

**MINUTES OF THE CHEBSEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2020 at 7 pm
IN ST LUKE'S CHURCH HALL, NORTON BRIDGE**

Present: Councillor Margaret Ainsworth-Hickman, Chair
Councillor David Davis
Councillor Julie Lawson
Councillor John Green
Councillor Richard Hopley, Vice Chair

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

Apologies: Councillor Bob Jones
Councillor David Williams

1019 Welcome and Public Participation

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Residents of Park Lane raised concerns over a planning application for Park View, Park Lane, Chebsey, a listed building in the Conservation Area. The topographical survey indicated a 2m slope on the land, meaning that the proposed patio area would lead to the party wall looming 3.5m above the neighbouring property's patio area; working documents indicated that changes had been made to the originally submitted drawings; the proposed extension would restrict the drive and it would not be wide enough for a car to pass at the pinch point, restricting the neighbours access and compelling them to park in Park Lane which is already congested.

A resident of Norton Bridge raised concerns over changes to the deliveries of equipment to the Network Rail site. Larger lorries were being used which were damaging both sides of Smithy Lane; equipment was being unloaded in the Lane, when previously it was unloaded in Station Road and then moved over the bridge. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Network Rail and ask them to revert to the previous procedures. **Action: Clerk**

1020 Reports from Borough and County Councillors .

Cllr Jones had no report to make.

Cllr Pert reported on action to improve the state of the road outside the soil treatment centre at Cold Meece.

Cllr Pert has produced a document clarifying landowner responsibilities for water affecting roads (ditches, gullies, etc). The meeting expressed concerns over two ditches in Chebsey – one behind the telephone kiosk in the centre of the village, the other in the vicinity of White Man's Grave, Hilcote Lane. Cllr Pert is to attend a meeting in the near future about drainage and the ditch at Whiteman's Grave, Hilcote Lane.

Cllr Pert reminded residents and Councillors about consultations on BioDiversity and also the new Plan for Stafford Borough ending 31 March, and encouraged everyone to read them as they include policies for the future, including the possibility of a garden settlement at Cold Meece. The Chair gave details of local drop In sessions on the new Plan.

1021 Declarations of Interest Cllr Hopley declared an interest in any items relating to Network Rail.

1022 Apologies Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Jones and Williams.

1023 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6 January 2020

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 January 2020 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

1024 Matters Arising,

The Clerk would pursue action to enforce the reinstatement of hedges that had been removed from Hilcote Lane, and the cutting back of vegetation at the entrance to Hilcote Hall **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Pert confirmed that he was endeavouring to arrange a planning seminar on a Friday afternoon in the future, and hoped to involve neighbouring Parishes. The venue would probably be Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre.

Cllr Pert reported it was unlikely that compensation could be obtained for damage caused to local roads by traffic being diverted from the motorway.

The Clerk was awaiting delivery of dog fouling stickers from SBC.

A copy of the LEMP had been requested from Network Rail. Trees and vegetation had been cut back in Norton Bridge and at Worston on the railway embankment and contractors had carried out litter picking.

A ditch had been cleared and the gully sucker had been operating on the B5026.

The gully repair on Parsons Bank had been completed.

No response had yet been received from SBC Planning to concerns raised over the proposal for a children's' home at The Scannel, Chebsey, for which a Local Development Certificate for Proposed Development (LDC) had been granted, despite a reminder being sent. A further reminder would be sent, and a letter would also be sent to Bill Cash MP, raising concerns over the proposal.

Issues over peacocks causing a nuisance in Chebsey had been discussed at the previous meeting and no further issues were raised.

1025 Planning The following planning application had been received –

Topographical Survey in respect of 19/30922/HOU and 19/30923/LBC, Park View, Park Lane, Chebsey

RESOLVED That Councillors were concerned by the apparent discrepancy between plans submitted and work now proposed; Councillors understood that a request had been made that all previous measurements should be re-checked and were further concerned that this information had not yet been submitted. Councillors consider that the information provided by the topographical survey contradicts the submitted plans, resulting in unreasonable and unforeseen effects on neighbouring properties particularly with regard to the party wall in the garden. The proposed development is out of keeping with the surrounding Conservation Area and is excessively more extensive than the original plans.

Notice of the following has been received, but as yet no paperwork has been supplied -

20/31815/HOU The Old Estate Office, Stone Road, Eccleshall

The addition of a single storey cube glass room to the rear elevation of the property

RESOLVED That Councillors had no comment to make on the above planning application.

Information on the New Stafford Borough Local Plan, the Draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document consultation, and SBC Parish Councils Forum on 10 February 2020 had been circulated to Councillors. Councillors were asked to contact the Clerk with their availability for the Forum.

The only **Planning Decision** made since the meeting held on 2 December 2019 was approval for tree felling work in the conservation area at The Gardens, Church Road, Chebsey (Douglas Fir, Leyland Cypress, Maple, Ash).

1026 Finance

1026.i Expenditure for December

Clerk salary and expenses	168.81
Replacement defibrillator battery (N Bridge)	174.86
Total expenditure	£343.67

The battery for the defibrillator in Norton Bridge had expired during the preceding week and been replaced immediately. The batteries for the defibrillators in Chebsey and Cold Norton were likely to expire soon.

RESOLVED That replacement batteries and pads should be purchased and installed as soon as possible after expiry.

RESOLVED That the payments for February were approved.

1027 Highway and Footpath Matters

1027.i Footpath 18, obstruction

Footpath 18 had been blocked by the landowners to prevent trespass on their land as the path currently used did not follow the official route. The Chair had liaised with the Clerk and the SCC Rights of Way Officer, and it was hoped to ensure that, following negotiations with other involved landowners, Footpath 18 would follow the approved route as soon as possible.

Residents and Councillors reported dog fouling on Footpath 11 near The Heamies, in the churchyard at Chebsey, and New Street, Norton Bridge. The Clerk was awaiting stickers from SBC.

Councillors reported that potholes on the B5026 had been repaired between Hilcote and The Scannel. The pothole on Worston Bridge and a blocked gully would be reported and Seighford PC advised. **Action: Clerk**

1028 Speedwatch Group, Norton Bridge

Norton Bridge’s Speedwatch Group had been registered for the next training date. The training programme had been suspended as the Officer in charge was still on sick leave. Councillors agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

1029 HS2/Network Rail update

Cllr Jones had submitted a report on the meeting he had recently attended with Yarnfield & Cold Meece PC, when concerns had been expressed over the number of HGVs likely to be using the B5026, and night-time train movements at Norton Bridge. HS2 would be re-visiting their forecasts. A section of redundant track had been removed, effectively removing a facility to park trains waiting to access the railhead at Stone. A review of the HS2 project was underway and a report was expected during February 2020.

1030 Visits by Civic Amenity vehicle

After discussion Councillors agreed that the existing contract should continue. The facility was well attended and used and the staff that provided the service were praised for their helpful and accommodating attitude.

RESOLVED That the existing service for visits by the Civic Amenity vehicle provided by SBC should be maintained.

1031 Correspondence received The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC Members’ Digest No 263, Broxap catalogue, Defib batteries

1032 Items for the next Parish Council meeting: Report on the SBC Parish Councils Forum on 10 February 2020; GB Spring Clean 20 March to 13 April; Working party for Norton Bridge recreation area.

1033 Date of Next Meeting The Chair closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting of Chebsey Parish Council will take place on Monday 2 March 2020 at St Luke’s Church Hall, Norton Bridge, at 7 pm.

Date.....

.....Chair