

**MINUTES OF THE CHEBSEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 2 MARCH 2020 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 Bob Jones
Councillor Julie Lawson

In attendance: Liz Harrington-Jones (Clerk)
16 residents

Apologies: Councillor David Williams
Councillor Peter Jones, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)
Councillors Jeremy Pert, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

1034 Welcome and Public Participation

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. A resident asked why the issue of parking on a public area of land in Chebsey had been put on the agenda again; the Chair confirmed it was over six months since this issue had been raised and further concerns had been raised recently by residents, as commercial vehicles had been parked on a semi permanent basis and a petition had been circulated amongst residents confirming that the majority wished the land to be available for residents' use. Different options were considered including registering the land as a Village Green or Open Space; erecting notices stating it was for residents' parking; asking Chebsey Parish Council to adopt the land; registering a Cautionary Notice with the Land Registry. It became apparent during discussions that the majority of residents wished to preserve the area as a parking space for residents and visitors; this opinion was supported by the results of a recent petition to gather residents' views. The Chair read out historical documents confirming the land has been used by residents for a number of years.

A resident confirmed that large delivery vehicles were using Smithy Lane for Network Rail deliveries of heavy and bulky equipment, causing damage to the verges and hedges. The Clerk would clarify the information previously provided to Network Rail. **Action: Clerk**

Residents from Izaak Walton Fishery confirmed that they had applied for the removal of a condition referring to a temporary mobile home.

A resident expressed concern over a planning application and topographical survey for Park View which would still leave the rear wall a maximum of 3.3m above the neighbouring garden; other changes raised concerns that inappropriate alterations would be made to the property.

The Clerk would contact Hilcote Hall again to try to arrange for the vegetation to be cut back at the junction with the B5026. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting agreed that the Clerk should forward a letter to Bill Cash MP expressing concerns over the recent decision to permit the establishment of a children's' home at The Scannel, Chebsey. It had become clear that every room in the property now had a lock on it which should require planning permission for change of use. **Action: Clerk**

The Chair had recently been carrying out research at William Salt Library and reported it was 89 years since Cold Norton had been welcomed into the Parish; the Chair closed the public session of the meeting.

1035 Reports from Borough and County Councillors .

There were no reports from Borough and County Councillors, Cllrs Jones and Pert had sent their apologies.

1036 Declarations of Interest Cllr Hopley declared an interest in any items relating to Network Rail.

1037 Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Williams, and Cllrs Jones (SBC) and Pert (SCC).

1038 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3 February 2020

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 February 2020 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

1039 Matters Arising,

Network Rail has been asked to change the procedure for deliveries in Station Road/Smithy Lane; the Clerk now has a reference number and will provide additional information when contacted by the East Midlands IP Team.

5.2 Hilcote Lane, reinstatement of hedges – SBC Enforcement have been contacted; the Clerk will follow up the request to Hilcote Hall to cut back vegetation at the junction with the B5026.

5.3 SBC has sent further supplies of dog fouling stickers and posters which have been displayed.

5.4 The Scannel, Chebsey – a letter will be sent to the Head of SBC Planning and Bill Cash MP.

The Clerk confirmed that the list of Civic Amenity vehicle visits had been received and would be placed on notice boards and on the website.

5.5 Details of the residents who had volunteered to form a Speedwatch Group had been forwarded to the Speedwatch Co-ordinator.

The Clerk had reported the deep pothole on Worston Bridge to SCC Highways.

1040 Planning

1040.i Planning decisions, Planning Appeals, and to consider any Planning Applications made

The following Planning applications had been received –

20/31890/FUL Izaak Walton Fisheries, School Lane, Chebsey – removal of condition 4 on 17/27245/FUL

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

19/30922/HOU Park View, Park Lane, Chebsey – Topographical survey , Amended Wall Elevations and Layout Plan

RESOLVED That Councillors considered that the proposed wall is inappropriate in the setting of a listed building in a Conservation Area; it is believed it will in places be 3.3m above the neighbouring garden. Councillors reiterated their original comments on planning application 19/30922/HOU

The following **Planning Decision** has been made since the meeting held on 3 February 2019

19/31474/FUL **REFUSED**

Land Adjacent to Searchlight Lane, Chebsey

Erect a Steel Portal Frame Execution Class 2 agricultural Building, and to extend the current access which will in turn require 7 meters of hedge to be removed

1040.ii Review of Local Plan for Stafford (Closing date for comments 31 March 2020)

The Chair and Clerk had attended a Parish Forum arranged to brief Parish Councils on the Review of the Local Plan for Stafford, which although very general in tone had included proposals for 7 Garden Villages including one at Cold Meece (Meece Brook) to accommodate 11,500 homes. After discussion Councillors agreed to hold an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday 9 March 2020 to discuss the Review and to ask Borough and County Councillors for their views.

1041 Finance

1041.i Expenditure for March 2020

Clerk's salary and expenses	168.81
HMRC, PAYE/NI	118.20
SBC, Uncontested Election expenses	103.87
Avdec, web hosting	180.00
SPCA, subscription for 2020/2021	<u>176.00</u>
Total expenditure	£746.88

RESOLVED That the expenditure for March 2020 should be approved.

1042 Highway and Footpath Matters

1042.i Footpath 18, obstruction

The Chair reported that the recent obstruction on Footpath 18 had now been cleared and that the footpath followed its correct route. SCC Footpaths had provided two small gates and all fittings; a member of the public thanked the Parish Council for their work in ensuring the availability of the Footpath. The Chair proposed a working party for the installation of the gates and this was provisionally scheduled for 28 March 2020 at 2 pm. The Ramblers would be asked if they could help, as they had installed previous gates on the path.

Cllr Jones reported that access had been obtained to local footpaths in Cold Norton, an area with very limited access to footpaths to Norton Bridge or Stone. A new definitive map was scheduled to be published in 2026 and, working with the Ramblers Association, it was hoped to include local additional routes.

1042. ii Other Highways and Footpath Matters

The Chair reported she had met briefly with Cllr Pert SCC to discuss drainage in the centre of Chebsey, particularly the ditch behind the telephone box in the centre of the village. Gullies in the village had not been cleared for some years. There were significant potholes in the Parish. Councillors agreed that a request should be made for the lanes around the village to be swept again following the recent extreme weather.

Action: Clerk

SCC Highways were looking at solutions to the problem of flooding at the end of Hilcote Lane.

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.

A property at the end of Scannel Lane had been flooded recently, believed to be as a result of the realignment of the adjoining road.

1043 Chebsey – Parking area in village

This had been discussed during the public participation section (Minute 1034) when Councillors had been made aware of the concerns of residents. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should seek advice from SPCA (Staffordshire Parish Councils’ Association) to ensure the area was safeguarded as a local amenity, and investigate and pursue if appropriate an application for a Cautionary Notice for the Parish Council to be advised of any interest in the land/area.

1044 HS2/Network Rail update

Cllr Jones had recently attended a meeting of Stone Railhead Crisis Group with 130 others raising questions on the proposed stretch of line between Stafford and Crewe. The proposed railhead could generate up to 1,500 trucks a day travelling along Yarnfield Lane; a Petition would be presented to the House of Lords on 31 March 2020; SRCG would hold a public meeting in Yarnfield on 23 March 2020, and another in the summer. Section 2a was scheduled to start in 2 years time.

The Parish Council had recently received a copy of the LEMP from Network Rail , detailing their land management procedures.

1045 Norton Bridge Recreation Area

After discussion it was agreed to hold a working party on 28 March at 10.30 am to tidy the area ready for the better weather. The Clerk would arrange for the grass to be cut beforehand, preferably during the week beginning 23 March, and would produce a poster asking for volunteers to help.

Action: Clerk

1046 GB Spring Clean 20 March to 13 April 2020

The Chair hoped to involve the whole Parish and would lead the Chebsey area; Cllr Hopley would lead the Shallowford area; Cllr David would lead the Norton Bridge area; Cllr Jones would lead the Cold Norton area. Bags and pickers would be provided; Streetscene would remove the rubbish collected.

1047 Correspondence received The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC Members’ Digest No 264, 264, Stone Town Council – invitations to Civic Dinner and Mayor’s Charity Quiz Night; Staffs Fire & Rescue Service Rescue Plan – consultation; Draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document; Review of Plan for Stafford; Douglas Macmillan Hospice, request for donations; information from Cllr Pert on compensation available for flood damaged properties.

1048 Items for the next Parish Council meeting should be forwarded to the Clerk.

1049 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 6 April 2020 at St Luke’s Church Hall, Norton Bridge, at 7 pm. *(No further meetings were held until August 2020, due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.)*

Date.....Chair