

ACTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present R Holt Chairman
 C Ballantyne - Roberts
 H Bayley
 C Fifield
 R Forbes
 S Pardoe

Apologies D Hall
 Clr H Tonge CW&C
 Clr P Williams CW&C

No members of the public were present.

1 **Public Matters**

There were no Public Matters

2 **Approval of Minutes**

a) **Minutes of the December 2018 meeting**

The minutes were reviewed and, with editorial corrections, were signed by the Chairman.

3 **Matters Arising**

Review of February 2019 Meeting Minutes

From November 2018 meeting

a) Item 1 Public Matters – Meeting with Vicky Cropper - London Northwestern Rail
Further to the meeting with Vicky Cropper, a training session of volunteers to work on the Station has now been arranged. This will take place on a Saturday 2nd March and is to be followed by a Community Action Day on the 16th March. Cllrs Ballantyne-Roberts and Bayley will co-ordinate the publicity and request for volunteers to work on the Station and car park. A skip will be available on the car park. It was stated that the voluntary work will attract a 'value-in lieu' reward of £15 per hour per person which will be applied by London Northwestern Rail (LNR) to materials and improvements at the Station.

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

A notice board is to be given by Vicky Cropper. The issues of the availability of ticket machines, possible rejuvenation of rooms on the Station and provision of bicycle stands were raised again and these will be progressed by Vicky Cropper, although it was understood that the actions would be in the future.

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. 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**

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 Cllrs Holt / S Pardoe 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 been established that the road is 'adopted' up to a point beyond Alder House.

There had been a visit by Highways to examine the site during which it was stated that the road will not necessarily be finished with 'Tarmac' it is reported that there has been some 'Tarmac' repair carried out.

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.

Cllr Pardoe said that he had contacted Saltscape colleagues from Weaverham to see whether joint action might help. Assistance and joint action has been agreed. It would be necessary to keep up pressure on CW&C to have more than one cut. Action Cllr Fifield and Cllr Pardoe Completed

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 said that he has sent emails and contacted 'Streetscene' to urge action 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 had been agreed at the February meeting to order the new sign at £1,600 and to delay the purchase until the new financial year, however the financial balance at the Bank shows adequate funds to proceed now. It was agreed to ask TWM to supply a new sign as quoted. It was also agreed to ask TWM if a second person could be provided with access to download the recorded data and / or is a second license required.

Action Cllr Holt

It was noted that the VAT could be reclaimed together with the reclaim of £40 VAT in the TWM invoice for repositioning the signs.

At the February meeting, the Parish Council had discussed the repositioning and direction of detection for the existing signs, this was;

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 along Hill Top Road.

These actions have been completed for the existing signs but it was discovered, during the work, that the length of cable from the solar panel to the cable socket on the post at Station Road was shorter than required to connect to the sign that was transferred from Acton Lane. The Milton Rough sign, previously at Station Road was thus returned to Station Road and the sign from Acton Lane was remounted in Milton Rough and was set facing the Station bridge as agreed.

It was queried whether this redirection of the sign was having the desired effect. The opinion was that it had been better as originally installed and that the sign should be moved back at the next work session.

6 Financial Matters

Following queries on receipt of payments, the Clerk said that she would check the frequency of the statements from the Co-Operative Bank. The Clerk reported that a statement was sent out by the Bank whenever there had been a transaction in the account. **Action Clerk Completed**

10 Village Matters

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.

Cllr Fifield said that a meeting is now arranged on 20th March with Mr Charnley, the Parish Councils and the Action Group. It was also noted from the current correspondence between the Parish Councils and the Action Group that the feeling is that it is not up to the Parish Councils to say what is 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.

f) The Parish Council again discussed the dates for the Parish Council meetings in April and May as a result of correspondence received from ChALC stating that the first meeting of the new Parish Council, following the elections on 2nd May, has to be held between the 8th and 23rd 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 will be held on Monday 13th at which the new Council would elect their officers.

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 Chairman mentioned that the letter stating that the Parish Council has no comments or observations has been sent in but he has seen that there are objections and comments submitted by residents on the Planning web site.

5 Planning Decisions

There were no decisions to report. 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

A cheque was approved for the Clerks salary, being £339.00 for January, February and March.

7 CWAC Ward Councillors

Cllr Fifield confirmed that the CW&C component of the Council Tax will rise by 4.99%.

8 Reports from other meetings

None.

9 Correspondence

Correspondence received by email has been circulated

10 Village Matters

a). Best Kept Village Cllr Bayley said that there has been a delay with the organisation this year but there will be a competition. It was agreed that Acton Bridge will enter.

b) A litter bin has been removed from the corner of Cliff Road and Wetton Lane. The Chairman has enquired of CW&C why this has been done and if it will be replaced. The Chairman will follow this up.

Action Cllr Holt

11 A.O. B

None.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 1st April 2019, starting at 7-30pm.