

SOUND & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the above Council, held on Tuesday 17th April 2018
at Broomhall Chapel at 7.00 p.m.

Present: A. Brown (Chairman), A.G. Lawrence (Clerk), R. Blackburn, P. Hitchen, F. Wright, R. Brassington, G. Bebbington, P. Griffiths, Mrs E. Hollinshead, D. Tomlinson, L. Wright, and 3 members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** A. Baldwin. The Clerk informed the meeting that A. Baldwin has been in hospital for a long time but is now home, however he will not be attending meetings in the near future. Mrs J.R. Park and Councillor R Bailey,
2. **Declaration of Interest** – if a member is present at a meeting of the authority, and they have a disclosable pecuniary in any matter to be considered or being considered at the meeting, they cannot take part in any discussion of the matter at the meeting or vote on it. They should disclose the interest to the meeting and follow the Council's Code of Conduct.
3. **Minutes** of last Parish Council Meeting held on 27th March 2018 were unanimously confirmed as a true and correct record on the prop., of D. Tomlinson, sec., R. Blackburn.
4. **Matters arising** from last minutes:-

a. Roy Cook - Local Highway Officer | Cheshire East Highways, reports as follows:-

"Overgrown hedge at Holly Bank, Heatley Lane, I called yesterday and you can clearly see the hedge is the same as last time I inspected, not directly into the carriageway but enough which in turn is forcing larger vehicle into the centre of the carriageway - I will arrange for a hedge and tree letter to be sent out again".

French Lane End – "I will log the pothole on the Cheshire East report it / track this will be dealt with accordingly"

b. **Heatley Farm Road** – copy of response re the matter raised by Mrs Pye " Thank you for your email dated 29th January 2018 regarding repairs to Heatley Farm Road, Crewe which has been forwarded to me to provide a response by our Council Leader; Cllr Rachel Bailey.

Cheshire East Council operates a 3-level strategy when dealing with road defects:

Level 1 – Keeping the network safe

Level 2 – Maintaining and protecting the network

Level 3 – Investing and improving the network.

As you point out the carriageway defects on Heatley Farm Road were repaired by a jet patching machine in 2017. I can also advise that our asset management led approach has identified this road for further structural repairs and these been put forward for consideration for inclusion in a level 2 carriageway patching in 2018/19 programme to be followed up with a suitable surface dressing treatment in the following financial year. The patching programme hasn't been finalised yet for 2018/19.

All adopted roads on our highway network are regularly inspected for safety as part of a scheduled inspection regime. The inspection frequency depends mainly on the hierarchy of the road classification and the usage factor. In general A & B classified roads are inspected every 2 months, other classified and unclassified roads may be inspected on a 4 monthly basis and town centre areas will be inspected monthly. Specific service request inspections are also undertaken upon request. If, during such inspections, any defect is identified that falls within the authorities intervention levels in accordance with our code of practice, then prompt repairs are undertaken.

Such repairs fall within Level 1 and are carried out to ensure that the roads and footways are maintained in a safe condition for highway users.

Where more significant patching or resurfacing is required (Level 2 & Level 3), these particular works are identified through an asset management led approach in accordance with guidance from the Department for Transport whereby various sources of inspections and data are used to help us prioritise the network. The primary function of highway asset management is to maximise value for money by investing in the 'right treatment, at the right place, at the right time' to secure a long term sustainable future for the highway infrastructure, for road users and residents. Programmes of traditional repairs, resurfacing, slurry treatments, surface dressing and micro-surfacing are used as part of this strategy to improve the overall condition of the highway network. Objective assessment of the road conditions over a number of years indicate that this approach is delivering the right results.

More information on our approach to road condition and repairs in the three level strategy, is available on the Cheshire East Highways web site via the following link:

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways_and_roads/highway-services/road-condition-and-repairs/road-condition-and-repairs.aspx

With regard to the standard and durability of repairs, we do have a variety of different materials available and will use what we consider to be the most suitable for any given location. For example, on busy A and B roads, particularly at high stress locations such as junctions and bends, we will use either a specialist proprietary material or the traditional hot bitumen macadam. In less busy, residential areas, we will use a cold lay material. However, all repairs are carried out in the same way, including cutting out, squaring and sealing the joints and compacting with mechanical plant. Occasionally, we might have to simply fill a pothole where traffic conditions will not allow us to set up for sufficient time but this is certainly the exception. Our inspectors will report if any potholes are caused as a result of a failed repair. There are very few. However, it is the case that road surfaces adjacent to previous repairs are likely to fail and generate more potholes until such time as these areas can be included in the wider Level 2 and 3 programmes.

In accordance with the authorities' Code of Practice for Highway Safety Inspections, Cheshire East Highways will continue to keep the network safe for road users ahead of any further longer term investment.

Heatley Farm Road is inspected twice per year and the date of the last inspection carried out was 19th January 2018, only 2 carriageway defects were identified at the start of the lane.

Due to your concerns being made following the winter weather, an ADHOC inspection was carried out this week and Level 1 repairs have been identified. These will be repaired within 5 working days

Please be assured that we continue to monitor the condition of the roads through the Broomhall area as part of our highway safety inspections with the aim of keeping the highway safe for all users. Any defects identified for treatment are added into our asset management-led programmes of work for repair as appropriate.

I am grateful for you bringing this matter to our attention and trust that this response addresses your concerns but if you would like further information please do not hesitate to contact our senior highway officer for this area, Andrea Bickerton on 0300 123 5020".

- c. *Broadband Speed:*** Dean Burrows, Innovation & Growth, Engagement Officer has responded as follows re the situation @ Baddiley Hall Lane:- " The roll-out within the locality is part of our phase 2 plans, these are due to be complete during Summer this year. In terms of the Better Broadband Scheme, this grants households a voucher of £350, this is what covers the up-front cost of installation for a wireless or satellite broadband product. The cost to the end user will be a standard broadband monthly subscription with the chosen provider ranging in price subject to the speed and usage you require".

And further "The postcode you mentioned is showing up as included in our build, yes- sadly this does come with the usual caveats that until the network is built and complete we cannot commit

to premise connections and predicted speeds. £350 covers the upfront costs – then it's down to the user to pay monthly payments”.

- d. P. Hitchen** – P. Hitchen declared an interest and did not speak during this matter. The Clerk reported he has written to Antoinette Sandbach MP but no reply to date, other than automated acceptance. On the prop., A. Brown, sec., P. Griffiths the Clerk was asked to write again.
- e. Baddiley Hall Lane:** further to reports of bad potholes on this lane – before Baddiley Hulse Farm, the matter has again been reported to Cheshire East who will attend to repair. On the prop., R. Blackburn, sec., A. Brown the members of the public in attendance were invited to speak on this matter.
- from junction with Nantwich – Wrenbury Road the first 50m is very bad with large potholes. They are lying in water and therefore when they have been repaired this is back to square one within a few days.
 - further along there is a blocked gully which constantly floods the road.
 - From the junction to Baddiley Hulse Farm needs a complete makeover.
 - Negotiations have been ongoing for a very long period of time and no progress can be made.

On the prop., R. Blackburn, sec., A. Brown it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Highways, and ask for:-

1. An immediate repair to make the road fit for use
2. A site visit/survey to discuss what needs/can be done to rectify the problems
3. Full remedial work from the junction with the Nantwich – Wrenbury road to Baddiley Hulse Farm

5. Highway matters:

- a. Junction of Mickley Hall Lane/Heatley Lane remains completely flooded with large potholes under the water

6. Correspondence: Noted to members for their inspection and interest as follows:-

a. Cheshire East

1. Cheshire Homechoice Newsletter
2. Connected Communities Newsletter March / April 2018

b. Councillors - none

c. Parishioners - none

d. Other

7. Accounts

I. Income since last meeting:-

- | | | |
|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Cheshire East Precept – 1 st Instalment | £1850.00 |
| 2. | VAT – Clerk reported that the claim for 2017 has to be done again as HMRC have changed the Parish Council application process | |

II. Accounts paid since last meeting – none

III. Accounts to pay at this meeting

- | | | |
|----|---|--------|
| 1. | Chq. No. 500211
Broomhall Chapel – Room Hire | £15.00 |
|----|---|--------|

The above accounts were unanimously approved for payment on the prop., of R. Brassington, sec., P. Griffiths.

