

MERE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 2016
AT 7.30PM, THE MERE

PRESENT

Cllr J Duncalf
Cllr J McGuire
Cllr D Norcott
Cllr J Patterson (In The Chair)
Cllr B Reynolds
Cllr L Reynolds
Cllr D Walker
Cllr J Wright

APOLOGIES

Cllr O Hunter, Cheshire East Council

Mr Chris Burrows, Costain
Three members of the public

ACTIONS

1 MINUTES

- i The minutes of the Mere Parish Council meeting held on 24th October were proposed by Cllr Duncalf and seconded by Cllr Reynolds to be a true and correct record. All agreed.
- ii The minutes taken at the Extra Ordinary meeting held on the 14th November to discuss the Boundary Commission was proposed by Cllr Duncalf and seconded by Cllr Walker to be a true and correct record. All agreed.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Norcott and Cllr Wright declared an interest in item 16 on the agenda.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

It was agreed that all issues are listed under the agenda headings.

4 SELECT DNA KITS

PCSO Lindsey Whitehead gave a short presentation on how to use the kits. As only four out of the sixteen residents who had placed an order were present the Clerk will send a list of contact details to PCSO Whitehead for the residents who had not attended. PCSO Lindsey Whitehead will then contact people individually to arrange collection.

KJW

5 POLICE REPORT

A copy of the latest police report had been forwarded to the councillors prior to this meeting.

6 KNUTSFORD TO BOWDEN BY-PASS

Mr Burrows, Community Liaison Manager for Costains gave an update on the progression of the by-pass

- All bridges associated with the scheme have now been built. There are 7 over bridges and one underpass built to take local traffic across the new road.
- Major earthworks are now complete where possible, landscaping and planting has started.
- On the 19th December Cherry Tree Lane will be closed until the de-trunking of the A556 is complete.
- The de-trunking of the A556 will start as soon as the new by pass is open.

Mr Burrows left the meeting at approximately 8:10pm.

7 DE-TRUNKING – A556

The Clerk has e-mailed Simon Skates asking if he has anything to report to the council about parking and yellow lines. No reply received.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact Mr Skates again for the above information and also request a maintenance plan showing when and what they will be doing. For example hedges. **KJW**

8 WINTERBOTTOM LANE/HOO GREEN LANE

A letter has been sent to Cheshire East Council asking that the three passing places identified at the site visit be included in the priority of capital expenditure. The Clerk has sent a reminder to Simon Wallace dated the 20th November asking for a response however still no response. It was suggested that the Clerk ask Cllr Olivia Hunter from Cheshire East Council for help in hopefully receiving a response to the council's messages. All agreed. **KJW**

9 BONFIRE EVENT – 5th NOVEMBER 2016

A surplus of £695.90 has been made once we reclaim the VAT back (£459.53).

Attendance was up by 141 people compared to the previous year. The raffle made £282 compared to £243 last year and the wands made £267.90 compared to £160.60 last year.

A copy of the balance sheet is below:

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE BONFIRE EVENT - NOVEMBER 2016

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		VAT
Ticket money		£2,943.00	Fireworks	£2,268.00	£378.00
Raffle		£282.00	Printing tickets & posters	£126.34	£21.06
LED Toy Lights		£267.90	Raffle Prizes	£50.99	
			Sound Man*	£225.00	
			Barnett Jones insurance	£165.29	
			Mere Cricket Club	£50.00	
			LED Toys etc	£362.80	£60.47
			Raffle Tickets	£8.10	
	TOTAL	£3,492.90	TOTAL	£3,256.52	£459.53
				£3,492.90	
				<u>£3,256.52</u>	
			Surplus	£236.37	
			Plus VAT to be reclaimed	£459.53	
			Total Surplus	£695.90	

Ticket Money at Gate

2085.00

Approx. 298 tickets plus children under 5y

Ticket money collected prior to night

858.00

Approx. 143 tickets plus children under 5y

* **The Sound Man was paid in cash on the night using cash taken at the gate**

Mr Neil Stott has the following stock left over which he will keep and can be used at next years bonfire event.

47 flashing start wands

30 flashing foam wands

61 fibre optic torches

2 boxes of small sparklers

Suggestions to make it even a more successful event next year suggested by Cllr B Reynolds are

- *Charge £8 on the gate and Children under 5 year go free. Meaning no need to print tickets*
- *A bigger raffle, more prizes. Also two raffle selling stations. One at the door and the other walking round the room.*
- *Need more light at the gate to enable to see when taking money off people.*

Cllr Wright suggesting having a larger banner outside the Mere and Tabley Community Club.

The Clerk commented that the two complimentary tickets for a concert at Bridgewater Hall donated by Manchester Airport had not arrived in time for the bonfire event.

However they did arrive later once the Clerk enquired about them but too late for the bonfire event. So as not to waste the tickets they have been given John Hockenull and his wife as a thank you from the council for ensuring that the Union Jack is always flying behind the cenotaph on the required days. All agreed this has been a good idea.

A thank you letter will be sent to Mr Mark Boler for the generous raffle prizes he gave which included treatment days in the spa and a golf lessons.

KJW

A thank you letter also to be sent to Mr Neil Stott for his hard work organising the event.

KJW

The date for the Bonfire Event 2017 will be November 4th. The Clerk will book the date with The Mere and Tabley Community Club

KJW

Lightech Sound and Light also to be booked and asked for an estimate of cost at their earliest convenience.

KJW

10 TOWN RANGER SERVICE FROM KNUTSFORD

The latest response received from Knutsford Town Clerk is that the council has decided not to offer the service of their Town Ranger at the present time but will review the situation in the future.

11 MERE PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE

The company called Parish Council Website have now been instructed to create the Mere Parish Council web site. However, as there is a problem with transferring the information from our current web site to the new one it means we will have to pay for a one off set up fee of £360 and then the following:

Adding our contents to the site £120 (one off fee)

Site updates (7 per year) £210 pa

Hosting £120 pa

Therefore once the website is set up it should cost approximately £330 pa

The council were all in agreement with the above

12 TATTON PARK TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

A response to our e-mail has finally been received from Graham Jones who is the Visitor and Commercial Operations Manager. It acknowledged that on some occasions but not all when an event is being held at Tatton Park, there is a problem with traffic. He has spoken with colleagues in the Highways Department for their views and they have put the following suggestions forward:

- a) The Parish request through their Ward Member some options e.g., yellow lines, road closed except to residents etc. The official route for this is that it needs to come from residents or the parish request to their members. It can also be advised that concern has been expressed to Tatton by the Parish Council.*

- b) *On the busiest event days Road Closed signs be placed at either end of Clamhunger Lane by Tatton traffic team. However this may stop through traffic but not resolve the parking issues and some residents may not actually want this. Highways are happy for this to take place and we can arrange if required. However we would require that this is a specific request from the Parish Council in response to you consulting with the residents. If this is requested we can advise you of the days we would consider applying this an together can monitor the results.*
- c) *Some residents have already got bollards on their grass verges. Combined with yellow lines this would ease the parking.*

Cllr Walker says she has spoken with the residents in Clamhunger Lane and they are happy for Road Closed signs to be placed at the end of Clamhunger lane.

The Clerk will reply to Tatton Park stating that after having consulted with residents in Clamhunger Lane the council wish to request Road Closed signs be put up when events are being held at the park

KJW

13 MALBER

A response has been received from Sam Almozaffar in reply to the Clerks e-mail enquiring if an extension is to be built and then the house sold?

The response received is as follows: "I do not want to be evasive, but nothing has been decided."

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda in the future and to send a copy of the reply to Mr Alan Newnes.

KJW

14 CHESHIRE BLACK AND WHITE RAILINGS AT JUNCTION OF CLAMHUNGER LANE AND WARRINGTON ROAD

*At a previous meeting it was agreed that as no response has been received from Mr Harlow To the council's letters he will be approached at the Bonfire Event and asked if he will trim the vegetation back which is currently covering the railing. Unfortunately Mr Harlow was not there to ask. It was agreed to carry this item over to the **spring council meeting** in March.*

15 NEWSLETTER

The Clerk sent an e-mail to PJ (who had submitted a complaint) asking for identification but no response has been received. This item to be removed from the agenda.

16 HS2

Maps have been delivered showing the route plus other documents relating to HS2.

The council agreed that the issue did not affect Mere at the current time however we should write to HS2 requesting a meeting between them and Mere.

This was proposed by Cllr Norcott and seconded by Cllr Wright. All agreed.

KJW

17 BOUNDARY COMMISSION

As agreed at the Extra Ordinary meeting a letter has been sent to the Boundary Commission.

An acknowledgement has been received from George Osborne confirming he has received a copy of our letter.

18 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

As promised in September Wendy Sinfield has now forwarded copies of the Data Sheets. The document explains how the airport currently operates and provides information about the number of aircraft and passengers currently flying from Manchester Airport.

Cllr Patterson proposed that the council invite Wendy Sinfield to attend the January 2017 council meeting in order to give her an opportunity to explain the data.

Seconded by Cllr McGuire. All agreed.

KJW

19 PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS

There have been three new planning applications and two decision notices plus one withdrawal notice received since the last Mere PC meeting. Details are recorded in The Planning Book.

