

SOUND & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the above Council, held on Tuesday 18th December 2018

at Broomhall Chapel at 7.00 p.m.

Present: R. Blackburn (Chairman), A.G. Lawrence (Clerk), P. Griffiths, Mrs E. Hollinshead, P. Hitchin, G. Bebbington, D. Tomlinson, R. Brassington, Mrs J.R. Park, Mrs R. Ruscoe, A. Baldwin, F. Wright and two members of the public.

1. Apologies: L. Wright, Clr 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.

The latest information from Cheshire East in relation to Member Code of Conduct (as adopted by the Parish Council), and details for forthcoming implementation of new Code were presented to the Parish Council, and as available to all members.

3. Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting held on 9th October 2018 were unanimously confirmed as a true and correct record on the prop., of P. Griffiths, sec., D. Tomlinson.

4. Matters arising:

- a. Baddington Canal Bridge: reported, a potential danger due to lack of barriers from the road to the canal. Clerk has written to Highways re this matter. He has not received a reply so asked to follow up further.
- b. Road Signage: Sound Lane at its junction with A530 to crossroads on common is showing as Wrenbury Heath Road on Cheshire East Website. This is causing problems for emergency services, polling, and numerous other matters. Clerk to write to Cheshire East re this. It was reported that this matter has now been resolved.
- c. Neighbourhood Plan. Tom Evans (MRTPI) - Neighbourhood Planning Manager, reported back re contact from the clerk:- "The area that you'll plan for is determined locally so you don't have to plan for the entire district area.

One of the first formal stages of preparing a neighbourhood plan is to determine the neighbourhood area (the geography to which your final plan will apply) and this is done through an application to Cheshire East Council. If your neighbourhood area is the same as the parish area, we automatically designate the neighbourhood area. If there's a difference between the parish area and the neighbourhood area then we consult on the application before making a decision".

Further:- P. Griffiths reported that the initial meeting has taken place and the next step will be a questionnaire to residents.

- d. Planning IV Other - item c – The Minutes mentions the footpath is adjacent to Holly Cottage - this should be Hazel Cottage
- e. P. Hitchin: further to the last Minutes re this matter, the Clerk has asked for guidance from the Assoc of Parish Councils, and they advise that what was stated in the Minutes of 29th May 2018 re the reply from Antoinette Sandbach MP, in light of her asking that the email was not to be passed to any third party, was the correct decision by the Clerk, and there was nothing further to say in regard to this reply.

Further, the Chairman outlined from the Code of Conduct that – you must divulge what has been given to you in confidence, and as such proposed that a line be drawn under this matter now as he felt there was nothing more the Parish Council could do to help and this was sec., by D. Tomlinson and agreed.

5. Highway matters:

- a. **Report from Cheshire East** - Gully emptying operations are taking place in the Parish and will continue until approximately 10th December, weather permitting.

The initial emptying and cleansing of each gully may only be a part of the overall drainage maintenance process. If it is found that the connection is blocked, a red tag will be attached to the gully and this will be recorded by the team. Each Friday, we will return to all of those gullies which are 'red tagged' and attempt to clear them using high pressure water jetting. If this fails,

we will again record the details and make arrangements for further investigation and repair, which is likely to involve excavation onto the drain to discover the cause of the problem. The objective is to ensure as far as possible that we do not leave any blocked gullies on completion of the schedule.

Specific gully issues were raised:- junction of French Land End and Coole Lane; Wrenbury Heath Road by Summerfield House; junction of Mickley Hall Lane and Heatley Lane. None of these have red tags and Clerk asked to report.

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

a. Cheshire East: -

1. Connected Communities Newsletter September / October 2018
2. Cheshire East Council Pre-Budget Consultation Report for 2019 to 2022
3. Member Code of Conduct and Standards Complaints Process
4. SPATIAL PLANNING UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2018
5. Cheshire East Council Waste collection service reorganisation consultation
6. New Homes bonus

b. Councillors:-

c. Parishioners :-

d. Other

1. Cheshire Fire Authority Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2019/2020
2. Audlem Parish Council - New Homes Bonus Community Fund grant bid for Turnpike Field green car park.

Audlem is a local service centre which provides facilities not only used by our residents but is also accessed by a wider area, including your parish. Car parking is a particularly important issue in the village at present and therefore a bid submission is being made to the New Homes Bonus Community Fund by the Parish Council to provide a new 40 space green car park at the recently acquired Turnpike Field, located in the heart of the village.

This facility will help to alleviate parking issues in the village, particularly for those visiting the Audlem Medical Practice and local businesses in the village centre.

