

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SAUGHALL AND SHOTWICK PARK PARISH PLAN STEERING PANEL held on 17 June 2004 at the Uniform Group's Headquarters, Fiddlers Lane, Saughall

In attendance: Councillor A Bailey (in the Chair)
Councillor Mrs P Humphrey
Councillor R Shukla
Councillor Mrs JE Storrar
Councillor RA Storrar

Mr D Bird
Mr H Dobson
Mr S Hogarth, Wildlife and Environment Officer, Cheshire Constabulary
Ms A Lancaster, Area Manager, Chester City Council
Mrs L Morris
Mr G Southey
Mr P Webb, Cheshire Community Council

24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors A Marsden, C Moss, Mrs M Wynne-Eyton, C Wynne-Eyton and Mrs J Young and from PC R Fisher, Miss S Brookes, Mrs R Cowan and Mrs A Amesbury.

25 CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

26 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 1 April 2004 were **AGREED** as a correct record.

27 “SNAPSHOT” RESULTS FROM RECENT SURVEY

During March 2004 the Parish Plan Steering Panel had ensured that every household in Saughall had received a comprehensive questionnaire. The purpose of this was to:

- ? Collect useful background information
- ? Identify issues that are of concern to residents
- ? Establish what, if any, action is required

The questionnaire contained statistical data such as the age of each person in the household, use of community facilities and use of village services. Residents were also given the opportunity to provide their opinion on future development of specific areas and general quality of life within their Parish.

The response to the Survey had been pleasing with some 304 completed questionnaires returned. A Parish Plan Snapshot Report had been produced and included a brief commentary on the results of the survey, a full breakdown of the figures in respect of each question asked and a copy of the questionnaire.

The Panel now had to combine these results with all other background information that had been collected and agree a definitive list of concerns for inclusion on an Action Plan.

Members considered the primary issues identified from the Survey, possible solutions, actions to be taken, who would need to take them and realistic timescales.

28 ACTION PLAN

Problems identified included the following:

- ? Traffic speed and safety (particularly on Church Road and Hermitage Road) – ask villagers to sign a pledge at the Village Fayre not to exceed the speed limits in the village, use of portable speed sign.
- ? Provision of more affordable housing.
- ? Under use of community buildings – the need to promote them and link to other facilities residents would like to see in the village.
- ? The lack of a Youth Shelter facility and the possibility of investigating the viability of erecting one on the Fiddlers Lane Playing Field with young people being involved in the design and build.
- ? Litter – expand the litter picking service – consult on ramifications and promote “take your litter home”.
- ? Bus Services – need to try to preserve the services the village currently has, look at alternatives that could be provided and grant aid available for possible initiatives.
- ? Reducing the fear of crime – invite the Cheshire Constabulary to use the Parish Room as a base, consider street lighting improvements in “black spots”, promote Project Rural Matters.
- ? Hold social events for young people in the village on a monthly basis and involve those who volunteered to help via the Survey.
- ? Creation of additional Parish activities with the help of volunteers who came forward via the Survey.
- ? Dog fouling and the need for more dog litter bins that are emptied regularly.
- ? Traffic congestion and the need to reduce the reliance on the private car.
- ? Clearance of obstructions to existing footpaths and creation of new paths, also the need to ensure footpaths in the village itself are suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.
- ? Support local shops and businesses and encouraging library usage – promote “Use it or Lose it!”

The Panel made reference to the Council’s Five Year Plan of Action that had not been reviewed and revised for a while as the Parish Plan work had overtaken it. However, it did list important issues already identified as needing action, therefore, it was **AGREED** that those issues still pertinent would also be incorporated into the Action Plan along with those detailed above.

Members also **AGREED** that the possibility of obtaining community broadband as a village facility should be explored.

Ms Lancaster, Area Manager for Chester City Council, **AGREED** to:

- ? Explore obtaining sign the pledge literature ready for the Parish Plan Launch.
- ? Check whether Project Rural Matters could provide a stall (as well as the vehicle) at the Launch.
- ? Find out arrangements and frequency for dog litter bin emptying in Saughall.
- ? Prepare a briefing note for Chester City Council Members highlighting Saughall and Shotwick Park as the first Parish Council in the District to produce a Snapshot Report and Action List.
- ? Explore funding for IT/Internet activity through her Council's Telmatics Group (a small fund for community IT).

29 EXPENDITURE UPDATE

The Countryside Agency would require an expenditure update in respect of the Parish Plan. The Chairman and the Clerk had been working on this, however, they were unsure of the format it must be in to satisfy the Countryside Agency's requirements.

Mr P Webb of the Cheshire Community Council **AGREED** to provide an appropriate format example.

30 PARISH PLAN LAUNCH

The Snapshot and Action Plan would be launched at the Saughall Village Fayre on 3 July 2004. This was the culmination of over twelve months hard work. The Snapshot highlighted issues of concern to Saughall residents including road safety, transport, housing and community safety. The action points provided a process for tackling issues and concerns over the next five to ten years in partnership with a range of organisations, including Cheshire County and Chester City Councils and the Cheshire Constabulary.

Arrangements had been made for The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor Terry Relph and the Lady Mayoress to attend the Village Fayre for the Launch.

Members gave consideration to other invited guests and **AGREED** that the following be invited to attend the Launch:

Councillor B Kerr, as Chairman of the National Association of Local Councils
Mr Julian Pellatt, Cheshire County Council's Rural and Recreation Officer
Councillor Mrs Eleanor Johnson, Chair of Goway North Area Committee
Mrs Vivien Ellis, Chief Executive, Cheshire Community Council
County Councillor D Rowlands
Ms Lynn Fox, Countryside Agency
Mr R and Mrs DM McConnell

The Clerk **AGREED** to issue a press release and contact Dee Radio in an attempt to obtain some publicity for the launch.

Mrs Linda Morris **AGREED** to find out if the Parish Council could borrow a public address system from Cheshire County Council.

The Chairman detailed the arrangements he had made regarding the refreshments that would be available on the Parish Council stand and requested help to erect the Parish Council tent/stand on the morning of 3 July 2004.