

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SAUGHALL AND SHOTWICK PARK PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday, 6 January 2020 at the Vernon Institute, Church Road, Saughall

In attendance: Councillor A Bailey (in the Chair)
Councillor Mrs K Evans
Councillor DF Holman
Councillor H Jennings
Councillor M Johnson
Councillor B Kerr
Councillor Mrs R Lowe
Councillor Mrs L Rutter
Councillor Mrs JE Storrar
Councillor Mrs JM Young
Councillor PP Young

Cheshire West and Chester Councillor Simon Eardley

127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Dave Glavin, Internal Auditor

128. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs K Evans declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 12(a) Remembrance Sunday by virtue of the email her daughter had sent the Council that would be under discussion. (Minute No. 138(a) refers.)

129. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 4 November and 2 December 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

130. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on the work she had carried out and the actions she had taken since she had published the agenda for the meeting of the Council held on 4 November 2019.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the Clerk's report be noted.

131. CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL (CWaC) – WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Simon Eardley wished everyone a Happy New Year and presented his written report to the Council. The following matters were discussed and noted:

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Members' Budget

The glazing work inside All Saints Church had been funded from Councillor Eardley's budget. Although the best part of the 2019/20 budget was now allocated, he was always pleased to consider small grants for projects in the village and encouraged Members to get in touch if this was of interest to them.

Ongoing Issues with School Transport to Upton High School

Councillor Mrs JM Young continued to undertake some sterling work relating to the challenges students were facing with transport to Upton High School and their parents were grateful for her efforts as was Councillor Eardley. A recent meeting had taken place on 3 January 2020 with Stagecoach's Network Manager and although no overall resolution was yet in place, the views of parents had been listened to. The most recent actions to arise from this meeting were:

- (1) Stagecoach would consider whether the current 7.40am bus might move to a slightly earlier time which would allow students to arrive at school in a more timely fashion and not necessarily meaning they had to catch the earlier 7.20am bus. This would require a timetable change which would take a number of weeks but it might be a possibility.
- (2) Timetable changes would come into effect on 19 January 2020 resulting in additional afternoon capacity on route 51. This change would be monitored for a positive impact on capacity for school students.

Several other issues had been raised with the Network Manager such as poor punctuality of some services and the unfair prioritisation of 'paper ticket' holders over those with 'electronic tickets.' He agreed to investigate these matters and report back his findings.

Willow Hey/Fairholme Close Issues

Following the meeting convened by Chris Matheson MP in late October 2019, a report was in the final stages of being finalised, initiated by Cheshire West and Chester Council to look at possible long term solutions. Quite some time had lapsed since that meeting and Councillor Eardley had requested an update on progress from the relevant Council Officers and he would report further once it was received. Mr Matheson had indicated that he would seek to reconvene the meeting of interested parties in January/February 2020 and a date for this was awaited. There was a suggestion that information relating to the original planning advice which had been given prior to the construction might have a bearing on 'responsibility' for the problems at the site. Councillor Eardley was prepared to make the necessary enquiries to see what helpful information could be obtained.

Shotwick Park Estate 'Re-wilding Project'

Councillor Eardley had been pleased to see the high level of interest from the village in the proposals being developed for this project at the public meeting held on 16 December 2019. Following this, he had arranged to meet Mike Challinor from Lex Greensill's team for a substantial walk on some of the land in question and had suggested that it would be helpful for other individuals with an interest in environmental matters to join them. Dr Christian Dunn, a wetland scientist at Bangor University and resident of Chester, Andy Scargill of the Friends of the Countess of Chester Country Park and Helen Tandy, Co-ordinator of the Chester and District Friends of the Earth group had joined the walk and had been enthused by the principles that lay behind the project. They had agreed to link Mike Challinor with wider contacts interested in this area which he was sure would be beneficial. Councillor Eardley understood that plans would be presented to the Principal Authority in the very near future. His view was that these must be as detailed as possible and backed up by expert opinion, hence why he had sought to utilise his wider contacts who had much experience in various aspects of this project. Councillor Eardley also agreed to arrange a meeting between Mike Challinor and the Cheshire West and Chester Cabinet lead for the environment, Councillor Karen Shore.

Highways Matters

Councillor Eardley had been pleased to help facilitate a meeting between members of the Parish Council Highways Working Group and Kay Parry, Cheshire West and Chester Council's Principal Engineer – Place towards the end of last year and to attend a meeting of the Working Group on 10 December 2019 to receive an update. There were various positive developments which Councillor Brian Kerr would be updating colleagues on during this meeting.

At the Christmas Lights Switch-On event on 29 November 2019, a resident had raised the condition of the footpath leading into Little Saughall from the village sign at the Blacon end of Hermitage Road with Councillor Eardley. Councillor Eardley had visited the site with the resident during the following day and was pleased to report that Cheshire West and Chester Council Officers had undertaken some positive clearance of the footway during the following week or so. Councillor Eardley was always happy to take up issues like this for resolution.

Councillor Eardley had pressed Cheshire West and Chester Council for information on when the large number of potholes on Long Lane (the left hand side as you leave the village) would be repaired. They had all been marked up before Christmas but the work had not been actioned. The condition of this stretch of road continued to be a concern and Councillor Eardley had also asked when the wider repairs, which had been indicated previously as necessary to bring it back up to standard, would be actioned.

The Clerk had passed on a request from a resident for drain/gully clearance work to be actioned by Cheshire West and Chester Council on Church Road. Councillor Eardley had logged this on 4 January 2020 with a reference

number: HW165624260. He intended to report back direct to the resident concerned but would also copy the Clerk in for reference as this request originated via her.

Removal by BT of Telephone Boxes on Lodge Lane and Seahill Road

Councillor Eardley had been disappointed to be informed by a Cheshire West and Chester Council Officer on 2 January 2020 that the deadline for comments regarding the proposed removal of the BT telephone boxes at the above locations had been very imminent, indeed the next day! This had been the first he had heard of the proposals but on further investigation he had noted that the signs had been put in place by BT in late August with a 42 day period for consultation. He had commented as follows:

'I am surprised to learn that it is a reminder email as your note of yesterday was the first occasion that I had heard of it! I happened to be in the village today and took the opportunity to look at both sites. The notices were placed as follows:

Lodge Lane - 28.08.19
Seahill Road - 28.08.19

The poster in each states that there is a consultation period of 42 days from the above date and interested parties are asked to contact the local authority to do so which is only possible via the 0800 number provided. I am disappointed that the notice for this has only been brought to my attention at a late stage and I trust any comments are not too late for consideration.

I understand that Saughall and Shotwick Park Parish Council will consider the matter at their meeting on Monday, 6 January 2020 and pass on any comments after then. For my part, I have no objection to their removal in the modern times of very wide mobile phone access and as they are 'modern' in design, i.e. of no historic interest I can see little value in their preservation. The Parish Council may have a contrary view to this and they will no doubt communicate their thoughts in due course.'

Councillor Eardley reported that a resident had informed him that he had asked BT to consider the removal of the box during the last year and whilst this had not been actioned by them, they had carried out some glazing works to tidy it up a bit. The resident did not wish to see the box retained in any form (there had been suggestion that it might be used as a public notice board site etc.) owing to the proximity to his driveway and concerns over an increase in the footfall at this point which was already quite busy.

Miscellaneous

Councillor Eardley informed that small matters continued to be an important feature of his ongoing work and in recent weeks had included:

- The reporting of pot-holes on Fiddlers Lane which he understood had now been filled in (but there remained more work to be done on the condition of this road in due course);

- The reporting of a public footpath sign on Fiddlers Lane which had become loose – he had driven past it earlier in the week and thought it looked to have been repaired but he could not be certain (a job was certainly raised for it to be so);
- Continued assistance to residents on Lodge Lane with matters relating to drainage and (sometimes) flooding into or around their properties through liaison with Sanctuary Housing. Pleasingly some progress had been made, particularly regarding one specific property which experienced very substantial garden flooding when there was heavy rain. These were ‘personal items of case-work’ and he monitored them on a regular basis for progress.

Councillor Eardley asked Members to raise matters with him as and when they appeared. Facebook users may also find it helpful to ‘Like’ his Councillor page at the following link: www.fb.com/SimonEardleyChester

Councillor A Bailey raised the matter of the grass cutting undertaken each year by the Principal Authority. The grass was supposed to be cut every three weeks during the growing season (eleven cuts). As a result of inclement weather Mark Brazil, Cheshire West and Chester Council’s Senior Manager – Environmental Commissioning and StreetCare had informed that in 2019 the grass had been cut seven times. Members considered this to be an over estimation.

However, because of the costs of paying for additional cuts Members were of the view that this work must remain with the Principal Authority.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Councillor Simon Eardley be thanked for his help and very informative report;
- (2) the Clerk be requested to inform Sarah Dobbins, Cheshire West and Chester Council’s Senior Localities Officer that this Council has no objection to the payphones being removed; and
- (3) this Council will continue to put pressure on Cheshire West and Chester Council to do its job properly and ensure the grassed amenity areas and verges in Saughall are cut regularly.

132. THE SHOTWICK PARK ESTATE PROJECT

Mr and Mrs Greensill of The Old Vicarage, Church Road, Saughall wanted to purchase part of the County Farms Estate at Shotwick Park in order to pursue a project relating to the re-wilding of Saughall. The Council was supportive of this project and had facilitated two public consultation meetings on 16 and 17 December 2019 with Lex Greensill, Mike Challinor, the Estate Manager and Saughall residents.

Written copies of the results of the consultation exercise were circulated to Members along with the map which had been used during the presentation by Mr Greensill. It was noted that the meetings had been well attended, no negative comments had been made and that there was huge enthusiasm for the proposal for Shotwick Park in the village.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to write to Andrew Lewis, the Chief Executive of Cheshire West and Chester Council to inform him that this Council remains supportive of the project (enclosing the results of the consultation exercise) and looks forward to working in partnership with the Principal Authority with the important aim of protecting the green belt for the benefit of local people now and in future years.

133. POLICE REPORT

There were no police representatives at the meeting and no written report had been sent to the Clerk.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to contact PC Rob Brown to:

- (1) request that he provides her with a report on policing issues for the period 5 November 2019 to 6 January 2020;
- (2) inform him that this Council was disappointed that there was no police presence at the Council meeting again; and
- (3) remind him of the date and time of the next Council meeting and request that either he or a police colleague is in attendance.

134. WORKING GROUP REPORTS

(a) Business

Councillor A Bailey reported that the Working Group had met on 28 December 2019 to review the 2019/20 budget and to discuss proposals in respect of the 2020/21 budget. The Working Group's proposals would be reported to the Council on 13 January 2020 when it met to agree its budget for the next financial year.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

(b) Golden Jubilee Park

It was noted that the Working Group had not met since the last meeting of the Council.

Councillor M Johnson raised a flooding problem he had identified on Fiddlers Lane. Water from the Golden Jubilee Park had been flowing onto the highway as a result of the amount of rain there had been in recent months. If this was allowed to continue it would damage the road surface and could cause an accident if the water turned to ice. Councillor Mrs JM Young informed that she was aware of the flooding issue.

Councillor Mrs JM Young asked if there had been any legal advice received from the National Association of Local Councils in respect of the two draft Grounds Maintenance Contracts that had been sent to it for their comments.

Councillor Mrs JM Young enquired about the No Dogs notices that were in the Golden Jubilee Park as the Council had agreed to allow dogs on leads in the Park for a six month trial period. (1 January to 30 June 2020) (Minute No. 116(b)(v) refers)

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Working Group be requested to investigate the flooding on Fiddlers Lane and bring a report on it to the next meeting of the Council on Monday, 3 February 2020;
- (2) the Clerk be requested to chase up the legal advice sought from the National Association of Local Councils;
- (3) new notices regarding the trial period be put up to cover the No Dogs signs in the Golden Jubilee Park; and
- (4) information about the six month trial when dogs on leads are allowed into the Golden Jubilee Park be put on Facebook.

(c) Communications and Marketing

It was noted that the Working Group had not met since the last meeting of the Council.

(d) Highways

Councillor B Kerr reported that he and Councillors M Johnson and Mrs JE Storrar had met with Kay Parry, Cheshire West and Chester Council's Principal Engineer – Place, on 4 December 2019 and the Working Group and Councillor Simon Eardley had met on 10 December 2019 to discuss outcomes and to agree on the recommendations to be put to the Council.

Councillor Kerr presented a written report to the Council. The following matters were discussed:

Long Lane

Mrs Parry had confirmed what Jim Gibbons, Cheshire West and Chester Council's Place Area Commissioner Place Operations had previously advised that the evidence supported extending the 30mph limit from Church Road into Long Lane to a point beyond the boundary of the younger children's play area. The Police supported the proposal and subject to the Parish Council making a 50% contribution to the total cost (as previously flagged up) the proposal could be proceeded with. Under the delegated authority given to the Working Group, Mrs Parry was requested to begin the publication of the statutory notices. To minimise cost the 30 sign on the play area side of the road would be affixed to the second lamp standard up from Fiddlers Lane which was approximately opposite the middle of the second pair of semi-detached houses. The estimated cost to the Parish Council was £400. The existing 30 roundel would be blacked out and a new 30 roundel would be painted on the road surface at the new 30mph boundary. The Working Group also requested a 40 roundel to be painted on the road surface near the road junction with the Parkgate Road which Mrs Parry agreed to arrange. The cost to the Parish Council would be approximately £40.

Councillor Eardley undertook to check out Cheshire West and Chester Council's policy of requiring communities to contribute 50% of the costs to schemes originated by communities and whether the policy applied in both parished and unparished areas.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council notes the action taken by the Working Group and authorises the payment of 50% (subject to Councillor Eardley's confirmation of the policy) of the total costs on completion of the work.

Parking on Grass Verges

This issue had been raised with Mrs Parry and she had advised that the Principal Authority had the powers to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order on designated stretches of highway which would prohibit parking on verges and footways. Although only used sparingly, such orders were in place within the Borough. The length of road covered by such an Order would be clearly signed. Before an Order was introduced Cheshire West and Chester Council would need to be satisfied that damage was being caused to the verges and pedestrian use of footways was being impeded. Local residents would be consulted and an Order which would only be implemented if there was residents support. The Working Group had discussed the issue in detail and agreed that there was a need for such an Order in both Long Lane and Church Road.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council request Cheshire West and Chester Council to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to ban parking on verges and footpaths on both sides of the road between the Saughall

village sign on Long Lane down to the junction of Saughall Hey with Church Road.

Pedestrian Crossing

The Working Group had discussed with Mrs Parry whether Cheshire West and Chester Council would consider installing a pedestrian crossing on Long Lane/Church Road in the vicinity of the younger children's play area. Mrs Parry had advised that there would need to be a footfall census carried out and it would be sensible to defer such a census until late spring or early summer when usage of the play area and amenity areas increased. If the census supported the case for a pedestrian crossing the Parish Council would need to be agreeable to contributing 50% of the cost which would be a five figure sum.

The Working Group considered it would be sensible for a census to be carried out to ascertain if there was a need for a pedestrian crossing putting aside, for the time being, any cost considerations.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council request Cheshire West and Chester Council to conduct a pedestrian footfall census at a time and date to be agreed with the Parish Council.

Speed Indicator Devices

The Working Group discussed with Mrs Parry the issues that had been covered in dialogue with Mr Gibbons and that the Parish Council had now agreed that it would use Cheshire West and Chester Council's approved supplier. Discussion had taken place with Mrs Parry on the preferred installation locations and she had confirmed that Cheshire West and Chester Council would meet 50% of the purchase/installation cost if the devices were installed at locations that met Cheshire West and Chester Council's criteria. Two locations had previously been identified; one on Long Lane and the other on Hermitage Road near the Peg/The Ridings. They would be fixed devices which would flash the speed limit at vehicles exceeding it, although an attachment could be added which would flash a Slow Down message. The total cost for the two installations would be approximately £15,000 with the Parish Council contributing 50%. The Working Group, whilst agreeing with the two Cheshire West and Chester Council's preferred locations, felt very strongly that a device should be installed at Little Saughall probably close to the first property as you enter Little Saughall from Blacon to remind drivers they were still in a 30mph limit.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council authorise the placing of a contract to install speed indicator devices on Long Lane and Hermitage Road at a total cost to the Parish Council of approximately £7,500 and give authority for further discussion with Cheshire West and Chester Council for the installation of a device in Little Saughall.

Other Issue

Mrs Parry had drawn attention to the 30 roundel in Seahill Road which was fading and needed repainting. The Working Group obviously supported the repainting but, as a matter of principle, did not accept that the Parish Council should have to pay 50% of the cost for what was routine road marking maintenance. Such a precedent would seriously undermine the Parish Council sector.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Councillor Simon Eardley be requested to raise this issue with the Principal Authority and report back to the Parish Council in due course.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Councillor Kerr be thanked for his informative report;
- (2) the Council notes the action taken by the Working Group and authorises the payment of 50% (subject to Councillor Eardley's confirmation of the policy) of the total costs on completion of the work;
- (3) the Council requests Cheshire West and Chester Council to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to ban parking on verges and footpaths on both sides of the road between the Saughall village sign on Long Lane down to the junction of Saughall Hey with Church Road;
- (4) the Council request Cheshire West and Chester Council to conduct a pedestrian footfall census at a time and date to be agreed with the Parish Council;
- (5) the Council authorise the placing of a contract to install speed indicator devices on Long Lane and Hermitage Road at a total cost to the Parish Council of approximately £7,500 and give authority for further discussion with Cheshire West and Chester Council for the installation of a device in Little Saughall; and
- (6) Councillor Simon Eardley be requested to raise the issue of the maintenance of the 30mph roundel on Seahill Road with his Council and report back its response to the Parish Council in due course.

135. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning Applications

The observation on the following planning application was agreed and the Clerk was requested to notify Cheshire West and Chester Council - the Planning Authority, of it:

(i) 19/03946/FUL

Proposal: First Floor extension to rear – amendment to application 18/03066/FUL.

Location: The Welwyns, Kingswood Lane, Saughall.

‘No objections.’

(ii) 19/04241/FUL

Proposal: Single storey side extension.

Location: Astbury Cottage North, Parkgate Road, Saughall.

‘No objections.’

(iii) 19/04132/FUL

Proposal: Open fronted barn of steel construction for the dry storage of feed and bedding for 130 cows.

Location: Green Farm, Lodge Lane, Saughall.

‘No objections.’

(iv) 19/04324/FUL

Proposal: Replacement of existing windows and doors to front and rear.

Location: Rustic Cottage, Church Road, Saughall.

‘No objections.’

(v) 19/04463/FUL

Proposal: Single storey side and rear extension.

Location: 24 The Ridings, Saughall.

‘No objections.’

(b) Planning Decisions

RESOLVED:

That the following planning decision(s), made by the planning authority, be noted:

(i) 18/03993/FUL

Proposal: Erection of detached garage.

Location: 1 Fernlea Court, Seahill Road, Saughall.

“Approval.”

(ii) 18/01785/FUL

Proposal: Conversion of outbuilding to form annex accommodation including extension to front.

Location: Oakfield Grange, Parkgate Road, Saughall.

“Approval.”

(c) Appeal Under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

19/01639/FUL

Proposal:	Erection of brick walls (1300mm in height), timber gates and brick gate pillars (1400mm in height) – partly retrospective.
Location:	Wilbur Cottage, Long Lane, Saughall.
Appellant’s Name:	Mr Allan Moore
Planning Inspector Ref:	APP/A0665/W/19/3240438D
Appeal Reference:	19/00095/REF
Appeal Start Date:	12 November 2019

The Council noted that the gate was the subject of the appeal.

RESOLVED:

That the detail of the above appeal be noted.

136. ACCOUNTS

- (a) Payments made since the meeting of the Council held on 7 October 2019
2019

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

<u>Financial Year 2019/2020</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>Cheque No</u>
Mr A Bailey (Copies of the Order of Service for Remembrance Sunday)	90.00	200220
123 Connect (Website Hosting)	118.80	200221
Vernon Institute (Hall Hire 7 Oct – 10 Nov 2019)	78.15	200222
Mr JE Davies (Litter Picking in December 2019)	131.20	200223
Mrs S Hudspeth (Salary – January 2020)	708.46	200224
HMRC	700.83	200225
Pink Spaghetti (Meeting Administration)	55.50	200226
Mrs JE Storrar (Mileage to ChALC Training Event)	3.30	200227
Mrs S Hudspeth (Expenses)	91.50	200228
Mr JE Davies (Litter Picking in November)	131.20	200229
Replacement Cheque 200213 reported lost)		

- (b) Receipts

RESOLVED

That it be noted that Municipal Mowing Ltd had provided the Clerk with a repayment of £100 in cash as she had identified an error in the company's invoice (for Public Rights of Way work – supply and erect new stock fence) which had resulted in the Council making an overpayment of £100.

- (c) Cash to Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the cash to bank reconciliation sheet be noted.

137. SAUGHALL HOUSING SURVEY

Councillor A Bailey informed that there was still no progress to report.

138. SAUGHALL MATTERS

- (a) Remembrance Sunday, 11am on 10 November 2019

Councillor A Bailey reported that there had not been any Police in attendance in Saughall on the morning of Remembrance Sunday and so there had been no traffic management. This would need to be borne in mind next year along with the possible cost of the road closure.

Members had regard to a letter dated 5 November 2019 sent to all Parish Councils in Cheshire by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Councillor David Keane to address significant community concern regarding the policing of Remembrance Day Parades and Ceremonies across the county. His view was made very clear. Remembrance Day events were not only a very important opportunity for local communities to remember those who had given the ultimate sacrifice but they also resembled a key community engagement opportunity for local policing. That said, Councillor Keane understood that from an operational policing perspective the Chief Constable had to make difficult decisions with finite resources.

The Council had regard to emails received from Stephen Richards and Anne Cartwright who raised safety concerns.

Mr Richards had informed that the Remembrance Service had been marred, and attendees endangered, by the proximity of vehicles. He had been really concerned about the safety of attendees, including several young children, who had attending the service. The position of the road closure, which allowed traffic to turn from Seahill Road into Hermitage Road (and vice versa) was dangerous and posed an unnecessary risk. He asked the Council to consider this feedback when making plans for future events and, if necessary, to make appropriate representations to the Local Authority. Mr Richards was of the view, as was the Council, that safety of those attending the service should never be compromised to minimise traffic disruption.