20 RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICERS REPORT

- i The sum total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is £3175.19
Of which £287.69 belongs to the Archive Fund.
Once the Bonfire money has been paid into the account it will bring the total in the account up to £5839.19
- ii Paid into the Mere PC account on the 9th November at the Hale Branch of Barclays was the sum of £50.00
It is not know where the money has come from so the Clerk will make enquiries with the bank
- iii The Precept for 2017/18 needs to be discussed and a figure agreed this evening.
The clerk has prepared a budget as follows

MERE PARISH COUNCIL - BUDGET FOR 2017/18**PRECEPT**

Precept is paid in two parts, half in April and half in September

Estimate we will have approx £1200 in bank by March 2017

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST IN PREVIOUS</u>	<u>BUDGET FOR FINANCE YEAR</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
	<u>FINANCE YEAR</u>	<u>MARCH 2017 - APRIL 2018</u>	
Clerk	£3,381.00	£3,400.00	
HMRC	£845.00	£850.00	
Clerk Expenses	£500.00	£700.00	
Newsletter	£575.00	£580.00	
Insurance cover	£540.00	£550.00	
External/Internal Audits	£310.00	£320.00	
Parish Maintenance	£1,300.00	£1,400.00	
Tabley Church	£116.00	£116.00	
Wreaths	£20.00	£20.00	
Seminars training	£70.00	£100.00	
CATPC Subs	£175.00	£180.00	
Website	£810.00	£330.00	
CVS - Pay Roll	£96.00	£100.00	
TOTAL	£8,738.00	£8,646.00	
PRECEPT	£6,900.00	6900.00	
ESTIMATED IN BANK 01/03/17			£1,200.00
VAT TO CLAIM BACK IN 2017			£823.00
PROPOSE PRECEPT		£7,000.00	7000.00
			9023.00

NOTES

Only other income besides precept is bonfire. Not included in above as the idea is it pays for itself.

Website = £810 includes set up fee. The should be approx £330 pa there after

The Clerk proposed we request a precept of £7000. This together with the estimated £1200 in the bank on 1/3/17 plus the £823 VAT to claim back will give us £9023.00 for the year

After discussion Cllr McGuire proposed that the precept be increased to £7700.

Seconded by Cllr L Reynolds. All agreed

The Clerk will request the above proposed precept.

KJW

21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- i Invoice from Lightech Sound and Light for the firework display £2268.00 **Agreed**
The previous cheque made out at the Mere PC meeting in October
(cheque No: 100697) has been destroyed
Made payable to
"Lightech Sound & Light"
Cheque No: 100702
- ii Receipt for raffle prizes bought for the bonfire raffle £0050.99 **Agreed**
Cheque to be made payable to
"Jean Duncalf"
Cheque No: 100703
- iii Receipt for raffle ticket books bought for the bonfire event £0008.10 **Agreed**
Cheque to be made payable to
"Kathryn J Whitlow"
Cheque No: 100704
- iv A cheque had been made out to Neil Stott at the last meeting for £155.29
for the bonfire extra insurance. However, this did not include £10 for
administration fees. Therefore a cheque for the value of £0010.00 **Agreed**
to be made payable to
"Neil Stott"
Cheque No: 100705
- v Invoice for framing a map of Mere to be displayed in the Archive at
Mere and Tabley Community Club. £0077.20 **Agreed**
Cheque to be made payable to
"John Patterson"
Cheque No: 100706

22 NEW BUSINESS

- i **Cheshire Fire Authority Draft Integrated Risk Management** – A copy has been
e-mailed to all Mere Parish Councillors prior to this meeting.
It was agreed not to submit any feedback.
- ii **Knutsford CAB Donation** – A letter from Knutsford Town Clerk asking if Mere
parish council will consider giving a donation towards the running of the
Knutsford Citizen Advise Bureau.
After discussion Cllr Duncalf proposed and Cllr Walker seconded that the
council donate £150. All agreed. This will be included under Accounts For Payment
at the January 2017 meeting.
- iii **Decommissioning Of Telephone Kiosks** – A letter asking if Mere PC wishes to adopt
the two public phones in Mere (located on the A50, Warrington Road, Hoogreen and
also one at PCO Chester Road, Bucklowhill. It was agreed to reply no the council
does not wish to adopt them.

- iv **Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy** – The letter updated the council on the progress of the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy.
- v **Consultation On Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision** – Cllr Wright proposed that the council reply stating that the council objects to domestic rubble having a charge as it may result in fly tipping otherwise the council supports Option 4. Seconded by Cllr L Reynolds. All agreed.
- vi **Knutsford War Memorial Hospital** – A letter about buying the Memorial Hospital. The response deadline has passed.

23 The date of the next Mere PC meeting will be the 23rd January 2017 at 7.30pm. The venue being The Mere, Chester Road, Mere. The dates for the remainder of 2017 are as follows: 20th March, 8th May, 3rd July, 4th September, 23rd October and 4th December.

24 **ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS**

None.

The Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.
The meeting closed at approximately 9.55pm

Signed:

Date: