

MERE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER, 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

Mr C Burrows, Costain
Mr S Skates, Cheshire East Council
Mr D Thomason, Traffic Engineering Set, Cheshire East Council
Cllr O Hunter, Cheshire East Council
Nr N Stott

One member of the public

ACTION

1 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Mere Parish Council meeting held on the 4th July were proposed by Cllr Norcott and seconded by Cllr Duncalf to be a true and correct record. All Agreed

2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None declared.

3 **POLICE REPORT**

PC Dawber and PCSO Whitehead were not present. The recent crime report for Mere and the surrounding area had been circulated to the councillors prior to this evenings meeting.

4 **MATTERS ARISING**

All issues are listed in the agenda.

5 **DE-TRUNKING OF THE A556**

Mr Skates and Mr Thomason showed a map illustrating the A556 which is to be de-trunked. The plan is to assess any parking issues once the road has been de-trunked and used for a while. The de-trunked road will be known as the B5569.

Plans were also shown for the Merecorner junction. After a lengthy question and answer session the Chairman thanked Mr Skates and Mr Thomason for attending the meeting.

Mr Skates stated that he will be very willing to attend another Mere PC meeting should the council request.

Mr Skates and Mr Thomason left the meeting.

6 **WINTERBOTTOM LANE/HOOGREEN LANE**

Cllr Wright reported to the council with regards the site meeting between Cllr Patterson, Simon Wallace, Senior Engineer Design at Cheshire East Council and himself which took place mid-July.

Cllr Wright proposed and Cllr Duncalf seconded that Mere PC write to Cheshire East asking that three passing places identified during the site visit be included in Cheshire Easts priority of capital expenditure which is to be set at a meeting in September. The letter also to be copied to Cllr Hunter. All agreed.

KJW

7 **KNUTSFORD TO BOWDEN BY-PASS**

Mr Burrows from Costain gave an update upon the progress of the by-pass. He also showed everyone a copy of a poster which tells drivers the safe way to pass horse riders. Mr Burrows will forward copies to the Clerk.

CB

8 **BONFIRE EVENT 2016**

Mr Neil Stott informed the council that the sound man and the food has been booked. Mr Stott agreed to print the advertising posters and tickets. After discussion the council agreed to keep the ticket price the same as last year. Tickets bought before the event £6 and on the night £7 at the gate. Children 5 years and under free. Jobs allocated are as follows:

NS

- *Building the bonfire – Mr Stott, Mr Greenway and Cllr Norcott.*
- *Selling Wands and sparklers – Cllr Patterson. Mr Stott to purchase the wands.*
- *Car Parking – Mr Stott*
- *Gate – Cllr Bernard Reynolds and Cllr Linda Reynolds*
- *Raffle – The Clerk will provide the raffle tickets. Tickets will be sold at £1 a strip or £5 for 6 strips. Cllr Duncalf and the Clerk selling the tickets. Cllr Reynolds and Cllr Duncalf will buy a selection of raffle prizes.*

The event will be advertised in the Mere PC Newsletter due to go out in September. Mr Stott had brought along to the meeting an old map of Mere dating back to 1897. He explained that a monk had found it whilst clearing things at his monastery in Peterborough and contacted Neil Stott who was Chairman at the time (year 2003) to see if he would be interested in it. Mr Stott said yes and so the monk forwarded it to him.

Cllr Norcott proposed and Cllr Patterson seconded that a copy of the map be framed and exhibited in Mere and Tabley Community Club along with the other Mere PC archive items. All agreed

JP

Cllr Duncalf proposed and Cllr Norcott seconded that copies of the map be made available for residents to buy at a price of £20. The money to go towards paying for the fireworks. All agreed.

Cllr Duncalf will write an article for the newsletter telling people about the map.

JD

9 **MANCHESTER AIRPORT**

Manchester Airport has invited two councillors to attend the Manchester Airport/Parish/Town Council meeting on Tuesday 20th September. Cllr Patterson and Cllr McGuire will represent Mere PC at the morning meeting.

JP/JM

The Clerk will notify the airport who will be attending from Mere.

KJW

Wendy Sinfield will be attending the Mere PC meeting on the 24th October to talk about the airspace review.

10 **OPERATION SHIELD**

There are still two outstanding cheques from the list of people who stated they wished to purchase a DNA Select kit. As the deadline to receive cheques has now passed (1st September) the Clerk will forward the cheques she has to the police and arrange when the DNA Select Kits will be delivered.

KJW

11 **KILTON INN – HEDGE**

It was confirmed that the hedge overhanging the footpath has now been cut back.

12 CHESHIRE GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT

Cllr Patterson attended a meeting on the 6th July with Carol Clarke, Head of Planning and Engagement with Tatton Estate Management. A report had been circulated to the Councillors prior to this evenings meeting. On the 14th July we received a copy of the Cheshire Gateway Vision Document which has been circulated to all the Mere Parish Councillors prior to this evenings meeting. We have also been informed that a meeting has been arranged for the 5th October at 6pm in the TEM offices, 10-12 Canute Plane, Knutsford. Cllr Norcott and Cllr Duncalf will attend this meeting and report back to the council at the next meeting on the 24th October.

The Clerk will inform TEM who will be attending the meeting.

DN/JD

KJW

13 TOWN RANGER SERVICE

The Clerk has enquired with Knutsford Town Council how much an hour they are going to charge to hire the services of their Town Ranger. A reply has been received from the Deputy Town Clerk stating that the Operations Committee are still considering the business Case for offering their Town Ranger services to other local councils. The charging rates have therefore not been decided yet. The Knutsford Town Clerk will update us on the situation once he returns from holiday.

Mere Parish Council Clerk will follow this up before the next meeting in October.

KJW

14 MERE PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE

The Clerk reported that she is still looking into which will be most cost effective. Paying a company to update the website or paying the Clerk to do it.

Cllr McGuire proposed that the Clerk look into costing an external company to do it.

Cllr Patterson seconded. All agreed.

KJW

15 TATTON PARK TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

A response to the clerk's e-mail has been received from Brendan Flannagan in which he States, on the weekend we referred to it was the Classic Car weekend which turned out to be the busiest such event in recent history. All access lanes were used as planned. However, the event generated over 5000 cars a day.

He also commented that Tatton Park have worked with SEP, the traffic management company who have tweaked their plans for controlling junction since that weekend. On the weekend of the 4th and 5th June it was the first time they had tried a variation with lights at both Mereside Road and Rostherne junction. However it was considered that the system was not reactive enough and therefore didn't allow the Rostherne entrance to be utilised to its full capacity. The traffic management company has now gone back to using a manned operation, which is proving effective.

Mr Flannagan reports that there was also a high level of traffic in the surrounding area which had nothing to do with the park such as the Knutsford Market on Saturday and on the Sunday there was a bad car accident on the A556.

Mr Flannagan reports an increased use of the Mereside/Mereside Road junction which has increased recently. This may be due to people using sat navs which appear to be sending cars to this gate despite the fact Tatton Park has published advice in their literature. Mr Flannagan comments that in comparison the recent extremely busy VW Car Show was only 150 cars short of the Classic Car show, but there were no queues at either gate largely down to the pattern of arrivals/departures being more 'normal' and fewer compounding issues with general traffic in the area.

Cllr Reynolds proposed a reply be sent to Mr Flannagan making him aware that every time there is an event at Tatton Park, Clamhunger Lane residents find it difficult/impossible to exit and enter their property due to parked cars belonging to people visiting Tatton Park. Is there a possibility that Clamhunger Lane can be closed to through traffic during such events? Seconded by Cllr Duncalf. The meeting agreed that we need to make Tatton Park aware of the issue along Clamhunger Lane. The Clerk will write.

KJW

16 MALBER – OVERHANGING HEDGE

The Clerk received an e-mail from Bidar Almozaffar stating that the hedge has now been cut back. Recently neighbouring residents have commented upon the dilapidated state of the property. Cllr Reynolds proposed and Cllr Bernard Reynolds seconded that the council write to Bidar Almozaffar again making him aware of residents concern and ask him what he plans to do with the property. The meeting agreed.

KJW

17 WATER SUPPLY IN MERE

Cllr Wright has spoken with the water board who explained it was a one off occasion that there was no water supply to Cllr Wright's and the surrounding properties. Cllr Wright commented that it had in fact occurred on two occasions however he was happy for this issue to be removed from the agenda but if there are further instances of no water he will request it to be included on the agenda again.

18 CHESHIRE BLACK AND WHITE RAILINGS AT THE JUNCTION OF CLAMHUNGER LANE WITH WARRINGTON ROAD

The Clerk wrote to Mr David Harlow on the 7th August asking him to cut the vegetation back from around the railings. No reply has been received. It was agreed for the Clerk to follow this up again with another letter.

KJW

19 PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS

There have been nine new planning applications and five decision notices 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 of which £530.20 belongs to the Archive Fund. | £5674.50 |
| ii | Paid into the cheque account on the 30 th August the sum of which is the second precept payment for the year. | £3450.00 |
| iii | The accounts have been returned from the external auditor plus a certificate stating that on the basis of their review of the annual return, in their opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. The accounts are now displayed on the notice board outside Mere and Tabley Community Club. | |

21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| i | Invoice from the external auditor for
Cheque made payable to
"BDO LLP"
Cheque No: 100689 | £120.00 Agreed |
|---|---|-----------------------|

Cllr Norcott proposed and Cllr Wright seconded that the above invoice be paid. All agreed.

22 **NEW BUSINESS**

i **M6 JUNCTION 19 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

An exhibition will be open to everyone on the 17th August at the Windmill Inn and also on the 17th September, 10am to 5pm at Curzon Cinema, Knutsford.

ii **CHESHIRE EAST HIGHWAYS EVENT**

A letter from Cllr David Brown, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Infrastructure stating that four events will be held during September and October and distributed as evenly as possible throughout Cheshire East. The official deadline to respond was the 12th August which has past but if councillors wish to reply individually they can.

The Clerk will circulate the letter to the councillors again.

iii **ARCHIVE FUND**

Cllr Duncalf has been given a map of the parish of Mere which Bob Fawcett found whilst having a clear out at home.

Cllr Patterson proposed that it be displayed at Mere and Tabley Community Centre along with the other Mere PC archive items. Cllr Wright seconded. All agreed.

Cllr Patterson will speak with Mr Greenway, Chairman of Mere and Tabley Community Club.

JP

23 The date of the next Mere PC meeting will be the 24th October, 7:30pm at The Mere, Chester Road.

24 **ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS**

i Cllr McGuire asked if the welly walk along the new by-pass in mere is still going ahead and if so how do you book tickets?

Yes it will be on the 30th October and tickets are available on line.

ii Cllr Wright stated that there is a pot hole on the A50 as you approach MereCorner Traffic lights from the Warrington side. It is about 200 yards from the junction.

Also Chapel Lane is in a bad state of repair.

Comment was made that perhaps Costains will repair the above?

iii Cllr Norcott stated that Mr A Bloor has had a very wet patch in the corner of his field. When it was investigated it was found to be sewage coming from Mere Court Hotel.

Cllr Norcott asked the Planning Officer to remember this fact if any future planning applications are submitted for Mere Court Hotel.

The meeting closed at approximately 10.05pm.

Signed: Date: