

SOUND & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the above Council, held on Monday 7th December 2015
at Broomhall Chapel at 7.00 p.m.

Present: G. Bebbington (Chairman), A.G. Lawrence (Clerk), R. Brassington (Vice Chairman), R. Blackburn, F. Wright, M. Wright, P. Griffiths, Mrs E. Hollinshead, Mrs J.R. Park, P. Hitchen, Clr R. Bailey and no members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** none

2. **Minutes** of last Parish Council Meeting held on 6th October 2015 were unanimously confirmed as a true and correct record on the prop., of R. Blackburn, sec., F. Wright

3. **Matters arising:**

a. Street lights:

by:- Post Box; Holly Cottage; Fittons Close.

Clr R. Bailey reported:-

Still being progressed on these being adopted by Cheshire East Council and will continue to try to get this resolved asap

b. Community Speed Watch: further to previous meeting, the Clerk reported that the scheme is up and running and speed checks are taking place at various locations throughout the two parishes.

Mrs J.R. Park reported that the scheme is working well, and she distributed figures from the work undertaken. This showed that 134 motorists have received lettered for exceeding the speed limit and this equated to 4% of the passing traffic.

c. Track/Road – Sound Common: Clerk reported a further email from Mr Watson:-

The track I referred to hasn't been as bad of late due to a Willow branch falling down encroaching onto the track. Over the weeks it has become lower and more of an obstruction but not actually blocking the track. The net result has meant far fewer lorries and cars and the cars are travelling generally (although not everyone!) slower.

However as part of some work on the common this week the Rangers have cut back this branch opening up the road again so we will be back to high speed idiots again. I spoke to the rangers as I had mentioned the branch to them some time ago requesting that they didn't trim it back. They claim that someone named Beth (I think) had complained that her son had a twig poke him in the eye as he was cycling past on his way to school!! Interesting because the track isn't on route from any local school to anywhere locally - it is target to the local school!

So back to my original point, can anything be done about this before there is an accident more serious than a cyclist riding into a very visible bush"!!

The Clerk has responded re this and Councillor Bailey confirmed that the adoption/otherwise of this road is still being under investigation.

d. Flooding in Heatley Lane: further to the last meeting the 3 large floods, every time it rains, between Smithy House and Holly Bank are still not resolved. Clerk to contact Cheshire East again to ascertain what and where the problem is, and how it can be resolved.

4. **Highway matters:**

a. Clerk advised of emails received from Parishioner of Sound & District as previous Minutes, and now further:-

Overnight parking of vehicle in layby - Ravensmoor

Rob James, Smithy House, Sound Lane, Ravensmoor CW5 8PS

Following a conversation with Cheshire East Council recently they have asked me to contact the local Parish Council in order for the matter below to be resolved.

I recently moved to Sound Lane in Ravensmoor and I am employed by Beardsmore Travel Ltd as a driver for their school buses taking children with Special Educational Needs to Hebden Green School in Winsford. I need to park the school bus overnight and, as Sound Lane is quite narrow, had started to park in a lay by on Swanley Lane close to the crossroads of Swanley Lane, Marsh Lane, Sound Lane and Baddiley Lane. (photo of site attached)

I received an anonymous note left on my windscreen stating that I would be reported to the Council as there was no overnight parking allowed and that this lay-by was a bus stop for schoolchildren.

There is also a sign stating "No Overnight Parking" but no other markings are visible to determine who has placed the sign there.

There is also no school bus stop sign (or indeed any bus stop sign) visible in this lay-by.

You will see that there are no road markings to prevent parking on either side of this road but that the lay-by is a far safer place to park than on the opposite verge.

I have so far contacted :

Highways Dept Cheshire East Council who state it is not their sign Parking Enforcement Dept Cheshire East Council who state that it is not their sign Cheshire Police who state that it is not their sign

and have been told that the only possibilities left are that it is a Parish Council sign
OR
that the sign may well be illegally erected.

