

Acton Bridge Parish Council Meeting minutes

Date & time	3 rd February 2020 at 19:30	Location	Acton Bridge Parish Rooms
Attendees	R Holt (Chairman), T Brocklebank, C Ballantyne-Roberts, R Forbes, D Hall, H Bayley, D Edwards Cllr C Fifield CW&C, Cllr P Williams CW&C, Cllr G Edwards CW&C, Mrs C Robinson (Clerk to the Parish Council)		
Apologies	None		
Absent			
Minutes written by	Mrs C Robinson (Clerk)		

The discussion commenced at 19:30

Agenda item	Notes & actions
1. Apologies	Apologies for Absence – None as noted above
2. Declarations of interest	There was no disclosable pecuniary interest, but the Cllr Holt (Chairman) disclosed that he lived opposite the Chapel in Chapel Lane that had a planning application for review.
3. Public Matters	There were 3 members of the public present.
4. Minutes of meeting held on 6th January 2020	The minutes of the meeting held on 6 th January 2020 were amended on section 12. Village matters bullet point 1. from no. 36 Cliff road to 38 Cliff road and were then accepted as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
5. Matters arising and review of last minutes	
Flooding – field on Station Road	Cllr Fifield has chased up the issues with the drains being completely blocked on Station Road, but no response as yet. The A49 also has more flooding issues, especially around Eden Grange. Action Cllr Fifield
Parish Council Website	The meeting with the Clerk for training on the website had gone ahead, and the new pages have now been added. An agenda item will be added to the next Parish Council meeting to review the content of the website. Action Mrs Robinson
Bank Account signatories	NS&I post received by previous Clerk, Clerk to contact to ensure address and signatories changed. Action Mrs Robinson
Wildflowers	Cllrs Edwards and Williams have a meeting to discuss the work required on the land close to the Bowling Green that has been identified for wildflower planting. Action Cllrs Edwards/Williams
Town Farm Quarry	Cllr Fifield reported nothing further has happened but was expecting everything to be completed March/April.
Remembrance Plaque	The Chairman advised that the plaque needed to be mounted on a solid wall due to the weight of the plaque.
Planning application for Station Road Nursery Warrington Road residents	No further update on planning application 19/03689/FUL, there still seems to be missing reports e.g. Biodiversity. Cllrs G Edwards and Williams attended a meeting today and the only satisfactory answer would seem to be a residents parking scheme. There will be a meeting for all residents to try and get an agreement.

Hill Top Road building works	Cllr Ballantyne Roberts advised that Hilltop Construction has apologised for the disruption and seemed to be trying to make amends.
'Little Gem' Certificate	There is going to be an article in the village newsletter on the 'Little Gem' certificate. Action Cllr Ballantyne- Roberts
2020/21 Precept	Clerk confirmed she has put in the request to CWAC for £5,019 for 2020/21 precept.
Additional speeding sign	There has been a 'glitch' with the flashing speeding sign on Station road, this is now working but the Chairman took the opportunity to ask for costs of an additional sign. The basic price is £1,850 + VAT, but it would be delivered and installed for free. All present agreed to wait until 2020/21 precept is received before going ahead.
Ward Member budget applications	Cllr Williams has raised the issue of potential under claiming on behalf of Acton Bridge Parish Council. It is being looked into.
Overgrown hedges	The confer hedge belonging to No.2 Bancroft has been cut back. The names of residents with overgrown hedges on Cliff road will be passed to the Clerk to write to them asking them to prune the offending hedges. Action Cllr D Hall /Mrs Robinson
PCSO meetings	Cllr Ballantyne-Roberts confirmed she had posted the January date for the PCSO meeting on the village Facebook page. The PCSO seems to post details on the actual day, but Cllr Ballantyne-Roberts managed post with a few days' notice.
Joint Cemetery Committee	A replacement committee member for the Joint Cemetery Committee still needs to be identified if and when Cllr Bayley leaves.
6. Neighbourhood plan	<p>Further discussion on whether a Neighbourhood plan should be considered by the Parish Council covered a lot of points, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential affordable housing requirements for younger people and families, but low-cost housing might not be wanted by everyone • Acton Bridge is not a local Service Centre • Washed over by Green Belt and an infill Village – CWAC Planning framework, Plan 1&2, can't be in conflict with CWAC Planning • Benefits of having a dialogue with the whole village on how they want the village to evolve – could there be a vision everyone buys into? Village survey? • Possibility of preferential treatment for local people • Norley Parish Council were an early adopter and have had a plan for 5 years – should a couple of representatives from Acton Bridge contact them to understand what is involved, maybe shadow Norley whilst they review their neighbourhood plan? • Should the PC just deal with every planning application on its own merits • There are only one or two infill sites in Acton Bridge that could be suitable for future building • What can be done with derelict sites? • CWAC planning don't have to take PC comments into account when making decisions – but they do have to consider a neighbourhood plan. • The neighbourhood plan could be as little as one line. • Neighbourhood plan vs Village plan vs Design statement. <p>Cllr Fifield had circulated an overview of the different options, the Clerk will re-circulate. Action Mrs Robinson</p>
7. Planning Applications	Seven planning applications have been received and were discussed:

19/04501/FUL Change of use of Methodist Church, Chapel Lane – No Objections or comments, one observation that the new/amended access from the road may be obstructed by a telegraph pole.

19/04585/FUL Erection of one dwelling on land at Maypole Inn, Hilltop road – The Parish Council agreed (with the exception of Cllr Fifield who abstained) to object on the grounds of inappropriate development in the Green Belt.

20/00020/FUL Conversion and extension of former public house, Maypole Inn, Hill Top road – The Parish Council agreed (with the exception of Cllr Fifield who abstained) to object against the extension as it is disproportionate for the size of the development.

20/00027/FUL Single storey rear extension Rose Cottage, Milton Rough – No objections, comments or observations.

20/00134/FUL Conversion of garage to living space and erection of garage 36 Cliff road – The Parish Council agreed (with the exception of Cllr Fifield who abstained) to object on the grounds of the new garage being disproportionate in size and height also to the location of the new garage.

20/00208/FUL First floor rear extension and orangery, Treefied Cottage, Milton Rough - The Parish Council agreed (with the exception of Cllr Fifield who abstained) to object on the grounds of it being disproportionate in size, and potentially over the allowed increase.

19/04445/FUL demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling Syringa, Chapel Lane - The Parish Council agreed (with the exception of Cllr Fifield who abstained) to object on the grounds of it being disproportionate in size as compared with the existing bungalow and with a replacement bungalow previously approved under application 19/00944/FUL.

Actions Chairman & Mrs Robinson

8. Planning Decisions

There has been one planning decision:

1. Approval for retrospective approval for the addition of new gates at 12 Milton Rough 19/04475/FUL.

9. Financial Matters

9.1. Authority for signing cheques

Three cheques for approval:

1. Cheque 500064 – Cheshire Ass. Of Local Councils £75.00 for internal Auditor training
2. Cheque 500065 – G Haywood £190.77 for web hosting and email
3. Cheque 500066 – Cllr Forbes - £27.57 for plants

10. CW&C Ward Councillors

- The Police Commissioner will be organising a forum for all Parishes in the ward plus some officers
- A Climate Change Task Force Group is looking at ways to make the Borough carbon neutral. There was a public scrutiny session 2 weeks ago, it was more about quick wins.
- Citizens Advice Bureau service available in Northwich
- There will be a Jobs fair in Northwich in April
- As a result of a climate change initiative trees are being made available to Parish Councils – would Acton Bridge want any?
- The Maypole Inn Community Asset listing was for 6 weeks only. CWAC seems to have failed to follow procedure, which is a shame as some residents have said they would have liked to have it as a community hub/asset and some would have even considered clubbing together to purchase.
- Cllr Edwards held an open residents meeting on 25th January at the Hazel Pear.

- Cllr Fifield attended a budget meeting for Council Tax. There will be a 4% increase for residents of Acton Bridge: 2% due to increases for adult social care and 2% increase in Services.

11. Reports from other meetings

Cllr Ballantyne-Roberts gave an update from The Joint Cemetery committee. Urban Landscapes have been appointed as the Contractor for the extension work required on the extension to Gorstage Cemetery, and a Project Manager for the JCC has also been appointed. A new Digital Mapping IT system is also going to be purchased to improve the record keeping and search facilities.

12. Correspondence

- Copy of the letter from a resident to CWAC Planning services objecting to planning application 20/00134/FUL
- Groundsforce Landscape Ltd sales brochure
- Litter & recycling bins (Broxap) sales brochure

These were made available at the end of the meeting for Cllrs to review.

13. Village Matters

1. Cllr Forbes feels the Parish Council should be more active in getting the dilapidated Horticultural Nursery on Station Road turned back to Green Belt (if the planning application is rejected)
2. Cllr Bayley told the Parish Council that at the recent Best Kept Station (Cheshire) event, Acton Bridge Station had won an award for the Art Project in the Station entrance.
3. The Chairman advised that at the recent ABCA meeting it had been agreed for VE Day celebrations to be held in June. It will be an all-day event, it is something the Parish Council should support.
4. It has been raised with the Chairman that the removal of hedge in the field adjoining Acton Hall Farm could be contrary to the Countryside and Wildlife Act and hasn't had planning permission granted. The matter is still being looked into by Planning Enforcement.
5. A resident has reported traffic congestion due to new build at 71 Cliff road to Police. There is a condition in the planning approval that vehicles are parked off the road. Planning Enforcement have been informed.
6. Residents have reported an additional building at Hill Top Farm that is not shown on any plans. CWAC Planning Enforcement are investigating.

14. AOB

The dates for the meetings 2020/21 will all be the first Monday of each month (with the exception of August when there is no meeting). Monday 4th May is not a Bank Holiday (May 8th is Early May Bank Holiday & VE day) The AGM will also be on 4th May.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 2nd March 2020, 19:30

The discussion closed at 21.40

Signed (Chairman)

Date.....