

# ACTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st April 2019 at 7-30pm in the Parish Rooms.

Present	R Holt Chairman H Bayley C Fifield R Forbes D Hall S Pardoe Clr H Tonge CW&C
Apologies	C Ballantyne - Roberts Clr P Williams CW&C

One member of the public present.

## 1 Public Matters

There were no Public Matters

## 2 Approval of Minutes

### a) Minutes of the March 2019 meeting

The minutes were reviewed, approved and were signed by the Chairman.

## 3 Matters Arising

### From November 2018 meeting

a) Item 1 Public Matters – Meeting with Vicky Cropper - London Northwestern Rail (LNR)  
Further to the meeting with Vicky Cropper, a training session of volunteers to work on the Station has taken place. Additionally, a group of volunteers (with Vicky Cropper in attendance) has carried out a clean up and pruning exercise on the car park. This was an excellent effort.

A complaint has been received from one resident, whose property backs on to the car park, that the pruning was excessive and that some rubbish had been brushed on to her property. This complaint was not accepted. Vicky Cropper is to respond to the resident. It was emphasised that the volunteer group is not managed by the Parish Council but operates via LNR.

It was confirmed that the launch of the new timetable of trains will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 10-30 am to 12-30 pm. Refreshments will be provided by LNR.

The issues of the availability of ticket machines, possible rejuvenation of rooms on the Station and provision of bicycle stands and car park extension will be progressed by Vicky Cropper.

The Chairman asked that the volunteers are thanked for their efforts and for giving up their time for the Community.

### b) Item 10 Village Matters

It was reported that the 'No Through Road' sign at the entrance to Strawberry Lane was almost at ground level and additionally obstructed by the hedge. Clr Fifield offered to enquire about relocation of the sign. Clr Fifield said that he has checked but will follow up again **Action Clr Fifield – Ongoing**

### Post Meeting Note

Highways have responded to Clr Fifield and stated that the sign will be located on a new post and at a better height.

c). The Chairman reported that an Enforcement Officer from CW&C has visited the site at the rear of 25 Chapel Lane. Although the Enforcement Officer had said that the new buildings within the property curtilage were to required standards and that the stable had previously been approved in 2017. It was not clear if the statements included the building in the field. This will be rechecked.

**Action Clrs Holt / S Pardoe Ongoing**

## **From October 2018 Meeting**

Item 3(a) Footpaths and Public Right of Way

FP 24 - CWAC have said that they will only undertake one cut per year, which is inadequate, as this is a strategic part of the Petal Walk. Clr Fifield will press for FP24 to be prioritised, with at least two cuts per year. It was agreed that it will be necessary to keep urging CW&C to carry out more than one cut.

### **3c) Dog fouling – Waste Bins**

Subsequent to the approval of the grant from the Members Budgets, fresh contact had been made with the CW&C representative on the provision and the emptying of the bin together with emptying of the litter bin on the Parish Room car park. The Chairman said that he has sent emails and contacted 'Streetscene' to urge action and CW&C has at last acknowledged the work and action. It was agreed to chase again for progress to be made.

**Action Clr Holt - Ongoing**

### **3e) Interactive Signs (ISIDs)**

The new sign has been ordered and collected from TWM. TWM have also provided a second programme for downloading data at no extra cost. VAT will be reclaimed for the purchase and also the earlier cost for relocation of the signs.

**Action Clr Holt Completed**

Clrs Pardoe and Forbes have completed the installation of the new sign (on the post at the Parish Rooms but turned 180° from previous direction to monitor traffic along Hill Top Road) and the sign at Milton Rough has been turned back, through 180° as agreed, to detect traffic travelling from Crowton through Milton Rough.

Clr Pardoe reported that there appears to be a fault and he cannot download data from the sign on Station Road although it was still detecting the speed of vehicles. It was further reported that the new sign at Hill Top Road was not operational and not giving speed indication of passing vehicles. These matters will be reported to TWM.

**Action Clrs Holt and Pardoe**

### **Post Meeting Note**

It was found that the telephone credit of the Station Road sign had been used up. After being requested to check the order, TWM adjusted the credit value (of both data recording signs) and the data transfer is now operating. Clr Pardoe had checked the battery condition of the new sign and this was found to be in good order. TWM came out to the sign and were able to set it to work.

Clrs Pardoe and Holt had met the PCSO at the recent surgery and had handed over print outs of the summary sheets for the downloaded data. The PCSO was very pleased to receive the information, she was impressed with the information and would bring it to the attention of her line management and other officers.

On the subject of downloading data and preparation of statistics / records, Clr Pardoe said that he has liaised with a Village resident on processing the data and that the resident could be interested in taking over when Clr Pardoe retires at the end of the month.

