

ACTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th February 2019 at 7-30pm in the Parish Rooms.

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

No members of the public were present.

The Chairman thanked Clr Pardoe for taking the January meeting in his absence due to illness.

1 Public Matters

There were no Public Matters

2 Approval of Minutes

a) Minutes of the December 2018 meeting

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

3 Matters Arising

From January 2019 Meeting

Item 1 Public Matters

A resident from Sandfield Lane again raised the matter of parked cars obstructing the bend and hence access for his farm vehicles on Sandfield Lane. It was agreed that the Parish Council would contact Highways and ask them to liaise directly with the resident (mobile phone number given, but not shown here). It was agreed that a check would be made on the present situation and Highways would be contacted if necessary.

Post meeting note. The Chairman had spoken to the resident and been informed that action has been taken to prevent obstructive parking. Representatives of Highways Department have been out to view the arrangements and with a minor adjustment are satisfied with the access in Sandfield Lane.

Action – Cllr Pardoe / Holt - Completed

Item 6 Financial Matters

The Chairman mentioned that the Precept, agreed in January, had been submitted to CW&C and that CW&C had confirmed that the requested figure would not result in an increase in the Council Tax.

From November 2018 meeting

a) Item 1 Public Matters – Meeting with Vicky Cropper London Northwestern Rail

Clr Bayley had been in touch with Vicky Cropper regarding the volunteer work at the Station and had discussed items where the volunteers could assist. Vicky Cropper was pleased to have been contacted and would arrange a date to meet Clr Bayley and Clr Ballantyne-Roberts. The date was subsequently set for Friday 11. January.

Cllrs Ballantyne-Roberts and Bayley reported on the meeting with Vicky Cropper and were happy that there was a positive response. The installation of the requested speakers in the Station has been completed and arrangements are also in hand to renew the wood on the seating.

The training of volunteers to work on the Station was discussed and this will take place on a Saturday (date to be decided). The addition of decoration to the blank wall in the Station entrance has been followed up with pleasing results. The Acton Bridge Pre-School and Crowton Primary School will produce the artwork and LNWR will produce, manufacture and fit the pictures.

The extension to the car park was raised and it was agreed that, if possible, the gates at the inner end of the car park could be opened to give extra space. The parking of cycles was also discussed and it was noted that there is a suitable space under the entrance hall where cycles could be stored. The possible provision of CCTV to assist security of the cycles was noted.

The provision of planters, to be positioned under the 'Acton Bridge' signs, on the platforms was agreed.

Cllrs Ballantyne-Roberts and Bayley will co-ordinate the publicity and request for volunteers to work on the Station. It was confirmed that the new timetable of trains would be implemented in April / May. The Councillors were thanked for their efforts and for attending the meeting with Vicky Cropper.

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. Cllr Fifield offered to enquire about relocation of the sign. Cllr Fifield said that he has checked but will follow up again **Action Cllr Fifield - Ongoing**

c). It was reported that a large building, of timber construction, has been erected at the rear of 25 Chapel Lane. The Enforcement Officer has been away from work and has said that she will visit the site shortly. The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the Enforcement Officer after she had visited the site. She 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. The Chairman will recheck this. **Action Cllr Holt Ongoing**

From October 2018 Meeting

Public Matters Item 1(b) - A resident of Strawberry Lane raised an issue of the state of the road at the inner end of Strawberry Lane. It has now been established that the road is Adopted up to a point beyond Alder House. Andy Hamman from CWAC has offered a site meeting.

Cllr Hall reported that there had been a visit by Highways to examine the site. Although the road is, as mentioned above adopted, it will not necessarily be finished with 'Tarmac'. At present, the length is partly covered by concrete. **Action Cllr Fifield – and Cllr Hall - Completed.**

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. Cllr Fifield will press for FP24 to be prioritised, with at least two cuts per year. The PC does not wish to encourage volunteer action to reduce CWAC's obligation. Cllr Pardoe offered to contact Saltscape colleagues from Weaverham to see whether joint action might help. **Action Cllr Fifield – Ongoing, and Cllr Pardoe**

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. CW&C had queried if the Parish Council can pay by cheque but no other action has taken place. The Chairman has sent emails but will chase again. **Action Cllr Holt - Ongoing**

3e) Interactive Signs (ISIDs)

Following the decision on the Precept for 2019-2020, it was agreed that an additional sign should be ordered from TWM. In view of the fact that there is recording equipment fitted to the existing two signs, it was decided that there was no requirement for recording facilities to be fitted to a new sign. This would be a considerable saving. It was confirmed that TWM had been requested to quote and had given a price of £1,600 for the supply of the extra sign. TWM had also given a discount of £200 in the quoted price (previously £1,800) and have increased the warranty period to 2 years. It was agreed to order the new sign at £1,600 and to delay the purchase until the new financial year.

Cllr Fifield had previously mentioned that Weaverham Parish Council had been showing interest in the ISIDs, and could be contacting Acton Bridge PC for details. It was also mentioned that Crowton PC has been showing interest. However, as far as was known, neither body has been in touch with AB PC.

Post meeting note

A number of Parish Councils, including Lach Dennis and Norley in addition to those above, have now requested details of prices and procedures for installation of signs.

The meeting discussed the repositioning and direction of detection of the existing signs. It was agreed that;

The sign at Acton Lane should be transferred to Station Road.

The sign at Milton Rough should be turned through 180° to detect traffic travelling down the Station bridge and along Milton Rough

The new sign is to be located on the post at the Parish Rooms but turned 180° from previous direction to monitor traffic for Hill Top Road.

The value of the recorded data to the Police was again discussed and it was agreed that the data should be forwarded to the Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Post meeting note

The data was passed to the PCSO at the surgery on 16-2-2019. **Action Clrs Pardoe and Holt part completed.**

It was also checked with the PCSO that the speed van has been to Station Road again and also speed – gun checks on traffic carried out.

The Chairman said that the form to reclaim £40 VAT had been submitted but it had been returned as the value is less than £100 or did not cover a full year. It was agreed to hold the reclaim of VAT until the new sign has been purchased.

4 Planning Applications

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

The meeting reviewed the plans and the layout in relation to the garden. The Parish Council have no comments or observations.

5 Planning Decisions

Application Ref No. 18/02282/FUL. Hilltop Farm Hill Top Rd Acton Bridge Northwich Cheshire CW8 3RA. Erection of detached ancillary accommodation and erection of two storey detached garage with office space above.

Notice has been received on the appeal, against refusal by CW&C of the above application, that the Inspector has given permission for the garage with office space but that the ancillary accommodation has been refused

6 Financial Matters

6.1 Authorisation of Cheques

A cheque was approved for £36 being the membership renewal to CPRE.

Following queries on receipt of payments, the Clerk said that she would check the frequency of the statements from the Co-Operative Bank.

Action Clerk

7 CWAC Ward Councillors

Clr Fifield stated that it was intended to raise the CW&C Precept by 4.99%.

8 Reports from other meetings

a) **Joint Cemetery Committee (JCC).** A new, updated, revision of the draft Constitution has been received and circulated. It was proposed by Clr Ballantyne-Roberts and seconded by Clr Bayley that the new draft be accepted. This was unanimously agreed by the Parish Council.

9 Correspondence

HMRC ref the VAT claim.

CPRE – membership renewal.

LAPU – brochure

Glasdon - brochure

10 Village Matters

- a)** Cllr Forbes mentioned that the planned coppicing work in the Hazel Pear Wood had been cancelled but a new date of 27th Feb has been arranged.
- b)** Cllr Fifield reported 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. Cllr Fifield said he was not satisfied with the information available, in particular the site survey has not been supplied. He also said that he has requested that Mr R Charnley (CW&C) should meet the Parish Councils and other parties.

The Chairman made comments that it was not up to the Parish Councils to say what was required to complete work on site but for the new owners to comply with the agreed conditions imposed by CW&C and those of the Inspector following the Planning Inquiry.

- c)** Cllr Forbes said that he had attended the course called 'Heartstart' run by CW&C, part of which is the use of a defibrillator. He said that there is a 'guardian' of the equipment. Cllr Pardoe had had a message from Emma Harding, one of the NWAS Community Responders, who reported that the guardian is named Veronica Evans (it is in fact Robert Heaton). It turned out that the person enquiring had been Cllr Forbes.
- d)** Cllr Pardoe said that Kingsley Parish Council had been in touch to query if Acton Bridge had any experience of applications to build on 'Historic Orchards'. It was agreed that there was no recent information. The Chairman said that following a Village meeting in the early 1960s there had been agreement to build on some redundant orchards in the Village.
- e)** It was mentioned that the Village Newsletter is now published on-line.
- f)** There was a discussion on the dates for the Parish Council meetings in April and May. Because there are to be elections for a new Parish Council on 2nd of May, it was agreed that the ordinary monthly meeting for April should be held on Monday 1st April as normal and that an AGM be held on 29th April to conclude matters and approve accounts before the new Parish Council takes office.

The meeting for May could be held on Tuesday 7th (as normally done because of the Bank Holiday) at which the new Council would elect their officers.

Post meeting note

As a result of correspondence later received from ChALC, the first meeting of the new Parish Council has to be held between the 8th and 23rd May. The date for the first meeting is thus to be decided.

11 A.O. B

None.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 4th March 2019, starting at 7-30pm.