Our Councillors would appreciate if your Parish Council could provide a letter or email to us in support of our grant application as it clearly would benefit us all. If you require further information please contact myself and Steve Boyes copied into this email.

The deadline for applications is 31st December 2018. We would be grateful if you could respond to us by 20th December. I apologise in advance for the short time scale.

On the prop., D. Tomlinson, sec., Mrs J.R. Park, it was agreed to write and support this application for funding.

3. ADAPT (Audlem and District Acting Positively for Transition) - New Homes Bonus Community Fund grant bid.

The Canal and River Trust and ADAPT are putting in a bid for some money from Cheshire East's New Homes Bonus Scheme fund and letters of support are needed to help the application succeed.

The project will seek to extend towpath improvements from the busy Canal Wharf located in Audlem towards Coole Pilate and Nantwich, a distance of 2.8km. At present sections of the towpath are almost impassable in wetter weather as the surface becomes rutted and slippery underfoot so that its use is limited outside of the drier months. Despite this constraint the towpath is still popular but has the potential for greater use for all.

It is proposed to include, a number of different towpath surface improvements along different sections of pathway from the Audlem Wharf to Bridge 82. Not all sections will have a hardcore surface, some will retain the grass pathway but with improved drainage, recognising the sensitivity of our rural environment. If funds permit, there is an intention to build a ramp at Bridge 82 from Coole Lane to the towpath, replacing the precarious steps. There will also be orientation signage discretely positioned on this route.

I would be most grateful if you could send a letter of support to Sarah Lalieu Enterprise Manager NW at the Canal and River Trust as she is co-ordinating the application. Her email is Sarah.Lalieu@canalrivertrust.org.uk

On the prop., D. Tomlinson, sec., Mrs J.R. Park, it was agreed to write and support this application for funding.

7. Accounts

I. Income since last meeting:- none

II. Accounts paid since last meeting – none

III. Accounts to pay at this meeting

1.	Chq No 500227 Broomhall Chapel – Room Hire	£15.00
2.	Chq No 500228 A.G. Lawrence – Clerk Salary – Oct - Dec 2018	£371.88
4.	Chq No 500229 HMRC – Oct - Dec 2018	£93.00
5.	Chq No 500230 A.G. Lawrence – Clerk Expenses – Oct - Dec 2018	£57.16

The above accounts were unanimously approved for payment on the prop., D. Tomlinson, sec., P. Griffiths.

V. Precept 2019/20

An estimated budget for the Financial Year 2019/20 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	00.00
Clerk Salary: National Assoc of Local Councils LC1/SPC15	1857.96
Clerk Expenses	590.00
Internal Audit	175.00
Website	<u>350.00</u>

Total £3472.96

These budgeted expenses were approved on the prop., P. Griffiths, sec., D. Tomlinson.

Further - on the prop., R. Blackburn, sec., D. Tomlinson 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. Broomhall & Sound Methodist Church
it was agreed to donate £100

= £200

Therefore total estimated expenditure = £3672.96

Further, it was reported

1st December 2018 – Bank Balances = Current A/C £1913.33, Bus Reserve A/C £181.48 = total £2094.81

- u/c cheques

None

= cleared Bank Balance of **£2094.81**

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

Broomhall Chapel	60.00
Clerks Salary	743.72
HMRC	186.00
Clerks Expenses	140.00
=	£1129.72

Therefore = c/f on 31st March 2019 approx. of £965.09

This figure is approx. the same to the previous year due to the Parish Council Precepting for the approx., estimated budget given for 2018/19.

(Also for information the Precept for the last year financial year had been £3700)

The Clerk declared an interest with respect to the Clerks Salary & Expenses and this was duly recorded. Clerks Salary @ LC1/SPC15 is equivalent grade within new grading structure and this will rise to SPC16 and SPC17 in subsequent years. Figures as National Joint Council for Local Govt Services new pay scales – was agreed on the prop., G. Bebbington, sec, D. Tomlinson.

To summarise:- estimated in Bank (31/3/19) £965.09, costs (2019/20) estimated @ £3672.96 = shortfall of **£2707.87**

Therefore on the prop., of G. Bebbington, sec., F. Wright to keep the balance approx. as of this year it was unanimously agreed that Sound & District Parish Council should Precept for £3,700 for the Financial Year 20019/20.

VI. Internal Audit: the Meeting on the prop., of Mrs E. Hollinshead, sec., G. Bebbington, it was unanimously agreed to ask JDH Business Services to continue with this.

8. Planning Applications:

I. Applications received since last meeting :-

a. 18/5095N

Application No:

Proposal: **Change of use to B2 - General industrial**

Location: **Hill Farm, WHITCHURCH ROAD, BROOMHALL, CW5 8BZ**

National Grid Ref: **362227 347654**

No representation

b.

Application No: **18/5310N**

Proposal: **Erect a wooden shed in our field, which is classified as agricultural land. The shed will be used to house hens and equipment for the welfare of the hens such as transport crates, bio-security equipment and bedding.**

Location: **Rosemount Farm, SLAUGHTER HOUSE LANE, BROOMHALL, CW5 8DA**

National Grid Ref: **362430 347200**

No representation

c.

Application No: **18/5579N**

Proposal: **Change of use of agricultural buildings to storage (Use class B8)**

Location: **Seven Oaks Farm, FRENCH LANE, BADDINGTON, NANTWICH, CHESHIRE, CW5 8QN**

National Grid Ref: **363731 347838**

No representation

d.

APPEAL TO REFUSAL

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 Green Farm, Spring Lane, Baddiley, CW5 8JN**

II. Results of previous applications

a.

18/3815N
TOP HOUSE FARM, COOLE LANE, COOLE PILATE, CW5 8AU
Proposed conversion of 3 barns to 5 residential units
approved with conditions

b.

18/1707N
Sunnyside Touring Park, COOLE LANE, NEWHALL, CW5 8AY
Change of use of land to provide permanent touring caravan
and camping facilities and associated works
approved with conditions

c.

18/3610N
OAK TREE COTTAGE, COOLE LANE, BADDINGTON, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AR
Horse riding arena - 25m x 50m with post & rail fence
approved with conditions

d.

18/3822N
The Cottage, COOLE LANE, COOLE PILATE, CHESHIRE, CW5 8AU
Demolition of existing cottage. Erection of replacement dwelling.
approved with conditions

e.

18/5417N
Holly Bank, HEATLEY LANE, BROOMHALL, CW5 8BA
Lawful development certificate for a proposed use/development
- Construction of outbuilding
positive certificate

III. Applications/Planning Matters before this meeting:

- a.** Further to last meeting the Clerk has contacted Cheshire East re alleged Caravan parking at Craig Wilshaw Enforcement officer reports as follows;-

I have been a number of times recently and there is only one minor breach of planning control because one of the pigeon lofts is slightly over 2.5m in height and within 2m of the boundary but it would not be expedient to enforce as the distance to the nearest habitable room window is such that it does not cause an impact to the amenity of that room. The neighbour concerned has been informed of the outcome.

The caravan, I could only find one, is occupied by a member of the family. If more have arrived can you confirm the number and I will look into it?

Further:-

I can confirm that I have visited once again and there is only one static caravan occupied by a member of the family – planning permission is not required for the use.

I did receive a complaint about the same issue on Monday but the complainant provided false contact details so it is deemed to be malicious.

To be honest, I have been to this address on numerous occasions following allegations of a breaches of planning control which have turned out to be unfounded, and it is bordering on harassment therefore if you receive further complaints can you ask the person to contact me directly so that I can be sure that there are tangible grounds for their complaint. I do not want to go on another fishing exercise if you know what I mean, because it is not fair on the occupiers.

- 9. Sound Common report:-** clerk reported from Mark Arnold as follows;- "Many thanks for raising this with the parish councillors. All views are important to us. The responses from others within the parish have been mixed, but I will of course pass yours views on to our management team. It is unlikely that we would decide to carry out any works in the short term without agreement.

The main concerns regarding fish in the pond are as follows:-

Fish in general will act to predate invertebrates and eggs within the waterbody. This can have an adverse effect on populations, including dragonflies and newts, both of which are present at Sound Common. Regarding the carp; mirror carp and common carp are the most damaging to small ponds, although crucian carp are not. We do not know what particular species are in the pond at Sound Common.

The invasive weed crassula helmsii (New Zealand Pigmy Weed) is present in the pond. It can have a detrimental impact by smothering waterbodies and depriving them of light. Only three millimetres is enough to spread the weed to other waterbodies. This potentially has an adverse impact on other waterbodies on the common and further afield if carried on clothing, equipment, etc. It is impossible to eradicate once introduced. By removing angling as an attraction it is hoped that risk of transference of the weed would be reduced.

I have passed on the parish councils comments”.

10. Police Report: no report

11. Next Meeting: - proposed date

i. Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 29th January 2019

Meeting closed.