I have not parked there since as I do not wish to create a problem but would like clarification from the Parish Council that this is not a restricted parking area. I would also point out that, even if school buses do stop in the lay-by, the bus I drive will never be there at the same time due to the nature of its employment .

I would be very grateful if you could email me back and confirm receipt of this email and also confirm if this sign has been erected by the Parish Council. Assuming this is not the case may I conclude that it is safe to park my school bus overnight in this lay-by ?

Burland Parish Council have responded:-

I have contacted the Chairman and his view is that the 'no overnight parking' is ancient with some of the letters missing, and that if the bus is not in the lay-by when children are waiting for their bus, then there isn't a problem; and if your investigations are correct, there is no-one who is going to enforce 'no overnight parking'.

The lay-by falls within the parish of Sound and District (Parish Council) and I have put the Clerk to that Council (Adrian Lawrence) on copy in case his Members take a different view.

On the prop., G. Bebbington, sec., R. Blackburnhe Parish Council agreed to refer this to the Police Cluster Meeting, and the view of the Meeting was:-

- If an offence is being committed then the vehicle MUST be moved from overnight parking
- If the Police determine NO offence is being committed then there is nothing further that can be done.

Mrs E. Hollinshead and P. Griffiths to process and report back.

b. Copy of letter from SADRA

1. Footpath along the A530, the main Nantwich to Whitchurch Road.

The overgrown state of the footpaths is now very dangerous. They are only about half the width that they should be were they cleared properly. It is now years since they were cleared.

Huge articulated lorries are a terrifying sight and sensation to be had as they fly past just inches away from little pedestrians 'tottering' along this footpath.

You can see from the second photo that it is now less than two feet wide in places.

It is impossible for a mother to walk alongside her child whilst walking to the local Primary School. It's even worse if a pushchair needs to be pushed at the same time.

2. Broken Ironwork on Wrenbury Heath Road

The photos show a broken gully which is very dangerous. A child's foot could easily go through it resulting in a broken leg or ankle. It is right where pedestrians have to walk because of the bend in the road. The other side is too dangerous.

Finally there is a broken cover to an inspection chamber. Currently the broken piece is still in place but it could bounce out at any time when a big lorry or agricultural vehicle goes over it, making the likelihood of the larger part bouncing out or toppling in greater. It was most likely such a vehicle that broke it in the first place.

Clerk reported that he has written and endorsed these comments on behalf of the Parish Council.

c. *Temporary Weight Limit on Sound Land* - Cllr R. Bailey reported that this is currently being discussed by Cheshire East.

e. *Manhole Covers*: the meeting were informed that the one by Sound Hall remains unattended and further problems with those by 'Baxters' bungalow in Sound Lane – Clerk to report.

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

a. *Cheshire East*: -

1.

b. *Councillors* - none

c. *Parishioners* :- Charles Henderson, Fir Trees, CW5 8BB

For information only.

Super fast broadband to Aston Exchange Cabinet 4 - Sound and District

You may wish to post this on the SADRA FB page etc. I have sent copies to the Clerk of Sound PC and to Mrs A Sandbach MP who is particularly concerned about super fast broadband in Eddisbury.

Mr Andrew Arditti, Cheshire Partnership Digital Engagement Manager at Cheshire East Council has supplied the following statement which will be of interest to those who have waited long for super fast broadband to come to Sound.

"Work on connecting Aston cabinet 4 is ongoing, the remaining work will involve standing a new cabinet in the vicinity of the existing one on Sound Lane, and connecting a power supply to the new cabinet. Finally a fibre-optic cable will need to be installed from the Aston telephone exchange to the new cabinet. A permit for traffic management has been submitted for roadworks in January to facilitate this. BT's current expectation for the work to be completed is by the end of March next year."

I had a meeting on 2 December at the Aston cabinet 4 at the top of Sound Lane near the Whitchurch Road with Mr Arditti and Mr Garry Mooney, Senior Project Manager with BT Open Reach. My first question was why the programmed dates on the availability maps issued by Cheshire East had been pushed back so often since 2013. The answer was that priority across Cheshire was given to the areas with most people and businesses and where the engineering issues were less challenging. Aston cabinet 4 is the last waiting to be connected by fibre-optic cable to its Exchange. This currently serves 185 subscribers, the fewest I think on the exchange.

Other questions were about the engineering work needed. The basic conduit carrying the existing copper wires for telephony and current broadband from the exchange at Aston runs along the verge on the south side of the main road. Through this conduit the fibre-optic cable, which is quite thin section, will be literally air-blown to the new cabinet. This item may be sited on the verge to the north of the Sound Lane/Whitchurch Road junction for ease of access to electric power. It may be brought across the main road to Sound Lane, hence the need for CEC to agree to road works in January next. The road works should involve one lane at a time and take only a day or two. The new cabinet will house the junction for the fibre-optic cable and the electronics to serve it. The connection from the new to the existing cabinet will be

by copper wire. That link should be as short as possible to avoid significant loss of speed in the light signal. When subscribers order superfast broadband from BT or another supplier, the link from cabinet 4 to their premises will continue on the existing copper wire.

The eventual super fast speed from Cabinet 4 will depend on the length of that copper wire. It seems that the speed will fall off at distances over

500 metres. Once the work is underway, it is not impossible that underground defect may cause problems to push back completion. If all goes very well, completion could even be in late January.

d. Other

1. Clerks & Councils Direct – November

2. Burland Parish Council – letter from Carol Jones – Clerk to Burland Parish Council:-
Burland Parish Council is minded to adopt the telephone kiosk at the top of Swanley Lane, but I think that this falls within your parish.

Members would like to use it to house a defibrillator. Could you let me know if your Council would have any objections to this. It is on the border of both parishes and will, undoubtedly, be of benefit to residents in your own parish. On the prop., M. Wright, sec., R. Blackburn it was agreed that there would be no objection to this.

6. Accounts

I. Income since last meeting:- none

II. Accounts paid since last meeting – none

III. Accounts to pay at this meeting

1.	Chq No 500139 Broomhall Chapel – Room Hire – 7 th December	£15.00
2.	Chq No 500140 Scottish Power – 30/6/14 – 30/9/14	£90.22 (VAT 4.30)
3.	Chq No 500141 A.G. Lawrence – Clerk Salary – Oct - Dec 2015	£371.87
4.	Chq No 500142 HMRC – Oct - Dec 2015	£93.00
5.	Chq No 500143 A.G. Lawrence – Clerk Expenses – Oct - Dec 2015	£118.60

The above accounts were unanimously approved for payment on the prop., of Mrs E. Hollinshead, sec., F. Wright

IV. Dispensation: Further to the Minutes of the Precept Meeting 2012:- the following was re-minuted for reference:-

The Clerk reported that the Localism Act 2011 means that the Parish Council must grant a dispensation to members to allow them to discuss and vote on the setting of the Annual Precept. It can grant this dispensation if

a. Without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business – YES

it was unanimously agreed to grant the full Council and co-opted members a general dispensation to undertake the setting of the Precept for Sound & District Parish Council under the Local Government Finance Act, also for an allowance, payment or indemnity given to members, and any ceremonial honour given to members for a period of 4 years – December 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Members must complete the Dispensation form to be given this power. The forms were returned to the Clerk for filing

V. **Precept 2016/17**

An estimated budget for the Financial Year 2015/16 was presented to the Meeting by the Clerk/RFO as follows:-

Room Hire	150.00	
Insurance	350.00	
Annual Audit	00.00	
Scottish Power & Repairs	450.00	
Clerk Salary: National Assoc of Local Councils LC1/SPC23	1487.60	(based on 2015/16 + any increase agreed)
HMRC	371.90	
Clerk Expenses	<u>590.00</u>	
Total	£3399.50	

= same as 2015/16

These budgeted expenses were approved on the prop., P. Griffiths, sec., Mrs E. Hollinshead

Further - on the prop., P. Hichen, sec., R. Blackburn
it was agreed to make the following donations, this was a unanimous decision.

1. Baddiley Church for Churchyard Maintenance
it was agreed to donate £100
 2. Sound Residents Assoc
it was agreed to donate £150
 3. Audlem First Responders
it was agreed to donate £100
- = £350 no change to 2015/16

= **£3749.50**

Further, it was reported

1st December 2015 – Bank Balances = £2944.93

- u/c cheques
- 15.00 (Broomhall Chapel)
- 90.22 (Scottish Power)
- 371.87 (Clerk Salary)
- 93.00 (HMRC)
- 118.60 (Expenses)

= cleared Bank Balance of **£2256.24**

Still to pay in this financial year (estimated):-

Broomhall Chapel	15.00
Clerks Salary	371.86
HMRC	93.00
Clerks Expenses	67.90
Scottish Power	180.44
	= £1528.04

Therefore = c/f on 31st March 2016 approx. of £1528.04

This figure is approx. the same c/f to the previous year due to the Parish Council Precepting for the approx., estimated budget given for 2015/16

Precept for the last year financial year had been £3000.

To summarise:- estimated in Bank (31/3/16) £1528.04, costs estimated @ £3749.50
= shortfall of **£2221.46**

Therefore on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., P. Hitchen it was unanimously agreed that Sound & District Parish Council should Precept for £3000 for the Financial Year 2016/17.

VI. Internal Audit: the Meeting on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec. Mrs E. Hollinshead, unanimously agreed to ask D. Lowe to continue with this service, and the meeting recorded their thanks to him for this work in undertaking this task.

VII. Pensions Scheme update: the Clerk/RFP reported that he has set arrangements up with The People's Pension, which for Sound Parish Council has a staging date of 1st May 2017.

VIII. Council Tax Support Grant: from Cheshire East Council:-
As you know from previous correspondence, Cheshire East Council issued its [Pre-Budget Report](#) on 28th October 2015 with draft budget proposals for the next financial year.

This addressed the financial challenges facing the Council and included the proposal to remove payment of the Council Tax Support Grant to Town and Parish Councils from 1st April 2016.

The recommendation will now be to phase the reduction in Council Tax Support Grant over two years; this would mean a 50% reduction for 2016/17 and no payment in 2017/18.

The final amount of grant payable to Sound & District Parish Council is therefore expected to be **£65.00**

You should expect to receive payment in April 2016.

7. Planning Applications:

I. Applications received since last meeting :-

a.

Application No: **15/4610N**
Proposal: **Lawful Development Certificate**
Location: **LAND ADJOINING OAK TREE COTTAGE, COOLE LANE, BADDINGTON, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AT**
National Grid Ref: **365317 348054**

No representation

b.

Application No: **15/5111N**
Proposal: **Erection of agricultural buildings for free range egg production**
Location: **Daisy Bank Farm, Mickley Hall Lane, Broomhall, Cheshire East, CW5 8AJ**
National Grid Ref: **363076 348092**

No representation

c.

Application No: **15/5081N**
Proposal: **Re-submission of application 15/1164N for a slurry lagoon**
Location: **Brinepits Farm, BRINE PITS LANE, COOLE PILATE, CW5 8AX**
National Grid Ref: **366245 346769**

No representation

d

Application No: **15/5120M**
Proposal: **Shooting booths for down the line shooting practice and providing easy access fo**
Location: **MICKLEY HALL, MICKLEY HALL LANE, BROOMHALL, NANTWICH, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AJ**
National Grid Ref: **364187 347109**

No representation

e.
Application No: **15/5228N**
Proposal: **Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) on Approval 14/2236N**
Location: **Old Hall Farm, COOLE LANE, COOLE PILATE, NANTWICH, CW5 8AU**
National Grid Ref: **365158 346943**

No representation

f
Application No: **15/5273N**
Proposal: **Single storey rear extension and formation of new window opening**
Location: **1, SHREWBRIDGE WALK, BADDINGTON LANE, BADDINGTON, CW5 8AF**
National Grid Ref: **364613 350544**

No representation

II. Results of previous applications

- a.**
- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------|---------------|
| 15/2682N | approved with conditions | 24-Sep-2015 | Audlem (2011) |
| Applicant | Capt. Andrew Hackshall 3 WEAVER HOUSE, SHREWBRIDGE WALK, BADDINGTON LANE, BADDINGTON, CW5 8AF | | |
| Agent | Mr Christopher Hawthorn 111, NANTWICH ROAD, MIDDLEWICH, MIDDLEWICH, CHESHIRE, CW10 9HD | | |
| Location | 3 SHREWBRIDGE WALK, BADDINGTON LANE, BADDINGTON, CW5 8AF | | |
| Proposal | Lean-to Utility Room Extension | | |
- b.**
- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-------------|---------------|
| 15/2673N | Withdrawn | 08-Oct-2015 | Audlem (2011) |
| Applicant | Steve Wilkinson, Suddenstrike Suddenstrike, Henhull, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 6AD | | |
| Agent | OLIVIA STARKEY, WRIGHT MARSHALL WRIGHT MARSHALL, 63 HIGH STREET, TARPORLEY, Cheshire West and Chester, CW6 0DR | | |
| Location | Red Lion Farm, Sound Heath, Sound, Nantwich Cheshire CW5 8BU | | |
| Proposal | PROPOSED ERECTION OF PALISADE FENCING AT RED LION FARM, SOUND HEATH FOR KEY SECURITY AND SAFETY PURPOSES: TO PROTECT AGAINST INTRUSION AND DETERRING ALL TYPES OF GENERAL ATTACK AT THE PERIMETER BOUNDARY OF THE SITE | | |
- c.**
- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------|---------------|
| 15/3887N | approved with conditions | 12-Oct-2015 | Audlem (2011) |
| Applicant | Mr & Mrs C Ratcliffe SOUND MANOR, WRENBURY HEATH ROAD, SOUND, CHESHIRE, CW5 8BT | | |
| Agent | Sandra Murray & Associates Cross Cottage, Castle Street, Holt, Wrexham, Wales, LL13 9YL | | |
| Location | SOUND MANOR, WRENBURY HEATH ROAD, SOUND, CHESHIRE, CW5 8BT | | |
| Proposal | Proposed 2 Storey rear extension, enlargement of exiting paved terrace and construction of low retaining wall to gardens. Single storey lean-to extension on rear elevation and to side of new 2 Storey extension | | |

d.
15/3953N approved with conditions 15-Oct-2015 Audlem (2011)

Applicant Mr M Cliffe SOUTH VIEW FARM, BRINE PITS LANE, COOLE PILATE, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AX

Agent Mr Basil Young, SJB Steel Ltd S J B STEEL, TRICKETTS LANE, WILLASTON, NANTWICH, CHESHIRE, CW5 6PY

Location Lower Farm, COOLE LANE, AUSTERSON, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AT

Proposal A steel framed general purpose building for housing cattle

e.
15/3888N approved with conditions 23-Oct-2015 Audlem (2011), Nantwich South and Stapeley

Applicant Mr Anthony Withey Betchton Farm, Betchton Lane, Church Lawton, Cheshire, ST7 3RH

Agent Mr David Bailey, David Bailey Architect Ltd GILLOW FOLD FARM, 26, MOW LANE, GILLOW HEATH, BIDDULPH, STAFFORDSHIRE, ST8 6QQ

Location The Willows Caravan Site, COOLE LANE, AUSTERSON

Proposal Four holiday lodges

III. Applications/Planning Matters before this meeting:

a.
Application No: 15/5368N
Proposal: proposed outdoor tennis court
Location: BRIDGE FARM, BADDINGTON LANE, BADDINGTON, NANTWICH, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AD
National Grid Ref: 364577 350646

On the prop., P. Griffiths, sec., R. Brassington it was unanimously agreed to offer No representation.

8. Sound Common report:- comments:
The Clerk was asked to make a request for a 'hard' copy version of the Management Plan, hydrological and Insect Surveys.

9. Police Report: reported that the next meeting is in January

10. Next Meeting: - proposed date
i. Parish Council Meeting – Monday 1st February 2016

Meeting closed.