

MERE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 21ST MARCH, 2016
AT 7.30PM, THE MERE

PRESENT

*Cllr J Duncalf
Cllr RBM Fawcett
Cllr D Norcctt
Cllr J Patterson
Cllr L Reynolds
Cllr J Wright*

APOLOGIES

*Cllr B Reynolds
Cllr O Hunter (CEC)*

*Mr Chris Burrows, Costain
PC Mike Dawber
One member of the public*

ACTION

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the Mere Parish Council meeting held on the 25th January 2016 were proposed by Cllr Fawcett and seconded by Cllr Reynolds to be a true and correct record. All agreed.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Patterson declared an interest under Planning on the agenda.

3 POLICE REPORT

PC Mike Dawber gave a report which included two incidents within Mere.

- *Mere Golf Course – Two Asian men seen going through bags.*
- *Warrington Road, Mere – van broken into and tools stolen.*

4 MATTERS ARISING

i Knutsford To Bowden By-Pass

Mr Chris Burrows from Costain gave a report including the following:

- *Three quarters of a million man hours have been worked.*
- *Work on Chapel Lane progressing well.*
- *A50 repairs have been carried out.*
- *Hulse Heath Lane now closed for two weeks.*
- *BT will be carrying out work on the A556 between J19 and MereCorner.*
- *The website and Facebook will be updated as to when the A556 will be closed.*
- *Plans to arrange a walk of the new road still going ahead but it is looking like it will be June 2016.*
- *A new set of aerial photographs will be out next month. A copy will be sent to MerePC.*

The Chairman commented about the article in the Knutsford Guardian written by Knutsford Town Clerk in which it states Knutsford Town Council will be applying to name the new A556 relief road. Mere PC is very surprised as we did not know the new road was to be named and more so that we had not been approached for name suggestions.

Mr Burrows confirmed that the road will not be named and that even if it were to be only Highways England have the authority to name it.

The council suggested a letter be sent to Knutsford Town Clerk informing him that the road is not going to be named.

KJW

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

- ii **Bonfire Event 5th November 2016**
Confirmation has now been received from Mere Parish Club stating that the Mere Parish Council bonfire event is booked for the 5th November.
- iii **Winterbottom Lane and Hoogreen Lane**
A response from Simon Skates has been received dated 11th February in which it states he has forwarded our letter to Trish Moore on the 11th February asking her to forward our enquiry to the correct officer and ask them to arrange a meeting with Mere PC to discuss the issue. **KJW**
On the 15th February an e-mail was stating our enquiry number as 2531954 and that we will receive a response within twenty days.
On the 9th March we received a message stating the weight restriction on Winterbottom Lane has been introduced in the current schemes list with a view to completion this financial year.
Cllr Wright pointed out that the restriction does not stop access! Cllr Wright proposed a meeting be arranged with Simon Skates requesting, amongst other things, passing places. Seconded by Cllr Norcott. All agreed. **KJW**
The Clerk to send an update to Mr Stott. **KJW**
- iv **HS2**
Mr Osborne has replied to Mere PC's letter. A copy has been forwarded to Mere Parish Councillors prior to this meeting. After discussion it was agreed no action be taken until the route has been confirmed.
- v **M6**
A response has been received from the M6 Junction 16-10 Smart Motorway Project Team stating as follows; ".... Please note that your enquiry has been passed onto colleagues in our Network Delivery and Development division who are managing the M6, J19-20 vehicle restraint system works and bridge strengthening Scheme. They should respond to you directly. I should also advice that the M6 Junction 16-19 Smart motorway scheme does not yet have diversions and when we do our southbound diversions from J19 will definitely not be diverted through Mere which is north of J19. However, we cannot guarantee drivers may choose a different route instead of following the official diversion which would take them south down the A556 on the west side of the motorway."
A message has also been received from John Lyssejko, Service Delivery Manager, Highways Agency which was read out.
The council agreed that we are no further forward.
- vi **Mereside Road/A50 Junction – Broken Bollard**
On the 17th March a reply has been received from Katie Henshall, Cheshire Highways, apologising for the delay in getting back to us and stating that a new bollard will be put in place the following day.
Cllr Duncaif confirmed that a new bollard is in situ.
- vii **Condition of Footpaths**
Residents have complained about the condition of the footpaths. In particular the stretch between the petrol station at Bucklowhill junction and the first service road of the A556. There is a lot of litter on the ground. Also the footpath on Mereside Road outside the property called "Little Mere".
It was agreed that the Clerk write to Cheshire East Council asking when the footpaths will be cleared and remind them that the road sweeper has not been along Mereside Road, Clamhunger Lane, Warrington Road or The Circle.
Ask how frequent the roads are supposed to be swept. **KJW**
Cllr Patterson expressed concern about the condition of the grass verge outside

Sandilands which is currently being destroyed by workmen parking on it. The council agreed to see what happens once the building work has been completed. Hopefully the resident of the property will repair the grass verge.

