

# High Legh Parish Council

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 3 APRIL 2017 AT HIGH LEGH VILLAGE HALL

Present: G Coenen (Chairman)  
B Adams  
M Cooper  
T Harrison  
Jenny Morton  
Julie Morton  
J Sykes  
J Tuck  
R Wright  
Borough Cllr Hunter

In attendance: Lord Grey, Mrs D Walker (Clerk), Mr Burrows, and 3 parishioners

Apologies: Cllr Hind

The Chairman welcomed the visitors.

### 1. **Minutes**

RESOLVED – that the Chairman sign the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March as a true record.

### 2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Coenen for HLCA and Cllr Wright for the Village Hall Management.

### 3. **A556** Mr Burrows reported that the day the new road had opened there had been problems at J19 which caused standing traffic on the new road. An engineer was put at the junction every morning and night to make sure there were no issues. Mr Burrows asked the PC to let him have the wording for the “local traffic only” signs for West Lane. Mere crossroads were causing delays. Mr Burrows said that Costains were working on both Mere and Bucklow junctions and finding the usual uncharted services. The junctions will only be finished late summer as they can’t just close them and get on with the work as quickly as they would like. Chapel Lane bridge white lines down the centre – Mr Burrows said it was up to Highways England. Cllr Harrison asked for the sign at the Peacock Lane/West Lane junction to be removed.

Following questions sent by email from a resident of West Lane, Mr Burrows said that the only vehicles using West Coast are 4 with 2 male and 2 female drivers. They have GPS and cameras therefore if they are using the wrong route it can be identified. They should be unladen going from Broomedge to the A50 site and are supposed to use the new road to get back to the Bowdon roundabout so shouldn't be coming back down West Lane. Please report any incidences where this is not happening to Chris Burrows. Mr Burrows said If they went via any other route it would cause similar complaints and any other longer route would mean less productivity. The use of West Lane is legal. The work will continue until the A50 compound is empty. Costains will organise a meeting with parish councils in May. The Chairman had attended the Opening Ceremony on 24 March.

### 4. **Business from parishioners**

Mr Atherton of Brook Farm said that he had started rebuilding and asked if there were any questions. Councillors were comfortable with the work being undertaken.

Rev Robinson reported on the Church's comments about access from Robert Moffat to the Church.

Mr Hennerley said he was in the process of setting up a presentation delivered by an engineer on Fracking which will be evidence based from an alternative view. He will inform the PC of the date. Cllr Sykes said that Stobart's at Stretton were in lockdown that day because of anti-fracking demonstrators.

## 5. Planning Committee

The Chairman thanked Cllr Wright for his many years as Chairman of the Planning Committee. Cllr Cooper was appointed as Chairman.

The Report had been circulated and was discussed.

|          |                              |   |
|----------|------------------------------|---|
| 17/1214M | Vinesgrove, Fanners Lane     | Certificate of proposed lawful use for construction of single storey side & rear exts, detached out-buildings, associated hardstanding and drive. |
| 17/1422M | The Annex, Oakmere, Kay Lane | Lawful development certificate for existing use of 1&2 The Annex as Class C3 dwelling houses.   |
| 17/1416M | Building at Kay Lane Farm    | Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to provide 2no. residential units.  |

Clerk to send enforcements to Cllr Cooper.

## 6. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Adams reported that the first meeting with the master planners and the Steering Committee had taken place on 20 March and a further meeting was planned for 18 April with a wider cross section of the community. The public meeting will be held in the Summer.

## 7. Traffic Sub-Committee

Cllr Sykes reported that the first meeting had been held on 27 March. The objectives were road safety and better highways conditions for the whole of the parish for all users. Specific concerns were West Lane, Swineyard Lane – HGVs and the practical usage of the stretch of the A50 near the Village Hall. Actions: Look at what sort of improvements could be recommended and changing speed limits and how they can be enforced. The Sub-Committee were meeting Simon Skates on 12 April.

CE Highways will be monitoring the traffic on West Lane shortly. Cllr Hunter will follow up.

Cllr Sykes reported that a resident of Swineyard Lane had set up a meeting which he will be attending. Another resident had reported rubbish bags on Swineyard Lane and had borrowed a litter picker from the PC.

Cllr Sykes will clean the sign at Mag Lane.

Cllr Sykes proposed that the Traffic and Gateway sub-committees be amalgamated.

Cllr Coenen said she had lobbied Highways people at the A556 Opening saying that the new road is completed but they need to recognise the impact on local traffic. Cllr Brown said he would have a meeting with local parishes (2 councillors from each of the parishes).

Cllr Wright asked for a road surface survey of the A50.

Any issues/problems should be reported to Cllr Sykes with a copy to the Clerk.

Cllr Cooper asked if a letter could be sent to Warrington BC and Lymm PC to complain about the state of Crouchley Lane.

Cllr Jenny Morton said that she had been trying to find evidence of a footpath on Halliwells Brow from Dairy Farm to Golborne Lane. Clerk to write to Highways to ask what the process is for getting a footpath.

Cllr Jenny Morton reported that the bridge on Halliwells Brow is damaged.

Cllr Harrison had received a request from a resident that the pavements on the Pheasant Walk estate be resurfaced.

It was agreed that a Stop sign at Peacock Lane/West Lane junction would be better than the Give Way. Clerk to contact Highways.

## 8. Finance

Cllr Coenen reported that the year-end accounts will be drawn up by the Internal Auditor and presented to the AGM. A donation had been made to High Legh School towards the cost of taking down some trees that were potentially dangerous.

## Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED that the following be authorised for payment retrospectively:

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| HLCA                     | £250.00  |
| Belvoir for Driwall      | £460.00  |
| HLVH rent                | £32.50   |
| HLVH (electrical survey) | £150.00  |
| Campbells Landscapes     | £160.00  |
| Land Studio (NP)         | £2280.00 |
| Belvoir                  | £1485.00 |
| High Legh School         | £1900.00 |

RESOLVED that the following be authorised for payment:

|                    |         |            |
|--------------------|---------|------------|
| ChALC subscription | £481.25 |            |
| ScottishPower      | £58.76  |            |
| ScottishPower      | £21.72  | All agreed |

## 9. Matters arising from the minutes and reports from councillors

- i) United Utilities – Cllr Adams and the Clerk met with Balfour Beatty at the North Drive/Pheasant Walk junction. BB have agreed to turf the area, get a new sign, fix the grit box and provide a birdbox.  
ScottishPower have asked if they can cut back the branches on the tree in the Village Hall car park.
- ii) Village Maintenance – ANSA cleaned the play area equipment with a hosepipe as the power washer is broken but it isn't a very good job. Cllr Hunter will contact Mr Christie. Clerk asked the Amenities Sub-Committee to inspect the Play Area and the path from Somerville Close to the Play Area.  
A new light is required between Somerville Close and the Play Area following the installation of the LED lights which makes the footpath darker but CE have been instructed not to provide extra columns. Clerk suggested a battery light. Cllrs Coenen and Julie Morton will visit the site.  
Potholes have been reported on Broadoak Lane, The Avenue, by postbox near OSH, West Lane/Pheasant Walk junction.  
CE Highways will look into carrying out repairs in the summer on Ditchfield Lane, Rowley Lane and Wrenshot Lane following Storm Doris.  
Cllr Julie Morton reported some black bags of rubbish in the woods on Wrenshot Lane. Lord Grey will action.  
Cllr Julie Morton had seen some dark green planters in Stretton and suggested them for near the gateway features.  
Cllr Julie Morton asked if CE were going to fill the gap on the A50 field where the tree had come down in Storm Doris. Clerk to ask CE.  
Cllr Cooper asked if it would be possible to contact a village handyman to clean signs and make the village look better. Cllr Coenen said that the jobs need identifying.  
Cllr Hunter said that there is a programme for cleaning signs.
- iii) School Governor's Report – Mrs Tottle, Headteacher, was thrilled to receive the cheque from the PC and thanked them very much. Costains might be able to help with draining the field. The School had a visit from Ofsted in mid-March. Mrs Tottle had asked if the PC had any objection to the school putting up a flag pole. Subject to any planning permission the PC were happy.
- iv) VHMC – The fixed wiring testing produced a clean bill of health for the Village Hall. Currently trialing folding chairs and tables. The long-term intention is to replace the existing chairs and tables to make it easy for people to handle them and to minimise storage space. If successful we can free up the Side Hall completely and start to think about developing this space as a separate and distinct meeting room.  
We will also be looking at conference tables for the upstairs room as part of the redevelopment of that area.

The Village Hall had hosted two weddings in the last month with a third planned for October. We will then assess whether this is something that is worthy of promotion or not.

- v) Old School House – new tenant arriving on 21 April. Some improvements have been carried out and the house cleared and cleaned. Lord Grey thought the cedar tree was dead. Clerk to contact tree surgeon.

#### **10. New Business**

- i) Flag pole – Costains have two flag poles, one of which might go to the School. The PC were asked if they wanted one. Vote was 5 for and 3 against, one abstention. Cllr Julie Morton to investigate Planning permission, site, insurance to see if it is feasible.
- ii) Cllr Hunter had received notification of an assignment of Lease to National Grid Gas Distribution for Candelan Way site.
- iii) Cllr Coenen said that there will be a Big Weekend in High Legh on 13/14 May. A request was made for councillors to make a scarecrow. Cllr Coenen will make a PC one.

#### **11. Date of next meeting: Annual General Meeting on Monday, 22 May at 7.30 p.m.**

Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.