



**The Parish Clerk, 13 Heywood Close, Alderley Edge, Cheshire. SK9 7PP**

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**MEETING OF CHORLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 06<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm**

**The meeting was held at Lindow Primary School, Chorley, Alderley Edge.**

**MINUTES**

**Present: Cllr Richard Barraclough, Cllr David Connor, Cllr Barry Durbar, Cllr Christa Gould, & Cllr Sophie Wilkinson (Chair of Chorley Parish Council).**

**Also, Present – Ashley Comiskey Dawson (Clerk)**

**One PCSO**

**CE Ward Cllr Mark Goldsmith**

**1) Apologies for absence: 23/113**

Apologies received from Cllrs Horsey & Rainey.

**2) To receive Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (DPI): 23/114**

None.

**3) Parishioners' attendance:** Introduction and opportunity for attendees to share points of Parish interest & Open Forum-Comment and questions concerning items on this agenda may be put to the Council by the public during this period. The maximum time allotted for public speaking is 15 minutes: **23/115**

None.

**4) To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of Chorley Parish Council held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2023: 23/116**

Cllr Durbar proposed, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson to approve, and sign the minutes of the meeting of Chorley Parish Council held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2023.

**Motion Carried: Three in favour with two abstentions.**

**5) To receive an update from the PCSO. 23/117**

The PCSO Reported the following:

- There were no incidents of note to report since the last meeting.
- TRUCAM recorded 10 activations from 3 outings.
- No surgeries have been booked in yet for the new year.
- Noted that this was the PCSO's most well attended police surgery.

**6) To receive any update from Wilmslow West and Chorley Ward Members. 23/118**

Cllr Mark Goldsmith addressed the council and informed them that at the moment CE was preoccupied with savings which needed to be made in order to prevent the council from going bust. He noted that there were a large number of councils of different political leadership who were all faced in a teetering on bankruptcy position. Ce can no longer continue to provide the current level of services as they have to find £18 million savings before the end of the current financial year. CE have appointed a new CEO who has already identified circa £3 million in savings without knock on effects to services. He noted that the removal of the government support grant, as well as changes in government policy around care homes and SEND had placed a huge burden on local authorities which were now becoming unmanageable, this is combined with increased interest rates and increases in staff wages. If action isn't taken immediately, CE will be looking at a deficit of £1/2 billion in 3- or 4-years' time. Cllr Goldsmith also noted that CE were looking to sell off their Westfields HQ.

**7) Matters Arising 23/119**

- i. Update on deed of easement with the developers of the Laburnum Farm site. – No new update.
- ii. Footpaths & Bridleways. – To be discussed at the next CPC meeting.
- iii. To discuss the hedge cutting at Dingle Avenue. – Councillors noted that they would wait until January to see if CEC do cut the hedge at Dingle Avenue, however, if they haven't they will make a decision on whether to ask the Parish Ranger to attend to it.
- iv. To confirm the receipt of £1,295.58 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment to CPC. – Confirmed and published on the CPC website as per regulations.
- v. To discuss the CIL process and next steps. – Councillors have all been circulated the CIL guidance note and will discuss ideas on what infrastructure projects to fund, this will be brought back to the council in January for debate.
- vi. To receive an update from Cllr Gould regarding the Lindow Trust. - Noted that Cllr Gould has volunteered to fulfil a larger role in the Lindow Trust and will now act as their focal point for receipt of applications.
- vii. To receive an update from Cllr Barraclough regarding the Lindow Moss Partnership. - The greater Lindow Moss area stretches from Knutsford Road in the South to Morley Green in the North. The area of Chorley to the north of Knutsford Road lies within the greater Lindow Moss Area. All the greater moss area was originally peat bog. Over the last 200 years, the area of peat has gradually been reduced and a much smaller area now exists to the north of the site of Ned Yates Garden Centre. The basic aim of the partnership is to restore this remaining moss area to be a functioning peat bog and to celebrate the cultural heritage of the greater Lindow Moss area.

Next year is the 40th anniversary of the finding of Lindow Man in the existing peat area. An exhibition is being planned in Wilmslow Library. There are also plans to create two guided walks around Lindow Moss, complete with information boards.

- A Heritage Trail around the existing peat bog area including the site of where Lindow Man was found.
- A Lindow Boundary path. Approx 7.5 miles. This will use existing footpaths to circumnavigate the greater Lindow Moss area. This will come through Chorley. I indicated that we may be willing to sponsor an information board along the route describing Chorley and its history.

