

MERE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2017
AT 7.30PM, THE MERE

PRESENT

*Cllr J Duncalf
Cllr D Norcott
Cllr J McGuire
Cllr J Patterson (In The Chair)
Cllr D Walker
Cllr J Wright*

APOLOGIES

*Cllr B Reynolds
Cllr L Reynolds
Mr C Burrows (Costain)*

*PC James Stones
Sgt Andy Baker
Mr Neil Stott
Two members of the public*

ACTIONS

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 3rd July 2017 were proposed by Cllr Norcott and seconded by Cllr Duncalf to be a true and correct record. All Agreed.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Norcott declared an interest in item 7 on the agenda.

3 MATTERS ARISING

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

4 POLICE REPORT

Cllr Walker gave a report from the meeting held on the 22nd June with the Police and Crime Commissioner. The main point being made at the meeting was budget cuts.

Sgt Andy Baker and PC James Stones gave a report covering Mere and the surrounding area. There had been a burglary on Mereside Road when antique jewellery had been taken. Sgt Baker and PC Stones answered several questions before leaving the meeting.

*Letter from David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner asking if Mere PC is interested in taking part in a survey.
The councils response was no.*

5 KNUTSFORD TO BOWDEN BY-PASS

Mere PC was not represented at the meeting held at High Legh on the 18th July with Cllr Brown.

6 DE-TRUNKING – B5569

- i E-mail from Chris Burrows stating one of the issues raised at the meeting on the 25th July was ragwort. He states that a sub-contractor has been instructed to spray the ragwort in the temporary area and where it had not been cut on the verges. The verges are also going to be cut again in the week commencing the 4th September.*

- ii **E-mail from Chris Burrows dated 24th August** in which it is stated all surface dressing work on Chester Road and non-motorised user track will be completed this afternoon. The road will be swept regularly and with that the compaction from traffic passing over it, the loose chippings will be removed. The junction surface at Bucklowhill is provisionally scheduled for week commencing 18th September with overnight closures. Mere Junction surface is expected to be mid to end of October also under overnight closures. Chester Road/Cherry Tree Lane will be opened by close of business Friday 25th as will Millington Lane at the bridge.
- iii **E-mail dated 25th August from Chris Burrows** – Millington Lane and Cherry Tree Lane are now open to traffic. However, they will be closed again for a short time period starting 4th September whilst lining work is carried out. Chester Road and Millington roundabout to Bucklowhill is now two way traffic again.
- iv **Concern raised by Tim Burgess** – An e-mail from Tim Burgess raising his concern about travellers potentially parking on land adjacent to the B5569 with Rostherne Parish Council. Also a concern that the cycle/horse/pedestrian pathway alongside the B5569 is wide enough for vehicles and caravans to park. On the 25th August he sent another e-mail illustrating the wooden posts which are to be used, whilst voicing concern that they can easily be lifted and used for firewood. Mere PC noted the above issues raised but until something actually happens there is very little which can be done. Clerk to reply to Tim Burgess. **KJW**
- v Cllr Norcott suggested that members of the council walk the route of the de-trunked Road (B5569) and make a snagging list. It was agreed that Cllr Norcott, Cllr Duncalf, Cllr Walker and Cllr McGuire will meet at Mere and Tabley Community Club on Sunday 24th September at 10am to walk the route. **DN/JD/DW/JM**
Once a snagging list is made it will be put to David Snape.

7 **HS2**

No comments made as nothing has changed which will affect Mere any more than it already does.
HS2 to be included on future agendas.

8 **MERE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

The Clerk reported that the website is progressing and will be ready to go live soon. However there are still a few items required for the website as listed below.

HOME PAGE	-	Cllr Walker agreed to put something together.
HS2 PAGE	-	Cllr Patterson to prepare a write up.
BONFIRE EVENT	-	Cllr Duncalf will prepare a write up.
A PICTURE FOR THE WEBSITE HOME PAGE	-	Cllr Patterson has provided a picture the old Oak tree.

9 **MANCHESTER AIRPORT**

There will be a meeting at Manchester Airport on the 19th September. Cllr Patterson and Cllr McGuire will represent Mere PC at the afternoon meeting. Cllr Patterson will contact the Airport to confirm attendance. **JP**

10 BONFIRE EVENT – 4TH NOVEMBER 2017

Mr Neil Stott updated the council with arrangements made so far.

- There will be better lighting provided at the entrance gate.
- Two new advertisement banners to be purchased (the old one no longer any use). The new ones will have a pocket to allow the date to be changed each year.
- Neil will check the left over stock of wands etc and order more if necessary.
- The music man has been booked.
- The hog Roast man has been booked. He will also provide hotdogs for the children.
- The extra insurance requested by Mere and Tabley Community Club will be arranged with Barnett Jones Insurance.
- A4 and A5 posters to be printed. Neil will pass onto Cllr Duncalf for her to distribute round the area once printed.

Concern was raised as to whether the Hog Roast man is insured. Mr Stott will make enquiries. Discussion about whether to have tickets printed this year. Cllr Patterson proposed no tickets be printed. Seconded by Cllr Duncalf. All agreed.

Entry fee on the gate will be £7, 5 years and under free. The fire will be lit at 6pm and fireworks Display at 7pm.

The Clerk will ask High Legh Parish Council to advertise the event on their website.

KJW

Cllr Duncalf will place an advert in the Knutsford Guardian.

JD

The toys will be sold at £1 each.

11 ARCHIVE

Cllr Duncalf stated she had received an e-mail from Neil Stott containing suggested wording For the plaque to be placed on the old map of Mere and will forward it to Cllr Patterson.

Cllr Duncalf will ask Mr Greenway (Chairman of Mere and Tabley Community Club, when will the map be displayed on the wall?

JD

12 VILLAGE GATEWAYS

Item carried over from previous two council meetings.

Cllr Wright proposed that the council does not purchase the village gateways.

Seconded by Cllr Duncalf. All agreed but with the comment that we could look into it again at a later date if wished.

13 RHS FLOWER SHOW – LOCAL TRAFFIC FLOW

As agreed at the previous meeting Cllr Patterson wrote to Alex Brunel (SEP Limited). A reply dated 6th July has been received stating as follows:

“We have worked in conjunction with Costain through the traffic planning process for this years RHS Flower Show. We are aware of the restricted flow at the A50/B5569 junction and are looking to sign alternative routes to the show avoiding this junction.”

Cllr Patterson commented that he was not aware of any grid lock in traffic flow during the time which the show was on.

14 CLAMHUNGER LANE – TATTON PARK TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

An e-mail has been received from Graham Jones dated 19th July in which he gives an update on planned activity.

The last event on the 6th August appeared to go without any parking issues.

15 WINTERBOTTOM LANE/HOOGREEN LANE

The last e-mail Mere PC received regarding the lane was dated the 20th February 2017.

It was from Simon Wallace, Senior Engineer, Cheshire Highways in which he states that as Winterbottom Lane has been added to the list for chippings it will be included in a nearby scheme within the next financial year.”

Nothing has happened therefore Cllr Wright proposed that Mere PC ask Cllr Olivia Hunter to chase the matter up. Seconded by Cllr Duncalf. All agreed.

OH

16 MERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING VENUE

After further discussion about possibly moving the council meeting venue to Mere and Tabley Community Club it was agreed to stay as we are at The Mere, Chester Road, Mere.

17 PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS

There have been three new planning applications and three decision notices received since the last meeting. The details are recorded in the Planning Book.

18 RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICERS REPORT

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|-----|--|------------|
| i | <i>The sum total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is
Of which £194.42 belongs to the Archive Fund.</i> | £4530.42 |
| ii | <i>Paid into the cheque account on the 1st September was the second
Precept payment.</i> | £3850.00 |
| iii | <i>Transparency Code Funding - An application for funding was submitted
on the 23rd July. In response a message has been received from ChALC stating
the application will be considered in August. We should hear by the end of
August if any money is awarded to Mere PC.
The Clerk will chase this up as nothing has been heard yet.</i> | KJW |
| iv | <i>The Internal Auditors recommendation to update the FR's and SO's is yet
to be completed by the Clerk.</i> | |
| v | <i>Council Insurance – A letter has been received dated 26th July from Aon (our
current insurance provider) stating that they have decided to cease its involvement
in the Local Councils market. Therefore they will not be offering renewal when it
is due next July. However, they have made arrangements for Mere PC to be provided
with a renewal invitation from BHIB Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the
Financial Conduct Authority (FCA registration No: 116675) and they will be writing
to introduce themselves in the next few weeks.</i> | |

19 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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|----|--|----------------------|
| i | <i>Invoice from Shires Pay Services Ltd for the service provided to help Mere
PC sort out the pension for the Clerk
Cheque made payable to
"Shires Pay Services Ltd"
Cheque No: 100728</i> | £40 Agreed |
| ii | <i>Invoice from Shires Pay Services Ltd for the pay roll service for the second
quarter of 2017-18.
Cheque made payable to
"Shires Pay Service Ltd"
Cheque No: 100729</i> | £25.50 Agreed |

*Cllr Wright proposed that the above invoices be paid. Seconded by Cllr Duncalf.
All agreed*

20 NEW BUSINESS

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| i | <i>Cheshire Association Of Local Councils and Cheshire West and Chester Council
are joining forces to hold an award ceremony.
Cllr Norcott suggested the Clerk be put forward.
Cllr Patterson proposed and Cllr Duncalf seconded.</i> | JP |
|---|---|-----------|

- ii *Connected To Decision Making Event – The event will aim to inform how Cheshire East Council will involve local people in decision making and how Cheshire East work together to improve and deliver services. To be held on the 31st October at Congleton Town Hall. Noted. No action required.*
- iii *Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation – No action required.*
- iv *Compact Speeding – An e-mail from Jill Taylor advertising Morelocks GR33CL Radar speed feedback signs. Suggestion made that Mere PC may look into this in the future once the road works within Mere have cleared and things settled down.*
- v *Noisy Fireworks – Cllr Duncalf has received complaints about noisy fireworks in Mere. After discussion it was concluded that the noise was in fact coming from Arley Hall as it was the weekend that the firework championship competition was held there.*

21 *The date of the next Mere PC meeting is Monday 23rd October, 7:30pm at The Mere Chester Road, Mere.*

22 ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS

- i *Cllr McGuire raised an issue of building work being carried out during unsociable hours at property either side of Cllr Reynolds home (Dolphins, Chester Rd). Cllr McGuire was advised that the people complaining need to contact the Cheshire East Council Enforcement Officer.*
- ii *Moss Lane – The condition of Moss Lane is very bad with regards overhanging trees and pot holes.*
- iii *The general condition of the footpaths in Mere are over grown. It was suggested that Moss Lane and footpaths be brought to Simon Skates attention at the next Mere PC meeting.*

The meeting closed at approximately 9:35pm.

Signed: Date: