

**MERE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2020**  
**AT 7:45PM, THE MERE**

**PRESENT**

Cllr J Duncalf  
Cllr J McGuire  
Cllr A Newnes  
Cllr D Norcott  
Cllr L Reynolds  
Cllr D Walker (In The Chair)  
Cllr J Wright

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr R Finch

Wendy Sinfield, Manchester Airport

**ACTIONS**

**1 MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous Mere Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 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 and Cllr Wright declared an interest regarding HS2 listed 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**

PCSO Darrach had been invited to attend this evenings meeting but no response has been Received and she has not attended.

**Police Crime Commissioner** – an invitation has been received from David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for the Chairman to attend a meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, 6:30pm at Crewe Police Station.

Cllr Newnes will attend.

AN

**5 MANCHESTER AIRPORT**

Wendy Sinfield gave an update on airspace change. Information will be forwarded to the Clerk which will then be placed on the Mere Parish Council website about the transformation of Terminal 2.

Wendy said she will send regular updates on the airport to the Clerk for our website.

KJW  
WS

Mr John Hockenhull sends his thanks to Mere PC for the complimentary tickets sent from Manchester Airport to the council, to attend a concert at Bridgewater Hall.

**6 HS2**

Cllr Norcott had attended a meeting arranged by High Legh Parish Council earlier this evening with Cheshire East Council representatives. The meeting had been called because parish councils felt they were not being represented correctly.

There were seven neighbouring councils represented at the meeting.

Cllr Norcott commented that it had not been a very productive meeting.



7 **B5569**

Mr Simon Skates had been invited to attend this meeting but no acknowledgment received and he has not attended.

The latest response received from Mr Skates is dated the 21<sup>st</sup> January as follows:

**"The missing boundary sign south of Mere** – Google Street view shows the sign was in place in 2009 but not there by 2012. It appears to have been missing for quite a period. Clearly it was not Costain that had removed it as the 2012 image without the sign far precedes the start of works. I will discuss with our Maintenance Team and look to get another one erected near to the original locations.

**Northbound Traffic On The B5569 seeing the sign indicating that the Northwich (A556(S)) to turn right at the Mere Junction as raised by David** – Interestingly this is correct. Anyone travelling along the A50 in either direction will be directed South along the B5569 towards Tabley roundabout by the flag destination sign perpendicular to the A50. However if someone has inadvertently taken the wrong turn at J19 and found themselves coming off Tabley roundabout and heading North towards Mere, they cannot be directed to do a U-turn and as such the only safe direction is to indicate a right turn towards Knutsford where they will pick up further directions back towards Northwich and the A556 South."

**Gateway features** – Cllr Walker asked the meeting to reconsider its original decision not to have gateway features. Cllr Newnes proposed that Mere PC does have the gateway features installed. Seconded by Cllr Duncalf and agreed unanimously by the meeting. Prior to this meeting the Clerk had e-mailed Simon Skates asking if the gateway features are still available? However no reply has been received. It was agreed that if the Clerk has still not heard within the next two weeks to send a reminder to Mr Skates.

KJW

The Clerk has written to Mr Skates asking for an update on the flooding in the service road off the B5569, single lane carriageway signs, kerbs, road sweeping, the bund and the speed Limit. There has been no response. The Clerk will write to him again.

KJW

**Flashing Speed Signs** – Mr Skates when he attended the January Mere PC meeting asked the council to think where we wish the flashing signs to be placed on the B5569 Chester Road and to let him know. It was agreed to have one sign near the exit of The Mere Golf Resort and Spa and the other where the speed camera used to be as you travel from Altrincham towards Tabley. The Clerk will inform Mr Skates and ask for clarification that we will have them installed.

KJW

**Speeding** – The Clerk is still trying to establish if the police will prosecute motorists doing over 30mph. The Clerk will follow this up with Matt Walton, Cheshire Constabulary.

KJW

8 **FENCING AT THE END OF THE MERE**

Cllr Parkinson was not present to give an update on her enquiries as to who owns the land. This will be carried over to the next Mere PC meeting.

9 **BONFIRE EVENT 2019 AND 2020**

**November 2019** – The final invoice has now been received (£268.44 for the LED toys). This brings the total deficit for the event to £1469.81. However once the VAT has been claimed back it will reduce the deficit to £941.46.

**November 2020** – Lightech Sound and Light are booked to provide the firework display on the 7<sup>th</sup> November and will be forwarding an estimate soon.

The Clerk has also written to Mere and Tabley Community Club to book it for the 7<sup>th</sup> November.

It was suggested to try and get sponsors this year. This will be discussed further at the next Mere PC meeting in March.



**10 FIBRE OPTIC BROADBAND**

*The Chairman is waiting for further information. This item will be carried over to the council meeting in March.*

**11 VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL**

*A notice of a casual vacancy within Mere PC has been displayed on the council notice-board and the web site.*

*Cheshire East Council will notify the Clerk once the 14 days are up as to whether an election is required or if we can go a heads and co-opt.*

**12 COMMUNITY EVENT**

*It was suggested to commemorate VE Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May by placing flowers at the Cenotaph followed by refreshments in Mere and Tabley Community Club.*

*Cllr Reynolds will ask the Club how much it will be to hire the bar area from 11am to 1pm?*

**LR**

*The Chairman will provide a colourful bouquet of flowers for the cenotaph.*

**DW**

*This item to be carried over to the next Mere PC meeting for further discussion.*

**13 COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE FOR A COUNCILLOR**

*A quote has been received for the sum of between £600 to £800 for an inscription on a plaque to then be mounted on a small stone. The cost is much greater than was expected.*

*It was agreed for the Clerk to price up just having a plaque engraved and not a stone.*

**KJW**

**14 PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS**

*There have been two new planning applications and one decision notice since the last meeting. The details are recorded in the Planning Book.*

**15 RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICERS REPORT**

- i      *The sum total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is of which £170.43 belongs to the Archie Fund.* £3981.41
  
- ii     *Included in the above figure and paid into the account on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 the Bonfire Event gate money* £1567.50
  
- iii    **Changing Cheque Signatories** – *The Clerk spoke to Barclays Bank on the 14<sup>th</sup> Jan and they confirmed they had received Cllr Wright's details but, did not know why!! After explaining that we wish to change the people authorised to sign cheques and that a completed mandate change form had been handed in by the Chairman they stated they had not received any form. The Chairman confirmed that she had handed the form in to the bank the day after our last council meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> December.*  
*Cllr Walker will contact someone she knows in the Bank and ask what is going on.*
  
- iv     *Cllr Walker and Cllr Wright carried out an audit of the accounts and no queries were raised.*



**16 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

- i     *The Clerk for hours worked in October, November and December 2019* **£846.30 Agreed**  
       *Cheque made payable to*  
       *"Kathryn J Whitlow"*  
       *Cheque No: 100805*
- ii    *PAYE*  
       *Cheque made payable to* **£326.48 Agreed**  
       *"HM Revenue and Customs Only – 120PD00337552"*  
       *Cheque No: 100806*
- iii   *Invoice from Chain and Conveyor for the LED toys bought for the Bonfire Event* **£268.44 Agreed**  
       *Cheque made payable to*  
       *"Chain and Conveyor Ltd"*  
       *Cheque No: 100807*
- iv    *Invoice from Dominic Fenton for the parish maintenance during 2019* **£1368.00 Agreed**  
       *Five cuts at £180 and 16 cuts of the cenotaph at £15*  
       *Cheque made payable to*  
       *"Dominic Fenton"*  
       *Cheque No: 100808*

*Cllr Reynolds **proposed** that Dominic Fenton be asked to carry out the parish maintenance in Mere for 2020. **Seconded** by Cllr Duncalf. All agreed*

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

**17 NEW BUSINESS**

- i     **Citizens Advice Service** – Knutsford Town Council asks Mere PC to consider contributing a 2.1% of the running costs which equates to £415.  
       *The decision was made not to contribute. The Clerk to inform Knutsford Town Council* **KJW**
- ii    **Royal Garden Party** – ChALC have been invited to nominate four persons to attend a Royal Garden Party to be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May. As in previous years places will be allocated on a lottery basis with the successful nominees pulled out of a hat on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January.  
       *Cllr Wright **proposed** Cllr Walker's name be put forward. **Seconded** by Cllr Newnes. All agreed. The Clerk will complete the form and forward it to ChALC.* **KJW**
- iii   **ChALC Training Calendar 2020** – If anyone wishes to attend any of the training listed please let the Clerk know.
- iv    **M6 Junction 19 Improvement – Public Information Exhibitions** – An e-mail from Hannah Chaplin, Regional Investment Programme (RIP) North West, informing the public about the public information exhibitions for the M6 J19 improvement scheme. Construction work is planned to start March 2020 and complete summer 2021. The Exhibitions will take place Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January between 12 noon and 5pm and on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January between 10am and 3pm at Mere and Tabley Community Club. The Chairman asked that whoever attends one of the exhibitions to report back to the council at the March meeting.



- v **Cheshire Fire Authority Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020 – 2024 Consultation.**

*Noted*

- vi **The Tatton Estate Community and Business Forum** – A letter from Tatton Estate informing us that it is setting up a new forum called The Tatton Estate Community and Business Forum. It will be for members of the community, including individual, organisations and businesses whereby they can share information and exchange ideas about the Estate.

*Noted.*

**18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

*The date of the next Mere Parish Council meeting is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2020 starting at 7:45pm and held at The Mere Golf Resort and Spa.*

**19 ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS**

*Nothing reported.*

*The chairman closed the meeting at approximately 9:45pm.*

Signed:



Dated:

14/7/20.