

## **MERE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**

**MONDAY 21ST MARCH, 2022, at 7:45PM**

**VENUE: THE MERE GOLF RESORT AND SPA**

#### **1 PRESENT**

*Cllr R Finch, Cllr A Newnes, Cllr D Norcott, Cllr L Reynolds, Cllr P Sands and Cllr J Wright (In the Chair)*

*Cllr K Parkinson (Ward Councillor)*

*Four members of the public*

#### **2 APOLOGIES**

*Cllr J Duncalf and Cllr D Walker*

#### **3 MINUTES**

*i The minutes of the Mere Parish Council meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 were **proposed by** Cllr Norcott and **seconded by** Cllr Reynolds to be a true record. **All agreed.***

*ii. The minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March were **proposed by** Cllr Newnes and **seconded by** Cllr Wright to be a true record. **All agreed.***

#### **4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

*Cllr Wright declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** regarding **Dobb Lane**.*

*Cllr Wright declared a **Personal Interest** for **Hoo Green Lane**.*

*Cllr Wright declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary interest** regarding **HS2**.*

*Cllr D Norcott declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** regarding **HS2**.*

*Cllr D Norcott declared a **Personal Interest** regarding **Winterbottom Lane and Hoo Green Lane**.*

#### **5 MATTERS ARISING**

*It was agreed all matters arising from the previous minutes are covered under the agenda headings.*

#### **6 POLICE REPORT**

*PCSO Emma Darroch and PC Lawrence Price had again been invited to attend this evening's council meeting. However, neither has attended and no report has been submitted by them.*

*Cllr Finch **proposed** that Mere Parish Council write to their superior stating Mere Parish Council is very disappointed in the fact we have had no representative from the police attend our meeting for almost two years. **Seconded by** Cllr Newnes. **All agreed.***

***Action:** KJ Whitlow (Clerk).*

#### **7 HS2**

*The draft letter written in response to the HS2 Hybrid Bill was read to the councillors. All agreed with the contents and it was **proposed by** Cllr Newnes and **seconded by** Cllr Finch to send it to HS2 as our response. **All agreed.***

***Action:** KJ Whitlow (Clerk)*

*An e-mail received from Mr Stott was read out to the council. It highlighted many issues which will be experienced on Winterbottom Lane and Hoo Green Lane due to the proposed intrusion of HS2 and the preliminary work by the Utility Companies prior to the construction of HS2.*

*Cllr Parkinson informed the council that she has been asked to sit on the committee of HS2b Petition Reference Group.*

*It was agreed that members of Mere Parish Council will meet up with Cllr Parkinson outside Mere Heyes Farm on the 29<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30am to assess the impact of HS2.*

***The meeting was closed at 8pm to allow members of the public to speak. The Chairman re-opened the meeting at 8:20pm***

8 **B5569**

*Cllr Newnes has received a response from Esther McVey MP stating that Cheshire East Council have informed her Mere will be receiving ten grass cuts this year.*

*Cllr Newnes now has the contact details for having the road swept.*

*Esther McVey's response also states that it is still not known where the assigned "pot of money" allocated for the B5569 is.*

*The bridleway/cycleway has now been swept and is much better.*

*Cllr Wright **proposed** Mere Parish Council writes to Craig Brown (Cheshire East Council) expressing the council's frustration with the lack of attention received from Simon Skates (Cheshire East Council). In particular with reference to the "pot of money" which we had been informed by Simon Skates had been ring fenced for issues arising with the B5569. **Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed.***

**Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk)**

*The Clerk was asked to look back in the Mere Parish Council minutes to find when Simon Skates stated the kerbs around the mini round-a-bouts are not up to standard.*

**Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).**

***Parking on the bridle/cycleway*** – *Cllr Newnes raised the issue of cars/vans using the bridle/cycle way as a car park. He has spoken to PCSO Darroch and asked for her assistance in preventing this from happening but her reply was where else do you expect them to park!!*

9 **MANCHESTER AIRPORT**

*An e-mail from Helen McNabb stating that from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April Runway 2 will be re-opened. This is due to the easing of travel restrictions on the 11<sup>th</sup> February.*

*Cllr Reynolds will be attending a meeting at the airport on the 29<sup>th</sup> April after which a report will be forwarded to the Mere Parish Councillors.*

10 **WINTERBOTTOM LANE AND HOO GREEN LANE**

*As to why the road sign outside Goodiers Green Farm, stating the road was to be closed on the 14<sup>th</sup> January for five days was removed two days before the 14<sup>th</sup> January. We have been informed via Lee Glover/K Parkinson that the work must have been delayed.*

*Notification received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March states the following road will be closed for necessary repair to sink hole/collapse – Hoo Green Lane from junction with Winterbottom Lane to the junction of Little Rowley Lane. 4<sup>th</sup> April to the 8<sup>th</sup> April.*

11 **LITTER BINS**

*Cllr Parkinson has responded stating that we have been allocated two bins and that unless there are spares left over, we are not entitled to another.*

12 **SPEEDING**

*Cllr Walker was not present to give an update about the training to use a speed gun therefore this will be carried over to the next meeting.*

13 **THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACONS – 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2022**

*Cllr Reynolds and Cllr Newnes have attended two meetings with Tabley Parish Council at Mere and Tabley Community Club. It has been agreed that on the 5<sup>th</sup> June starting at 3pm there will be a Hog Roast. Entry will be £10 and children under twelve years free. It will be ticket only. A flyer is to be hand delivered to all the Mere residents. If anyone wishes to donate prizes for a raffle they will be gratefully received.*

14 **LITTLE MERE**

Cllr Sands has spoken with residents living in The Circle, Mere. They have confirmed that it states on property house deeds that The Mere Golf Resort and Spa is responsible for this waterway.

15 **BONFIRE EVENT**

The Clerk has requested quotes to provide a fireworks display on the 5<sup>th</sup> November from four companies. The details are as follows:

**Lightech Sound and Light - £2820 plus VAT.** Not available on the 5<sup>th</sup> November but can do the 6<sup>th</sup> November or Halloween weekend or the weekend of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November.

**Atom Fireworks, from Salford - £3500 plus VAT.**

**Fireworks International from Macclesfield. - £4500 plus VAT**

**Nemesis Pyrotechnics Ltd from Nantwich. £2850**

Cllr Reynolds **proposed** we ask Lightech Sound and Light if they can do the 4<sup>th</sup> November. **Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed.** If they cannot do the 4<sup>th</sup> November then the second choice would be to ask Nemesis Pyrotechnics Ltd.

**Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).**

16 **DOBB LANE** – Application for the lane to be made a restricted byway.

It was agreed for this item to be carried over to the next council meeting.

17 **PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS**

There has been only one **new planning application** and three **decision notices** received since the previous meeting. Details are recorded in the Planning Book.

18 **RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICERS REPORT**

- i. The total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is £3078.17  
of which **£170.43** belongs to the **Archive Fund** and £575.15 is the  
CIL money (has to be spent within 5 years – starting from 2021)

19 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

None to be paid

20 **BUDGET UPDATE**

- The half yearly precept will be put into the account on the 1<sup>st</sup> April (£4500) which will bring the amount in the cheque account up to £7578.17.
- Expected payments to be made at the next meeting in May are as follows:

Clerk (Jan, Feb, Mar hours)	£860.00 approx.
HMRC	£320.00 approx.
Clerk's end of year expenses	£500.00 approx.
Andy Blackburn (Tabley Church)	£116.00 approx.
Council Insurance	£330.00 approx.
ChALC affiliation fee	£192.00 approx.

**TOTAL            £2318.00**

Once the above has been taken out of the account it will leave approximately £5260.17 in the cheque account by mid May.

**21 NEW BUSINESS**

- i. **Housing Policy – Cheshire East Council – Re: Cheshire East Commuted Sums.**  
*Noted.*
- ii. **Knutsford and District War Memorial Neighbourhood Forum – E-mail from Charlotte Peters**  
*Rock of Knutsford and District War Memorial Neighbourhood Forum asking for support to stop the Trustees of the British Red Cross selling the Knutsford and District War Memorial. Cllr Wright proposed a letter of support be sent from Mere Parish Council to stop the selling of the above. Seconded by Cllr Reynolds. All agreed.*  
**Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).**
- iii. **The 2023 Boundary Review – Message from ChALC stating a review of parliamentary constituencies is taking place to ensure each one has roughly the same number of electors.**  
*From the 22<sup>nd</sup> February to the 4<sup>th</sup> April the Boundary Commission is holding a six week secondary consultation on their initial proposal. Cllr Newnes proposed Mere Parish Council reply stating we hope Mere stays within the Tatton Constituency. Seconded by Cllr Finch. All agreed. Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).*
- iv. **Ultra-Fast Fibre Broadband – E-mail from Gigaclear Ltd stating they are planning to include Mere in their upcoming network build. The Clerk was asked to invite them to one of the council's meetings to explain more. Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).**
- v. **Training Sessions For Councillors – Cllr Sands asked to be booked on three planning training sessions. Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).**
- vi. **Community Governance Review of Town and Parish Council Governance. Noted**
- vii. **Cheshire Association Of Local Councils – Annual Meeting Motions Action Plan 2022.**  
*Notification that the process for the submission of motions for consideration at the Annual Meeting have changed. Noted*
- viii. **Smaller Councils Committee Letter to Smaller Councils – An e-mail from ChALC stating that at a recent meeting, the NALC Smaller Council's Committee agreed that it's Chair, Cllr Graham Ford would write to smaller councils to ask what issues of relevance to them they would like the committee to address and the services they would like NALC to provide. Cllr Reynolds proposed that Mere Parish Council reply stating we would like a quicker response from Cheshire East Council when we try to contact them. Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed. Action: KJ Whitlow (Clerk)**

**22 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 starting at 7:45pm. Venue The Mere Golf Resort and Spa, Mere. The remaining dates for 2022 are as follows: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> October and 5<sup>th</sup> December.*

**23 ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS**

- i. *Cllr Newnes asked for issues of parking on the cycleway to be placed on the website.*
- ii. *Cllr Norcott raised the subject of the council's meeting venue*

*The meeting closed at approximately 10.00pm*

*Signed: ..... Date: .....*