

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SAUGHALL AND SHOTWICK PARK PARISH COUNCIL held on 6 September 2004 at the Vernon Institute, Saughall

In attendance: Councillor A Bailey (in the Chair)
Councillor Mrs P Humphrey
Councillor Mrs J Johnson
Councillor C Moss
Councillor R Shukla
Councillor Mrs JE Storrar
Councillor RA Storrar
Councillor A Warrington
Councillor C Wynne-Eyton (Tree Warden)
Councillor Mrs M Wynne-Eyton

County Councillor D Rowlands
PC R Fisher

147 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

Councillor B Kerr
Councillor A Marsden
Councillor Mrs J Young
Councillor Mrs D Whitton

148 CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C Moss declared an Interest in item 12 – Cheshire Valuation Tribunal – Notice of Hearing. He was the Parish Council's Landlord and the Tribunal would determine the rates the Council would pay in respect of the Parish Room.

149 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5 July 2004 be confirmed as a correct record subject to Minute No 133(c)/2004 being amended as follows:

replace £150 with £450 each tree.

150 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes not already listed on the agenda.

151 ACCOUNTS

(a) Payments made since the meeting of the Council held on 5 July 2004:

Financial Year 2004/2005	£	Cheque No
Mrs S Hudspeth (Sal)	541.68	101720
Woodvale Stores (Parish Plan Launch)	89.08	101721

Financial Year 2004/2005	£	Cheque No
Nelson's Social Club (Parish Plan Launch)	25.00	101722
Saughall & Shotwick Park Homewatch	350.00	101723
Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council (Street Cleaning & Grass Cutting)	1,049.67	101724
JB Joyce & Co (Clock Repairs)	904.75	101725
Warrington Borough Council (Printing Parish Plan Newsletter)	108.89	101726
Cheshire Community Council (Parish Plan Work)	1,001.16	101727
Oaktree Nurseries (Hanging Baskets)	80.00	101728
CPRE (Conference)	25.00	101729
Chester City Council (Printing of Snapshot Report)	495.00	101730
SLCC	40.00	101731
Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council (Street Cleaning & Grass Cutting)	1,049.67	101732
Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council (Street Cleaning & Grass Cutting)	1,578.42	101733
Mrs S Hudspeth (Exp July & Aug 2004)	124.64	101734
Mrs S Hudspeth (Sal)	626.60	101735

(b) Receipts

Interest to 21 July 2004 (14 Day Account)	78.92
Interest to 23 July 2004 (Treasurer Account)	0.17
Interest to 21 August 2004 (14 Day Account)	78.86
Interest to 23 August 2004 (Treasurer Account)	0.23
Chester City Council's Street Cleaning Grant For period 1 April 2004 – 30 September 2004	2,275.52

152 POLICE/HOMEWATCH

(a) Police

PC Fisher reported on incidents of crime and disorder that had occurred in the village recently. There had been a burglary on the Ridings Estate, a theft of a motorcycle on Church Road and a number of nuisance youth incidents in the village.

Parking on footpaths had been identified as a particular problem in Saughall. PC Fisher reported that he had verbally warned some residents of Long Lane about parking on the pavement. He had also arranged for Traffic Wardens to visit the village but on the day they came no parking tickets had been issued. They would make a return visit however.

PC Fisher informed that he had spoken to some young girls about drinking alcohol and told them to put their litter in the bin provided.

In respect of vandalism to the trees on the green at Saughall Hey, PC Fisher informed that no-one had come forward to provide a statement on what had happened and who was responsible.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

(b) Homewatch

Mr K Stinson reported that the following appointments had been made at the Saughall & Shotwick Park Homewatch's Annual General Meeting held on 22 June 2004:

Chairman: Keith Stinson
Secretary: Ken Southall
Treasurer: Keith Stinson

Also, Mr H Dobson had agreed to make an informal annual Audit of the Accounts.

The Homewatch had taken a small stand at the Village Fete where several residents had expressed an interest in joining.

Mr Stinson set out information and progress made in respect of the following:

- ?? Liaison with the Community Safety Network Officer
- ?? Electronic Mail
- ?? Training on preventing offences by bogus callers
- ?? Publicity and delittering of rural footpaths

Members also received reports on crime and disorder that had occurred in the village since 22 June 2004.

Although the previous Homewatch Chairman had represented the Homewatch on the Golden Jubilee Park Committee and the Parish Plan Steering Group, Mr Stinson had indicated that he did not have the time available personally to assist these initiatives. He would however, try to provide the Council with a monthly report on Homewatch activities.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received

(c) Crime and Disorder

The Chairman reported that he had not yet been able to see Sergeant Smith but that he would be having an informal talk with Chief Inspector Hill, the Clerk and the two District Councillors. A report would then be made to the Council on the proceedings and outcomes.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

(d) Alcohol Free Zones

It was reported that no progress had been made in respect of obtaining advice on whether the Fiddlers Lane Playing Field being designated an alcohol free zone was an appropriate way forward.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to remind the Chester City Council Officer concerned.

(e) Bus Shelter Monitoring

The two new bus shelters on Hermitage Road had been erected but were not connected to the electricity supply. A big hole had been left near the Edgerton Arms Public House that would need filling in.

A light was out in the bus shelter at the end of the Ridings Estate and there was a lot of litter in and around the bus shelter on Church Road.

RESOLVED: That

(1) the Clerk be requested to contact Ms Christine Garner of Cheshire County Council's Transport Co-ordination Section and inform her of the problems identified with the bus shelters; and

(2) the Clerk be requested to contact Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council to ask that special attention be given to the bus shelter vicinity on Church Road to ensure it is kept as tidy as possible.

153 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings of the following Committees be received:

Planning held on 5 July and 16 August 2004;
Finance and General Purposes held on 16 August 2004; and
Golden Jubilee Park held on 19 August 2004

154 GOLDEN JUBILEE PARK

(a) Partnership Agreement – Tool to Attract Funding

The Clerk would draw up a draft Constitution for consideration at the next meeting of the Golden Jubilee Park Committee scheduled for 23 September 2004. A final draft would be brought back to the Council for endorsement or otherwise.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

(b) Golden Jubilee Park Funding

A letter of support had not been received from Saughall Colts in respect of the WREN funding bid.

A meeting was being arranged with Chester CVS to consider possible funding streams.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

(c) Overhead Electrical Cables

RESOLVED:

That this issue be referred to the next meeting of the Golden Jubilee Park Committee.

(d) Cheshire Rural Recovery Programme

County Councillor D Rowlands suggested that it may be possible to obtain funding via this programme to finance an environmental project.

(e) Piping of Ditch

Councillor RA Storrar informed that a resident was concerned about security since the ditch was piped. There was also a concern that the resident had not been consulted in advance of the action being taken.

RESOLVED:

That the Project Co-ordinator be requested to give consideration to planting quick thorn hedging on the resident's side of the ditch.

155 MILLENNIUM FUND

It was reported that the Millennium Fund currently stood at £831.80. There was also 50 plates and 90 mugs still to sell.

RESOLVED:

That a report of the contents of the Millennium Fund be provided for the Council annually.

156 PARISH PLAN

There was no progress to report in respect of the draft final report since the last meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to ascertain from Cheshire Community Council Officer's the situation regarding the final report.

157 "SAUGHALL WALKING DAY" – 18 SEPTEMBER 2004

It was hoped to make "Saughall Walking Day" an annual event although it was not intended to hold it in September in future years.

Three walks had been arranged and press releases issued. Footpath maps would be sold and a barbecue would be held at the Greyhound Public House.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be received;
- (2) two local farmers be reminded of their responsibilities and the Countryside Code;
- (3) Councillors A Bailey, Mrs P Humphrey, C Moss, Mrs JE Storrar and RA Storrar be requested to assist with the barbecue, etc.;
- (4) Mr P Storrar be thanked for his certificate design and be requested to e-mail a copy to the Clerk for printing; and
- (5) Councillor RA Storrar be requested to provide a tent to be used to register the walkers.

158 CHESHIRE VALUATION TRIBUNAL – NOTICE OF HEARING

It was reported that the Parish Council's hearing in respect of its Rating List Appeal had been scheduled for 10:30am on Tuesday, 5 October 2004 at the Moat House, Chester.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Councillors A Bailey, RA Storrar, Mrs JE Storrar and B Kerr (if he is available) be requested to attend the hearing to represent the Council;
- (2) Councillor A Bailey be requested to put the Council's case;
- (3) Mrs J Weaver be asked for advice in respect of the Appeal and be invited to attend; and
- (4) the Council's annual review of its occupation of the Parish Room be held once the outcome of its Rating List Appeal is known.

159 PROPOSED EVENING AND SUNDAY BUS CUTS BY CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The County Transport Co-ordinator informed that following his Council's revision of the Chester evening service, Chester City Transport had been asked to reduce the

evening services in Chester to a three bus working from a four bus working. This would impact slightly on all areas of the City. In Saughall there would be an hourly service of the 2E Service operating from the Bus Station at 7:14, 5:15, 9:15, 10:15 and 10:50pm.

Members noted that the end result was that one evening bus service would be lost to Saughall so the situation was not as bad as it was first thought it would be.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

160 PLANNING APPLICATIONS OVER THE BORDER IN WALES

It was reported that no progress had been made in respect of the invitation issued to Mr Brian Hughes of Chester City Council to attend a Council meeting to report on his ongoing work to establish a protocol for planning applications over the border in Wales. Councillor RA Storrar spoke up on Mr Hughes' behalf informing that the Planning Department was exceptionally busy and that Mr Hughes had already told him that he would be willing to attend a Parish Council meeting and make a presentation to Members.

RESOLVED:

That instead of continuing to send e-mails to Mr Hughes the Clerk be requested to send a letter inviting him to attend the next meeting of the Council and make an appropriate presentation to Members.

161 VERNON INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There had been no meetings of the Management Committee since the last meeting of the Council. The next meeting was scheduled for the following week. A new Chairman would be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the position be noted.

162 DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE – MANAGING THE SUPPLY OF NEW HOUSING IN CHESTER

The Council noted the content of correspondence dated 12 August 2004 from Chester City Council's Forward Planning Section.

County Councillor D Rowlands reported that this draft Supplementary Planning Guidance was the result of pressure from Government to restrict the number of houses built. The Cheshire Structure Plan 2001-2011 set out the number of houses to be built in the County over a specific time period. Currently, it was expected that this number would be exceeded because of the number of new houses already built. This Guidance, if adopted, would put a moratorium on house building, but there may be changes as a result of the consultation that was running until 24 September 2004.

The Goway North Area Committee would be considering this matter at its next meeting and the Chairman agreed to attend and put forward the Parish Council's views.

This Guidance would have a severe effect on villages like Saughall. The Council agreed that local decisions should be made at the local level by those who understood the implications of what they did and not in Whitehall.

RESOLVED:

That the Chairman be requested to report the proceedings of the Area Committee in respect of this consultation document to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee scheduled for 16 September 2004.

162 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES

RESOLVED:

That future Parish Council Surgeries be arranged as follows:

Date	Time	Member
Saturday, 11 September 2004	10-10:45am	Councillor C Moss
Saturday, 2 October 2004	10-10:45am	
Saturday, 30 October 2004	10-10:45am	

163 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

The following communications had been received, anyone requiring a copy would contact the Clerk.

- letter dated 6 July 2004 from the County Solicitor, Mr Gerry Budd, re. the Cheshire County Council (A540 Parkgate Road/Chester High Road) (0 and 60 MPH Speed Limit) Order 2004

164 CIRCULARS

The following circulars had been received. Any one wishing to see a copy would contact the Clerk.

Cheshire Community Council's The Cheshire Cauldron Newsletter – Summer 2004
Cheshire County & Chester City Council's Newsletter – Archives & Local Studies – Spring 2004