## **10 Village Matters**

**a).** Best Kept Village - Clr Bayley said that she has entered Acton Bridge in the competition. Judging will be from June to August. The entrance fee of £45 will be refunded to Clr Bayley.

**b)** A litter bin has been removed from the corner of Cliff Road and Wetton Lane. Enquiries had been made with CW&C as to why this has been done and if it will be replaced. The Chairman reported that 'Streetscene' have agreed that the bin will be replaced.

**Action Clr Holt - Completed**

**c)** Clr Fifield had reported at an earlier meeting that there has been a change in the management of the Town Farm quarry and that the new owners had requested a meeting with Parish Councils and other parties to discuss actions to complete the workings at the quarry. Clr Fifield said he was not satisfied with the information available, in particular the site survey has not been supplied.

Clr Fifield said that the meeting arranged for 20<sup>th</sup> March with Mr Charnley has been cancelled and a new date is being arranged.

## **4 Planning Applications**

The Bowls Club has requested that a change made to the layout of the replacement building. The members would like the access doors to be located at the front of the building, facing the playing area. The Chairman contacted CW&C Planning and was informed that it is necessary to submit an application for a 'non-material amendment' and that there would be a fee. The application has been submitted and the Bowls Club have paid the fee.

## **5 Planning Decisions**

Application Rose Cottage Ref. No: 19/00028/FUL. Rose Cottage, 24 Cliff Road Acton Bridge Northwich CW8 3QY. Single story rear extension, the application has been withdrawn.

The Chairman mentioned that there is no news as yet on the application for the new build at 71 Cliff Rd.

## **6 Financial Matters**

### **6.1 Authorisation of Cheques**

Three cheques were approved;

Cheshire Community Action – annual membership of £20.00

Best Kept Village Competition – entrance fee of £45.00

Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society –annual membership of £8.00

### **6.2 Annual Accounts**

The Clerk had prepared and circulated to members the statement of accounts for the year 2018 – 2019. The accounts were examined, approved and signed by the Clerk and Chairman. The Clerk will now prepare the Annual Governance and Accountability returns and submit them to the Internal Auditor for approval and subsequent inspection by residents if requested. It was also stated that the Parish Council qualifies for an auditing Certificate of Exemption, being under the £25,00.00 levels for income and expenditure and the certificate would be applied for.

## **7 CWAC Ward Councillors**

Clr Tonge said that matters are very quiet at the moment, pending the local elections in May. He said that he was sorry not to be standing for the Ward again and would be a candidate in his local Ward. The Parish Council express their sincere thanks to Clr Tonge for his work and application to Acton Bridge, particularly Planning matters and wished him well for the future.

## **8 Reports from other meetings**

Weaverham and Acton Bridge Trust

Clrs Pardoe and Hall had attended a recent meeting of the Trust. Grant applications totalling £1387.50 had been received and had been supported. Clr Pardoe mentioned that as he will not be standing as a candidate for the Parish Council it will be necessary to appoint a replacement representative. Parish Councillors were asked to consider taking on the role.

Clrs Pardoe and Hall were thanked for their work on the Trust.

## **9 Correspondence**

Letters have been received from;

Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society – notice of AGM and request for membership fee.

Cheshire Community Action – membership fee.

SP Energy Network – information and posters on contacts when there is a loss of supply.

Other Correspondence received by email has been circulated

## **10 Village Matters**

**a).** The topic of the width of the PRW at Hill Top Farm was raised. There have been reports to the Parish Council that the new fence, along one boundary of the PRW, failed to comply, in parts, with the stipulated 2.5m given on the approved plan. The owner of the land, present at the meeting, gave information on contact that has been made with CW&C – PRW authorities. The Chairman said that the Parish Council has also raised the matter and the findings are awaited.

**b)** Comments were made on the high wooden fence erected in front of part of the boundary wall to Hill Top Farm that borders on Hill Top Road. The owner said that the fence was for safety reasons as the wall was unstable. The fence is temporary and will be removed. A contractor is being sought to repair the wall.

c) Cllr Bayley said that the street cleaning vehicle had been along Milton Rough but had not made a satisfactory job. There were still a lot of weeds in the gutters. Cllr Forbes mentioned that a similar result had happened in Station Road and also that one side of the road had been done but one had been left out.

**11                    A.O. B**

a) The Clerk reported that the candidate's papers for the local election on the 2<sup>ND</sup> May had been delivered to Wyvern House Winsford and all had been accepted. There were currently seven candidates for the eight positions.

b) Cllr Pardoe raised the issue of management and updating of the Parish Council web site after he retires. He hoped that a member would take it over.

**12                    Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be the AGM on Monday 29th April 2019, starting at 7-30pm. The next ordinary meeting will be that on the 13th May 2019 and will be of the newly elected Council.