

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019 AT NORLEY  
METHODIST CHURCH**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Terry Harvey and Jon Wild

Councillor Charles Fifield – Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council  
Councillor Paul Williams - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council  
Councillor Gillian Edwards - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite (Clerk)

There were four members of the public in attendance.

Welcome and Introductions

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Ann Crawford, Ken Fayle and Ian Stockton

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no interests declared.

**3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM**

There were no items reported.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

- The PC meeting date in September has now been changed to Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.
- CW&C Highways have now visited the suggested location, at the top of Town Farm Lane, for the Village Sign and have confirmed that it is a suitable location.
- A site meeting has taken place with Ian Lovatt of CW&C Highways to look at the possibility of locating a speed indicator device along School Bank. If a pole for a speed indicator device could be located there that would lead to 6 sites for the speed indicator devices. Following a site visit in February, Ian had also confirmed the preferred location for the 5 interactive signs. Four of these would need section 115 agreements as they are on the adopted highway, the fifth one would need to be agreed with the forestry commission.  
Whilst in Norley, Ian Lovatt accompanied the Parish Councillors present to view the proposed site for the Norley sign. This is at the junction of Town Farm Lane with Norley Road. Councillor O'Connor has sent photographs of the site to Ian Lovatt and he is progressing the application.  
**Action – Councillor O'Connor to contact Ian Lovatt in September to check on the progress of the application.**
- TWM Traffic Control Systems in Winsford have agreed to meet with the PC to look at Speed Indicator Devices. It was agreed that they should be invited to meet with parish councillors in the village.  
**Action – Councillors O'Connor and Harvey to arrange to meet with TWM Traffic.**
- Councillor O'Connor is continuing to follow up the possible grants that maybe available for Speed Indicator Devices from the Police and Crime Commissioner and is to liaise with PCSO Hayes about the Safer Community Fund.  
**Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up**
- The reports for 20 mph schemes for year 4 have now been completed; School Bank and Pytcheleys Hollow met the criteria for 20 mph speed limits within the programme. Once the local members have been informed the PC will be notified of the plan. The aim is to advertise the public notices for the w/c 23 September with public consultation ending Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.  
Sometime between 2- 16 September a copy of the 'letter to residents' will be sent out to Cheshire West councillors, parish councils and residents in that order. Residents not living in the proposed new speed limits will not receive a letter.

- There has been no response from Partner Construction about the promised funding for a Speed Indicator Device for the village and continues to be followed up by Councillor Edwards.  
**Action – Councillor Edwards to continue to follow up.**
- School Lane has now been monitored, for consideration of a reduction in the speed limit, but the data has not yet been processed. CW&C Highways are concentrating on the 20mph programme at the moment.  
Councillor O'Connor to contact David Reeves in October.
- The Defibrillator Kit has now been installed on the side wall of the village hall. The training kit is being stored in the village hall. A light and defibrillator signs are to be fitted near to the defibrillator kit. The parish council agreed to fund the light required.  
**Action – Councillor Wild to order the light and Councillor O'Connor to arrange for it to be installed.**
- The Clerk has notified the External Auditor about the Certificate of Exemption and has published the 2018/19 Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement, Annual Accounting Statements on the PC website.
- The Clerk has asked JDH Business Services Limited to complete the PC 2019/20 audit.
- Following the letter that had been received from an ex-resident about the removal and renovation of the railing on the cherry tree on Norley Road, just past Post Office Lane going out of Norley, Dennis Ford is continuing to follow up the cleaning of the railings, on behalf of the PC.
- Following the May 2019 Elections, there are now 3 Parish Councillor vacancies. Notices of the vacancies have been displayed on the noticeboards and published on the website. They are also to be included in the September Norley News and Norley Facebook.  
**Action – Councillor O'Connor to prepare a Parish Council Chair's article for the September Norley News.**
- Following the standing down of one of the bank signatories the completion of the bank form to add Councillor Fayle as a bank signatory is being followed up.
- A monthly direct debit payment from the parish council account has now been set up with 1 and 1 for the extended support for the annual cost of hosting the website.
- The Ward Members have continued discussions with CW&C Highways about the signage on Cheese Hill Lane and Councillor Williams provided a summary following recent discussions/ agreed actions for this junction:
  - There was a local safety scheme installed around 2015 to improve the give way signage and road markings on approach to the junction including yellow strips.
  - A number of discussions and site meetings have taken place to look at this junction. There has also been a lot of correspondence with residents, Local Members and Norley Parish Council
  - Agreed Actions
    - The proposed 50mph speed limit on Cheese Hill Lane / Stoneyford Lane has been issued to the CW&C contractor and will be implemented and brought into operation soon.
    - Once the speed limit has been installed, it will be monitored and reviewed. A speed radar survey will be undertaken in close proximity to the junction to assess the speed of approaching vehicles. These will help to determine if they are driving too fast to stop at the give way.
    - The Stoneyford Cottage Gardens sign at the junction will be re-located to help improve the visibility.
  - Councillor Williams is continuing to liaise with Highways Department and discussions continue on Councillor William's suggestions of the following:
    - Repainting the yellow lines on the carriageway approaching the crossroads.
    - Changing some of these stripes across the road into rumble.
    - Moving the weight restriction sign (which is on the left-hand side of Cow Lane as you reach the top of from Cheese Hill Lane) to the other side of Cow Lane.

## 6. HATCHMERE SIGN

- It has been reported that the 'Hatchmere' sign by the Forrest is missing and should be replaced.
- There has been no update from CW&C Highways about the missing finger on the sign at the crossroads at Blakemere Lane.
- The unofficial 30 mph signs that had been placed along Blakemere Lane have now been removed by CW&C Highways.

**Action – Clerk to request a replacement 'Hatchmere' sign and check the progress of the missing finger with CW&C Highways.**

## 7. HEDGE CUTTING/FOOTPATHS

It was reported that the hedge on Maddocks Hill is overgrown and needs cutting back and the footpath on Bratt's Bank, at the end of Moss Lane needs cutting back.

**Action – Clerk to write to the owners of the land on Maddocks Hill and Councillor O'Connor to follow up the footpath with Adele Mayer – CW&C Footpath Officer.**

## 8. PLANNING

### Applications

The following planning applications had been received for consideration since the 10<sup>th</sup> June meeting:

- **19/02242/LDC** - Townfield House Town Farm Lane Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 8NH; Certificate of Lawful Use relating to the breach of an Agricultural Occupancy Condition which has taken place continuously for at least 10 years - The PC object to this planning application as there has been a breach of the planning conditions.
- **19/02160/FUL** - Brown Moss Farm Norley Road Norley Northwich Cheshire WA6 6LJ: Single storey rear extension and alterations – There were no PC Comments
- **19/02318/FUL** - 26 High Street Norley Frodsham WA6 8JS: Erection of rear orangery - There were no PC Comments

### Decisions

- **19/01093/FUL** - Newhaven Hough Lane Norley Northwich WA6 8JZ: Single storey rear and side extension, front porch, enlarging of driveway and access gateway and conversion of existing garage into ancillary accommodation - **Approved.**

## 9. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the following:

- An invitation had been received from Norley Women's Institute to a Tree Planting Ceremony which will take place in the Memorial Garden at 10.30 am on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and will be followed by refreshments in the Village Hall.
- The Parish Council Register of Interests forms have now been sent to CW&C Democratic Services.
- Information about the Cheshire West and Chester Council's Local Plan (Part Two) had been received and noted.
- An invitation had been received from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to a Town and Parish Council meeting that is being held on 6<sup>th</sup> August at Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters

Councillor O'Connor read out a letter of thanks from Dennis Ford who recently stood down as a parish councillor after 40 years serving the parish council as a parish clerk and parish councillor and also as a Borough Councillor.

A letter had been received from a concerned resident about swimming in the water at Hatchmere and parking in this area.

After discussions about this, the PC expressed concerns about the behaviour of users and parking and would like to see rules established against picnics, barbeques, music and putting items such as inflatables into the water. They also thought that the wildlife in the area maybe suffering as a result. The PC agreed to follow up with the owners of the swimming area believed to be Cheshire Wildlife Trust. The ownership of the closed car park opposite this site is believed to be CW&C but requires confirming. It was noted that the lake is currently closed due to algae in the water.

With regard to the noise levels it was suggested that the resident should keep a log.

*(Councillor Williams declared an interest in this item as he is a member of the Cheshire Wildlife Trust and Prince Albert Fishing Club who use and may be the owners of the lake)*

**Action – Councillors Wild and O’Connor to follow up the ownership of the lake and car park, to liaise with PCSO David Hayes and to follow up the environmental health issues with CW&C once ownership is established.**

**Clerk to contact CW&C to find out who is responsible for the car park.**

**Councillor O’Connor to send a response to the resident via Councillor John Edwards.**

**10. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

A financial report and a budgetary monitoring report had been circulated to PC members with the agenda prior to the meeting which had been received and noted. The Clerk reported on the following:

- The PC account balance on the current account as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 was £49,703.11 and the balance on the Business Reserve Account at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 was £6250.03.
- The Clerk had made a payment to HMRC on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 of £136.00 for the tax on the Clerk’s Salary for the first quarter.
- It was noted that a duplicate payment (Cheque Number 430) to Cheshire Community Action Membership for year ending 31st March 2020 had been returned as a payment for this membership had been made in the last financial year.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The following was reported:

A member of the public discussed the possibility of having a vehicle weight limit through the village. There is currently a 7.5-ton limit in place on Cow Lane and the suggestion was made to extend this to cover Marsh Lane, School Bank, Hough Lane and Maddocks Hill. Councillor Williams said he would raise this issue.

**Councillor O’Connor to send Councillor Williams details of this proposal.**

**Village Shop – Norley Stores**

Volunteers are continuing to assist in the shop on a rota basis and the Committee is continuing to liaise with the owners about ideas for the shop. Another public meeting about the Village Shop is to be arranged, possibly sometime in October.

Following the ongoing discussions about the village shop and the community assets application, the PC is awaiting a response about the community assets application for the village shop - Norley Stores.

**Report from Councillor Charles Fifield - Ward Councillor – Cheshire West and Chester Council**

- The 3 Ward Councillors for Weaver and Cuddington have agreed to pool their Member Budget funds for community projects. They have looked at the number of electors and have split the funding on a proportional basis. For Norley £1200 is available for community funding projects.
- At a recent Council meeting, CW&C agreed to consider how the Council could work with communities and the use of pedestrian crossings in villages.  
**Action - The PC are to consider areas in the village that would benefit from a pedestrian crossing.**
- The contact details for the Ward Members are to be displayed on the noticeboards and the Clerk is to add contact details to the website.

**Action – Clerk to add the Ward Members’ contact details to the website.**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday 4th September 2019 at 7.00 pm at Norley Methodist Church.**

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm