

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 19 July 2001 in the Parish Room, Fiddlers Lane, Saughall

In attendance: Councillor Mrs M Anderson
Councillor H Dobson
Councillor B Kerr (in the Chair)
Councillor RA Storrar
Councillor A Warrington

45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor A Bailey.

46 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 May 2001 be confirmed as a correct record.

47 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute No 41 – Crime and Disorder Audit

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to PC Gareth Cooper recently. PC Cooper had suggested that the Parish Council might wish to give consideration to erecting a Youth Shelter in the Fiddlers Lane Playing Field. Grant aid could be made available through the Constabulary's Community Safety Fund.

The Committee considered it appropriate to hold a single issue meeting of the Council to discuss Crime and Disorder issues with PC Cooper in detail. Either a Special Council meeting could be arranged or if PC Cooper was able to attend, the September 2001 meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee, all Members could be invited to attend.

RESOLVED:

That a single issue meeting on Crime and Disorder be arranged with PC Cooper and all Members be invited to attend.

Minute No 43 - Fiddlers Lane Playing Field

Members raised concerns over mole activity in the Fiddlers Lane Playing Field and agreed remedial action was required.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to contact Mr Mike Lee at Chester City Council for advice/assistance.

48 PARISH PLAN

Members noted the content of a letter prepared by the Clerk for circulation to various groups and, after adaptations, individuals in the village informing and consulting on the proposed Parish Plan.

The Committee turned its attention to the Parish Plan – Action List and agreed timescales as appropriate. (Appendix 1)

It was imperative that as many communication lines as possible were available to those invited to have their say on what was required in the village. Replies to the consultation could be sent by telephone, e-mail, word of mouth and hopefully through the website, if it was up and running. The Clerk and all Members could be used as points of contact to relay thoughts and ideas.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Council's intention to compile a Village Plan be conveyed to the Countryside Agency;
- (2) the Action List at Appendix 1 be recommended to the Council for adoption; and
- (3) Members be requested to supply the Clerk with names and addresses of the various interest groups etc. in the village so that letters can be sent and the consultation process got underway.

49 PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Committee gave consideration to the contents of its September Newsletter and agreed that it would be used this time as a vehicle to convey information and consult on the proposed Parish Plan and to ask for ideas and suggestions that would enhance the quality of life in Saughall.

50 MILLENNIUM PARK LAND

The Chairman informed the Committee on the discussion that had taken place between himself, Councillor Bailey and County Councillor David Rowlands on the rise of the Council meeting on 2 July 2001.

It was recognised that the cost of the County Council owned land to the north of Lodge Lane, Saughall was more than the Parish Council could afford. Various options were explored including the possibility of applying for landfill tax money to assist the purchase of the land. However, uncertainties existed over whether or not further grant aid would then be available to bring the land up to the appropriate standard for recreational purposes.

Members then considered the viability of leasing the land from the County Council for recreational purposes as it was noted that it was currently leased by a local farmer for agricultural use. It was recognised however that in view

of the costs involved in improving the land, any lease agreement would have to over a long period of time.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to draft a letter to Cheshire County Council's Director of Community Development on the lease option and bring it to the next meeting of the Council for consideration, amendment, etc. before posting.

51 LOCAL PANEL 7 – TUESDAY 26 JUNE 2001, 7PM AT MICKLE TRAFFORD JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Committee considered an agenda for the last meeting of Chester City Council's Panel 7 meeting. Of particular interest to Members were the details on proposed local area committees in the Chester District and the Local Panel Operational Budget.

It was reported that there was grant aid available for projects that would benefit the whole community and for community safety initiatives that could flow from the Crime and Disorder Committee. Members noted the possible funding opportunities available to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED:

That consideration be given to linking any ideas that come out of the proposed discussions with PC Cooper to funding available through the Local Panel 7.

52 SOUTH CHESHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY
A PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the Executive Summary of a South Cheshire Health Authority's document that described the proposal to create a Cheshire West Primary Care Trust. Consultation began on 12 June 2001 and ran until August 2001. It was noted that the consultation report was very interesting and had been well put together.

RESOLVED:

That the Council make no comment in respect of the consultation on the proposal to create a Cheshire West Primary Care Trust.

PARISH PLAN – ACTION LIST

Action	Timescales
Register intention to compile a Village Plan with the Countryside Agency.	July 2001
Members to draw up list of consultees.	August 2001
Initial Consultation process begins. Local groups, businesses and individuals are encouraged to have their say on what they would like to see provided in the village in the short and longer term.	August 2001 - Letter out September 2001 - Newsletter out
Initial Consultation Process ends.	31 October 2001
Public Meeting held to inform what the Consultation has thrown up. (in the form of a social evening – tea and cakes.) Volunteers to be invited to serve on the Parish Plan Working Party.	Early December 2001
Working Party established to take the initiative forward. Will meet regularly.	January 2002 Council meeting
Professional support – decision to be taken on whether or not to commission Cheshire Community Council or another agency to carry out a survey into all aspects of village life in Saughall or whether or not the Parish Council will undertake such a survey itself. Alternatively, it may decide that the consultation already carried out will suffice.	End January 2002
Grant aid be sought from the Countryside Agency in respect of costs involved in the compilation of the Plan. – Apply	February 2002
Further data collection and analysis if appropriate.	Mid March 2002
Feedback to community. Mapping exercise underway.	End of March 2002
Production of first draft of Parish Plan.	End of April 2002
Initial soundings taken, comments and feedback.	End of May 2002
Incorporated into final version of Plan.	End of June 2002
Launch and distribution.	July 2002
Projects prioritised and pursued.	August 2002 onwards
Annual review of Plan and revision as necessary.	Nov/Dec 2002