IV. Annual Audit :-

- Display Notice from Audit from 2nd July – 13th July 2018
- Annual Return and supporting documentation to be returned by 11th June 2018

a. Annual Governance Statement was given to the Council by the RFO and unanimously approved by the Parish Council on the prop., P. Griffiths, sec., R. Blackburn.

b. Statement of A/C's year ending 31st March 2018 was issued by the R.F.O. as follows:-

Income for year	3500.06
Along with balance brought forward	<u>1158.48</u>
Gave a total available of	4658.54
Total expenses have been	3859.74
Leaving a balance to carry forward of	798.80

The C/F figure compared to the previous year is reduced on the previous year due to setting Precept for less than budgeted expenditure - £360

With all details of income and expenditure as listed in the Account Book

The Accounts were formally adopted on the prop., of G. Bebbington, sec., R. Brassington.

On the prop., F. Wright, sec., P. Griffiths and unanimously agreed, the Clerk/RFO and the Chairman signed, as follows:-

The Annual Return:-

- i. The Annual Governance Statement
- ii. The Accounting Statements 2017/18
- iii. The completed Annual Account Book

V. Internal Audit this will be undertaken by JDH immediately after this Meeting when Accounts are completed.

VI. Appoint Regulatory Financial Officer – the Clerk was unanimously re-elected on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., G. Bebbington.

VII. Confirmation of:-

- i. Financial Regulations – NALC – Model 2 (England)
Was unanimously reconfirmed on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., F. Wright
- ii. Risk Assessment
Was unanimously reconfirmed on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., F. Wright
- iii. Parish Council Internal Financial Audit
The Meeting on the prop., of A. Brown, sec., R. Blackburn unanimously confirmed their Internal Audit requirements were adequately covered within their Financial Regulations and their Risk Assessment which are currently in place, and as approved in item 7/VIII/i/ii as above
- iv. Clerks Contract of Employment
Was unanimously reconfirmed on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., F. Wright
- v. Standing Orders
Was unanimously reconfirmed on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., F. Wright
- vi. Transparency Code
Was unanimously confirmed on the prop., of G. Bebbington, sec., P. Griffiths.

8. Planning Applications:

I. Applications received since last meeting:- as 8/III below

II. Results of previous applications:-

a.
18/0049N
BRIDGE FARM, BADDINGTON LANE, BADDINGTON, NANTWICH
Extension to existing garage block and raising of the roof to create first floor area(s) inc external staircase
refused
b.
17/5054N
HACK HOUSE, HACK HOUSE LANE, BADDINGTON
Listed building consent to alter pitch of the roof on the single storey extension.
approved with conditions
c.
18/0799N
HACK HOUSE, HACK HOUSE LANE, BADDINGTON, CHESHIRE, CW5 8BL
Proposed construction of an outdoor equine school (ménage)
approved with conditions
d.
18/0872N
The Willows Caravan Site, COOLE LANE, AUSTERSON
Variation of condition 2 on approval 16/3106N
approved with conditions

III. Applications/Matters before this meeting:-

a.

Application No: **18/1595N**
Proposal: **Change of Use of existing oak framed outbuilding and extension by additional portal framed building to form a veterinary orthopaedic surgery. Demolition of an existing single storey brick building.**
Location: **Larden Greem Farm, Spring Lane, Baddiley, Cheshire, CW5 8JN**

On the prop., R. Blackburn, sec., A. Brown it was unanimously agreed to Support the application.

8. Sound Common reported: recent litter pick has collected some 15 bags of rubbish. This took place on a terrible day, and thanks recorded to all those who took part.

9. Police Report: meeting tonight.

10. Next Meetings:

- i. Parish Meetings – Tuesday 29th May @ Broomhall Chapel and Baddiley Chapel
- ii. Annual Meeting of Parish Council – Tuesday 22nd May

Meeting closed.