## 8) Highways Issues **23/120**

- I. Pavements – Incursions and overgrowth.
- II. Gully at Dingle Avenue – Noted that Councillors and the clerk have reported this multiple times on FixMyStreet and have contacted highways on numerous occasions and yet CE highways have done nothing to rectify the situation. The Parish Ranger has attempted to “bucket out” but it would appear that the gully is defective, and that water is seeping back in, either from a broken drain or other source. Cllr Connor will draft a letter to Cllr Mark Goldsmith to highlight the above and CPC note that once CEC are aware of this problem, the liability lies with them should there be an accident in future.
- III. Flooding of Foden Lane. – This has gotten considerably worse over the last months, not only in the original location adjacent to the Whitehall Brook, but also at the Knutsford Road junction. – noted the clerk showed councillors on the CE gully tracker website that there is only one gully on the stretch of Foden Lane from the junction of Knutsford Road to the Whitehall Brook. On a recent visit to the location the Parish Ranger had found that the adjacent embankment to this gully had collapsed over it, thus blocking it. He has managed to dig it out on a couple of attempts and the gully will then function normally, however a longer-term solution is required. Further along Foden Lane however, there is standing water with nowhere to drain.
- IV. Sink Hole on Foden Lane.
- V. 20MPH School Sign on Knutsford Road. – Covered with ivy and it might be affecting the units solar power supply.

## 9) MOTION: To adopt the NALC Model Standing Orders to replace the existing CPC Standing Orders. **23/121**

Cllr Barraclough proposed, seconded by Cllr Durbar to adopt the NALC Model Standing Orders to replace the existing CPC Standing Orders.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

## 10) MOTION: To adopt the revised (2023) Cheshire East Council Code of Conduct to be incorporated into CPC Standing Orders. **23/122**

Cllr Connor proposed, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson to adopt the revised (2023) Cheshire East Council Code of Conduct to be incorporated into CPC Standing Orders.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

## 11) MOTION: To review and agree the CPC budget for financial year 2024/25. **23/123**

Cllr Durbar proposed, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson to approve the CPC budget for financial year 2024/25 as circulated.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

**12) MOTION: To review and agree the CPC precept requirement for financial year 2024/25. 23/124**

Cllr Wilkinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Connor to reduce the CPC precept requirement for financial year 2024/25 to £4,996.00, this would effectively keep the Band D equivalent rate the same as the current year, thus, not increasing the financial burden for residents.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

**13) Planning 23/125**

**1) Decided List: 23/126**

- a) 22/3245M PLUM TREE COTTAGE, GORE LANE, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7SP **Awaiting Decision.**
- b) 22/3945M 36 & 38, KNUTSFORD ROAD, CHORLEY, ALDERLEY EDGE, WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE, SK9 7SF **Awaiting Decision.**
- c) 22/2792M RED BEECH HOUSE, 78, KNUTSFORD ROAD, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7SF **Awaiting Decision.**
- d) 23/1404M Kindle Cottage, 60A, Knutsford Road, ALDERLEY EDGE, Alderley Edge, SK9 7SF **Approved with conditions.**
- e) 23/2334M 74A, KNUTSFORD ROAD, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7SF **Awaiting Decision.**
- f) 23/2016M Land off, Chelford Road, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TJ **Approved with conditions.**
- g) 23/2623M LAND AT 66 TO 72, KNUTSFORD ROAD, CHORLEY, ALDERLEY EDGE **Awaiting Decision.**
- h) 23/3236M FREYAS FOLLY STABLES, GORE LANE, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7SP **Awaiting Decision.**
- i) 23/3499M CEMETERY LODGE, CHELFORD ROAD, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7TQ **Awaiting Decision.**

**2) New Applications: 23/127**

- a) 23/3637M United Utilities, CARR LANE, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7SL  
We, Chorley Parish Council have no objections to the Retrospective Planning Application No. 23/3637M., relating to United Utilities, Carr Lane, Chorley, Alderley Edge.  
We would, however, wish the following comments to be taken into account. United Utilities, Carr Lane, we believe to be in the Parish of Chorley and would therefore ask that we could be copied on all future applications. This application was sent to Alderley Edge Parish Council and not ourselves.  
The final comment is that a member of our Council walks the route past the Works on a regular basis and has not seen a blue Retrospective Planning Application notice. We express our concern only in that the Neighbours may not be aware of the Retrospective Application and are therefore unable to comment.
- b) 23/4262M 86, KNUTSFORD ROAD, ALDERLEY EDGE, SK9 7SF  
We, Chorley Parish Council have no objections to Application No. 23/4262M relating to 86 Knutsford Road, Chorley, Alderley Edge, Cheshire.
- c) 23/4422M Trafford House Farm, Beswicks Lane, Alderley Edge, SK9 7SN

Weekly planning lists – circulated by email.

**14) Finance 23/128**

- i. Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for financial year to date 2023/24 to be agreed and signed.

Cllr Wilkinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Durbar to approve the Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for financial year to date 2023/24.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

- ii. Order of payment of accounts BACS & Cheques for November & December 2023 to be agreed and signed.

Cllr Wilkinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Durbar to agree, and sign the Order of payment of accounts for November & December 2023, totalling £837.76.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

**15) Notices & Correspondence 23/129**

- i. All correspondence has been circulated to all councillors either by hand or via email.

**16) Date of next meeting 23/130**

The next meeting of CPC will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**PART B**

Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960. Exclusion of press and public due to the business of the meeting being of a confidential and personal nature.

**17) MOTION: To agree the additional remuneration of the clerk for the backdated 23/24 salary increase awarded by NALC following final agreement by NALC and the Union in November 2023 of and additional £1,925.00 (pro rata to all spinal column points). And to agree this new NJC position as per the clerk's contract of employment. 23/131**

Cllr Connor proposed, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson to agree the additional remuneration of the clerk for the backdated 23/24 salary increase awarded by NALC following final agreement by NALC and the Union in November 2023 of and additional £1,925.00 (pro rata to all spinal column points). And to agree this new NJC position as per the clerk's contract of employment.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

**Close of Meeting.**

**Meeting closed at 8:47pm**

**Chairman of Chorley Parish Council  
Cllr Sophie Wilkinson  
06<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

| Date Raised          | Action  | Cllr / Officer Responsible               | Target Date for completion   |
|----------------------|---|--|--|
| 01-10-17             | Foden Lane – Flooding   | Andy Wilson CE Flood Risk – Andy Simpson | Awaiting response from Area Highways Officer. See Sink Hole – Foden Lane   |
| 15-03-23             | Meet with AHO to review.  |  |  |
| 05-04-23<br>19-07-23 | Funding through 23/24 highways scheme by CE<br>CPC have invited Cllr Craig Browne to a future meeting to discuss. | Cllr Craig Browne                        |  |
| 13-09-23             | Escalated to Cllr Craig Browne  | Cllr Craig Browne                        |  |
| 01-06-18             | Foden Lane - Bracken (Regular cutting by CE over three years)   | CE LHO – CE Highways                     | This location should be on the vis-cut, I have sent an email to the green op's manager, although I will checkout this week myself.<br>(Sept 21) Jeremy Hough has contacted the |
| July 22              | Bracken has been cut back on Foden Lane.  |  |  |
| July 23              | Bracken Half cut back on Foden Lane.  |  |  |

|          |   |  |   |
|----------|---|--|---|
|          |   |  | manager at SCP to ensure cut-back continues.  |
| 04-03-20 | Sink hole on Foden Lane   | Andy Simpson / CE Highways / HSE   | This location is placed on the capital schemes of repair where the barriers are placed around on the verge however, the drainage improvement over the little bridge is identified and details of the priority criteria is on the Cheshire east website. |
| 15-03-23 | Meet with AHO to review.  |  |   |
| 05-04-23 | Team from Highways attended but no further progress or update.  |  |   |
| 13-09-23 | Escalated to Cllr Craig Browne  | Cllr Craig Browne  |   |
| 19-10-22 | Mark overgrown hedges and excess water flows onto map of Foden Lane and return to AHO for him to contact landowners | Cllr Rainey  | ASAP  |
| 11-01-23 | Check 20MPH signs to see if properly working.   | CE Highways Signs Specialist to attend site and determine fault. Clerk will contact AHO to expedite these repairs. | ASAP  |
| 19-07-23 | Still not working.  |  |   |
| 13-09-23 | PCSO informed CPC that they are now working.  |  |   |
| 11-10-23 | 20MPH sign adjacent to Old Bowling Green is now working – escalated to CE Highways.                                 | CE Highways Signs specialist team notified.  |   |
| 08-03-23 | Mark onto map all broken stiles for PROW to review and repair   | PROW   | Summer 2023   |