

High Legh Parish Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 22 MAY 2017 AT HIGH LEGH VILLAGE HALL

Present: G Coenen
W Hind
B Adams
M Cooper
T Harrison
Julie Morton
J Sykes
J Tuck
R Wright

In attendance: Mrs D Walker (Clerk) and 2 parishioners

Apologies: Cllr Jenny Morton, Lord Grey, Borough Cllr Hunter and Mr Burrows

1. Minutes

RESOLVED – that the Chairman sign the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April as a true record.

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

3. A556 Mr Burrows had sent in a written report as he couldn't attend. Final signage is being installed and the road will be open for the Cheshire Show. Chester Road will be open in time for the RHS Show in July. Detrunking works are progressing at both Mere junction and Bucklow junction. The areas both contain a high amount of existing services to work around, including a number of uncharted ones. Chapel Lane will be closed at its junction with Chester Road from 30 May for about 3 weeks. Costain are aware of the impact that the temporary traffic signals at Mere and Bucklow are having on local traffic and are monitoring these manually where possible. The lights are vehicle actuated so will not change to green for a road with no traffic on. The traffic signals at M6 J19 still cause many complaints. Clerk to ask for an update on white lining at Chapel Lane bridge.

4. Business from parishioners (dealt with at AGM)

5. Planning Committee

The Report had been circulated and was discussed.

17/1878M 6B Woodlands Crescent
17/2253M 14 Robert Moffat

House extension and remodelling
Demolition of existing side lean-to ext, side flat roof. Dormer and front & rear pitched roof dormers and construction of a two-storey side ext, roof ext over garage and front & rear pitched roof dormers.

Cllr Tuck asked for a link to the Planning Application to be included on the Planning Report.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Adams reported that the master planner and the Steering Committee had discussed various scenarios. The majority want the character of High Legh to be maintained. Scenarios are: The joining the dots/do nothing option – with footpath/open space improvements, the completing the square option – with some housing and some new facilities and a Village Green

and the creating a new half option - with some housing and more new facilities around and a Village Green.

The Steering Group has been enlarged by adding people from business, village organisations and areas of the village not covered before. Two public drop-in events will be held at the end of June at which the key objective is to gather responses from villagers. It is important that all parishioners receive information about the events and that opinion is captured properly. We will use a leaflet drop one week before, emails, notice boards, website and Facebook. The PC are determined to have full clarity on any interests and make sure all are fully disclosed and the process for the NP is fully clear.

7. **Traffic Sub-Committee**

Cllr Sykes reported that the sub-committee had met with Simon Skates on 12 April. Mr Skates would like to hold a public exhibition of the one-way system around the Village Hall and we are awaiting a date from him.

CE Highways contractor put some monitoring equipment on West Lane but it was in the wrong place. The Clerk was told that it would be taken away and put back about two weeks later but nothing had been seen. It was agreed to send a strong letter to CE Highways with a copy to David Brown and Head of Highways.

Cllr Sykes had cleaned the sign at Mag Lane.

Cllr Hind reported an overhanging hedge on West Lane. Clerk to write to residents.

Cllr Wright asked the Clerk to remind Costain about adding Altrincham straight on to the sign on the A50.

Cllr Wright suggested asking the police to park the mobile speed camera van near Mag Lane. CE Highways are holding Highways Hour events with parish councils. Clerk to ask for one on road conditions affecting road safety.

8. **Finance**

As the three-year agreement was coming to an end with our Insurance company, Cllr Tuck offered to compare quotes. Clerk to send to Cllr Tuck.

Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED that the following be authorised for payment retrospectively:

HLVH Rent	£15.00
HLVH (OSH water)	£63.09
Campbells Landscapes	£90.00

RESOLVED that the following be authorised for payment:

J Oliver (tree removed from OSH)	£240.00
Cheshire Community Action	£50.00
Knutsford Town Council CAB	£255.00
ChALC Training	£70.00
E.ON (OSH)	£155.76
HLVH room hire	£70.00

All agreed

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

i) United Utilities – Water was off for 3 hours on 21 May due to a technical fault.

ii) Village Maintenance – New spreadsheet had been circulated. The new IAA Committee will consider actions to be taken.

Cllrs Coenen and Julie Morton had visited the footpath between Somerville Close and the Play Area and agreed that further lighting is required. CE have informed us that if the PC want to install an extra light it will cost £1385. It was agreed that this will be put in the next Newsletter to ask for opinion.

iii) School Governor's Report – Mrs Tottle, Headteacher, had sent a report and informed the PC that the number of pupils currently is 145, September 2017 predicted 155 pupils, September 2018 predicted 160 pupils (these predictions do not take into account children arriving in the

middle of the year this is based on numbers of children starting school and those leaving - so it could be more). The PC have asked for a breakdown of where pupils come from.

In March we had our Ofsted Inspection. We have now had the report back and can say that we are officially a 'good school'. Our issue with popularity is the need for space. We are currently splitting Year 5 between 2 classes - however as of next year we will have enough children to become a one form entry school. The problem being that Pre-school is using our spare classroom. Run as a private charity, Pre-school has rented a room from us for over ten years and we have a symbiotic relationship that serves us both well. The Governing Board are passionate about supporting Pre-school to be open in High Legh and we have made a joint committee to look at how we can have another building on site that could be used.

Cllr Hind said that for the benefit and future of High Legh as a community the school should have full wrap around care for all the family. Other options were considered but felt that they were outweighed by having a permanent co-located site. The PC want to support and work with the school to find a solution. The Finance Committee will look at what funds are available. Clerk will attend the meeting.

- iv) VHMC – The planned renovation of the main hall and side hall floors will take place starting Monday 31st July. This will necessitate closing the Village Hall to all users for 5 days which will result in a dip in our income. This has already been factored into the cost of this work and will be far lower than having to replace the parquet blocks in 4 or 5 years as the flooring continues to deteriorate.

Having considered several options, the VHMC have decided to buy a second shed equal in size to the existing shed. It will help in our battle to find sufficient storage for all the furniture and equipment we feel we need to keep. As the shed will be erected on PC land we have asked for your permission. Cllrs Coenen and Wright declared interest. Remainder agreed

- v) Old School House – New tenant moved in on 21 April. The dead cedar tree has been taken down.

10. New Business

- i) Dangerous dogs – The Clerk had received information about dangerous dogs on Woodlands Crescent from a resident who had informed the police. PC Dawber has actioned.
- ii) More dog fouling signs needed.
- iii) ChALC Parish Forum on 13 June 7-9pm – noted.
- iv) Street Trading License – letter to be sent to Licensing asking them to refuse the application on the grounds of several main objections, principally road safety, environment and need.
- v) CPRE – Cllrs Julie Morton, Wright and the Clerk had attended the AGM.

11. Date of next meeting: Monday, 3 July at 7.30 p.m. Please note change of date

Meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.