Cllr Norcott reported a hedge at the back of the Kilton car park which is growing over the footpath on the A50. The Clerk will write to the Kilton asking if it can be cut back.

KJW

viii **Cenotaph**

Cllr Duncalf has e-mail Jason Costello, who lives at Corner Cottage, Mere asking if he intends to plant a laurel hedge all the way round the perimeter of his garden? If he were to do this it would provide a more pleasing back ground for the cenotaph. No reply has been received. It was agreed that the Clerk will write a letter to Mr Costello.

KJW

ix **Manchester Airport**

Cllr Patterson stated that Manchester Airport are preparing to alter the flight paths meaning that the flights will be in a narrower corridor. At the present time we do not know of Mere is to be beneath such a flight path but we should be receiving an information pack from the airport at the end of June. Cllr Patterson suggested that the council wait until the packs are out and we see if Mere will be affected. The council agree.

x **Untidy Area Behind the BP Garage**

It was reported that Dominic Fenton has cut the grass and tidied the area.

5 **OPERATION SHIELD**

We now have requests from seventeen residents requesting a total of eighteen kits. The Clerk will contact the police to place a request for eighteen kits.

KJW

6 **HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II 90TH BIRTHDAY**

The Clerk will write to Tabley Parish Council asking if they are planning to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday and state that Mere PC are interested in joining in with them. Either By supporting their events or helping to arrange the event.

KJW

7 **MERE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS LETTER**

The Chairman asked for volunteers to write articles for the newsletter. Having put the newsletter together for several years Cllr Duncalf is running out of ideas to write about. Although Cllr Duncalf is quite happy to continue putting the newsletter together she would like everyone to have a think about possible ideas to write about.

8 **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL – LOCAL PLAN STRETEGY**

A letter has been received from Adrian Fisher, Head of Planning Strategy, Cheshire East Council dated the 4th March.

An e-mail dated the 9th March has been received stating that to help councillors to respond to questions by our constituents – dedicated Town and Parish Council Engagement Events will be held during the consultation period.

The next one is to be held on the 23rd March at Macclesfield Town Hall, 5:30pm to 7.30pm. Areas focused on will be Macclesfield, Poynton, Wilmslow, Handforth, Knutsford and the specific sites Alderley Park and North Cheshire Growth Village. Two councillors from Mere may attend. Contact the Clerk in order to book a place.

9 PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS

- i *There have been five new planning applications and three decision notices received from Cheshire East Planning Department since the last Mere PC meeting. Details are recorded in the Planning Book.*

10 RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

- i *The sum total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is £3409.14 Of which £530.20 belongs to the Archive Fund.*
- ii *The internal auditor JDH Business Services Ltd have informed the Clerk that the fee will be £144 plus VAT for this year's internal audit.*

11 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- i *Invoice from Dominic Fenton for grass verge cutting in 2015 and also cutting the grass round the cenotaph. £1296.00 Agreed*
Cheque made payable to "Dominic M Fenton"
Cheque No: 100676

12 NEW BUSINESS

- i *The Chairman informed the council that a pot hole has appeared on the A50 just as you have driven through MereCorner Junction lights towards Knutsford. The Clerk will report it to Cheshire East Council. KJW*
- ii *Cllr Patterson commented that Mrs Patterson asks what will happen to the beautiful daffodil bulbs at MereCorner Junction when the new road layout at is started? Cllr Norcott commented that he will be digging the bulbs up before any de-trunking work begins and then replanting them somewhere else in the parish.*

13 *The date of the next council meeting will be 9th May 2016 starting 7:30pm at The Mere, Chester Road, Mere. This will be the Annual Council Meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting at approximately 8:00pm.*

14 ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS

None.

The Chairman closed the meeting at approximately 9:10pm.

Signed: Date: