

931 Finance

931.i Expenditure for July

Clerk salary and expenses	169.87
Oak Tree Farm, grass cutting	45.00
Mrs C Heelis, audit fee	62.50
PCC, rental for St Luke's Church Hall	<u>45.00</u>
Total monthly expenditure	£322.37

RESOLVED That the payments for July were approved.

RESOLVED That the Clerk would arrange to make any routine payments (grass cutting, salary, etc) due before the September meeting.

931.ii To receive accounting and governance statements on Annual Return for financial year 2018/2019

The accounting and governance statements had been approved at an Extraordinary Meeting of Chebsey Parish Council held on 25 June 2019 and were received.

RESOLVED That the accounting and governance statements for Chebsey Parish Council 2018/2019 should be received.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Chebsey Council held on 25 June 2019 were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

931.iii Replacement Bench for Open Space at Norton B ridge

It had previously been agreed that prices would be researched for a replacement bench made of recycled materials, which would cost over £200. After discussion Councillors agreed that it would be more economical to purchase a wooden bench from Fletchers at Eccleshall, maintained to last at least 10 years, and Cllr Davis agreed to research suitable benches. The replacement bench would be placed on slabs and anchored down.

Action: Cllr Davis

932 Highway Matters

There was nothing further to report as yet on the removal of a hedge from Hilcote Lane, or the removal of hedges and damage to trees from land off Searchlight Lane.

It had been agreed during the public session that the Clerk would again report the state of the potholes and gullies (Minute 926 refers).

A member of the public suggested that it would be beneficial if one Councillor should act as the single contact for Highways matters.

It was reported that the barrier from the Stafford North Motorway Services into the car park was regularly open. The meeting agreed that the Clerk should report the matter to the hotel reception on the site. **Action: Clerk**

932.i Name for new footpath between Shallowford and Chebsey

Three names had been suggested for the footpath, all linking to the centenary of the end of WWI, and all suggesting the utilising of the Tommy outline. After discussion Councillors agreed unanimously that the footpath should be named 'Tommy's Trail', with the Tommy outline at the beginning of the footpath at Shallowford.

933. Refurbishment of former BT Telephone box, Chebsey

This had been discussed earlier in the meeting (Minute 926 refers). It was confirmed that five volunteers hoped to carry out much of the work during August.

934. Car parking, The Green, Chebsey

This matter had been discussed during the public session (Minute 926 refers). After further discussion Councillors agreed that no action should be taken with regard to the parking area off Park Lane, The Green, Chebsey.

935. Local Community Speedwatch scheme

The Parish Council thanked Mr Mark Wilson for his work and persistence as a Parish Councillor which had achieved the installation of the 30 mph speed limit in Norton Bridge. Cllr Davis felt the community should support the speed limit with a Community Speedwatch scheme and it was agreed that a poster should be displayed, with volunteers advised to contact the Clerk. **Action: Clerk**

PCSO Williams confirmed that he would put in a request for the speed camera van to attend.

(8.20 pm, PCSO Williams left the meeting.)

936. HS2/Network Rail

The Clerk confirmed that information from HS2 was now available in local libraries.

937. Safety Inspection of recreation area, Norton Bridge

The Clerk confirmed that The Play Inspection Company could carry out the annual safety inspection area of the recreation area in Norton Bridge at a reduced rate of £75 plus VAT when they inspected play areas in Swynnerton Parish.

RESOLVED That The Play Inspection Company should be asked to inspect the recreation area, Norton Bridge.

938 Correspondence

The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC, Members' Digest No 256; SBC Year Book and Diary; Stone Town Council, information on Civic Sunday 28 July 2019; email from Chebsey resident objecting to Planning Application 19/30637/COU, Land North of Fairbanks Cottage, The Green, Chebsey, enclosing plans showing elevation and location; invoice from All Saints' Chebsey PCC for hall hire; received from Chebsey resident two suggestions for name for new footpath from Shallowford to Chebsey and information on registration of defibrillators

939 Items for the next Parish Council Meeting

Local Community Speedwatch scheme; roles of Councillors e.g. Planning, Highways, HS2

940. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Chebsey Parish Council will take place on Monday 2 September 2019 at St Luke's Church Hall, Norton Bridge, at 7 pm. Cllr Ainsworth-Hickman gave her apologies. Any planning applications received before then would be circulated to Councillors and the Clerk would forward a summary of comments to SBC. **Action: Clerk**

941. Progress on co-option to fill two vacancies on Chebsey Parish Council

Two applications had been received to fill the vacancies on Chebsey Parish Council. After discussion Councillors agreed that Ms Julie Lawson, Chebsey, and Mr Robert Jones, Cold Norton should be co-opted as Councillors for Chebsey Parish Council. The Clerk would check on training opportunities with SPCA, purchase two copies of The Good Councillor's Guide, and forward relevant CPC documents to the two new Parish Councillors. **Action: Clerk**

RESOLVED That Ms Julie Lawson and Mr Robert Jones should be co-opted as Councillors for Chebsey Parish Council.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed.

..... Date

.....Chair

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