Ms Cartwright was also concerned about the position of the road closures in close proximity to the service itself and had felt a little on edge standing by the junction. There had been small children standing on the road close to the road closure sign and consequently close to where cars had been redirected. From her previous experience with other events in the village Ms Cartwright had expected cars to be redirected at an earlier junction than outside the Greyhound Inn. She asked the Council to consider a safer cordoning off of roads in future for such occasions.

The Council also had regard to an email received from Sharon Beddows expressing her disappointment and embarrassment that, once again, Parish Councillors had failed to work together to provide just one Remembrance Service. Ms Beddows informed that she was aware the some of the Councillors had canvassed and encouraged a second service which had been held in the afternoon on Remembrance Sunday and she considered that, therefore, they had not been objective in their duties and she questioned whether there had been a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct Policy.

It was proposed by Councillor M Johnson, seconded by Councillor H Jennings and voted upon that this Council will continue to facilitate and support one act of Remembrance only which will be held at the War Memorial at 11am on Remembrance Sunday each year.

The Council considered an email received from Tony and Bea Summers suggesting that in future poppies be put on every other lamp-post in Little Saughall at the beginning of November each year and offering their assistance to put up the poppies.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Clerk be requested to thank Stephen Richards and Anne Cartwright for drawing their concerns to the Council's attention and informing them that there will most certainly be additional safety measures put in place on Remembrance Sunday this year;
- (2) this Council will continue to facilitate and support one act of Remembrance which will be held at the War Memorial at 11am on Remembrance Sunday each year;
- (3) the Clerk be requested to thank Sharon Beddows for drawing her concerns to the Council's attention and inform her that Remembrance Service at 11am was organised by the Parish Council whilst the Service in the afternoon was not and that it had been arranged in a private capacity. However, moving forward the Parish Council remains committed to arranging the act of Remembrance in Saughall at 11am on Remembrance Sunday; and
- (4) the Clerk be requested to inform Tony and Bea Summers that the Council already has acquired additional poppies and intend to order more so there will be a nice display on Hermitage Road in future years and to thank them for agreeing to help put them up.

(b) VE Day 75th Anniversary – 8 to 10 May 2020

Councillor A Bailey reported that Parish Councils were being encouraged to pay tribute to those who had lost their lives during World War 2 by undertaking the following ceremony at 3pm on Friday, 8 May 2020. The wording of the "Toast" could be obtained from the DOWNLOAD page of the VE day 75 website www.veday75.org

Members were aware that when VE Day dawned on 8 May 2020 it would be 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. Years of carnage and destruction had come to an end and millions of people took to the streets and public houses to celebrate peace, mourn their loved ones and to hope for the future, but not forgetting those still in conflict until 15 August when it had been announced that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, effectively ending World War II.

The 75th Anniversary would provide an opportunity to reflect on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw the country through this dark and terrifying period. To commemorate this important time the Council could help organise VE Day

75, a three-day international celebration that would take place from 8 May to 10 May 2020.

It would be an opportunity for residents to remember the enormous sacrifices that were made at home and abroad and to joyously celebrate as people did 75 years ago, the arrival of peace in Europe.

Councillor Bailey asked Members if there was any support for facilitating and arranging any events over the weekend.

RESOLVED: That

(1) Councillor PP Young be requested to find out the availability of the Vernon Institute for the VE Day 75th Anniversary weekend celebrations; and

(2) interested parties be invited to attend a meeting at 5.30pm on Monday, 13 January 2020 at the Vernon Institute (immediately before the Budget Council Meeting) to discuss possibilities and options for the weekend.

(c) Christmas Lights Switch-On – 5pm on Friday, 29 November 2019

Councillor A Bailey informed that the event had been very successful and the hog roast had been fantastic.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

(d) Operation London Bridge

Councillor A Bailey informed that a Book of Condolence would be opened at All Saints Church and people were needed to help with this. More information would be provided at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

(e) Neighbourhood Management Committee

Councillor Mrs JM Young informed that Fish and Chip Supper, held on 13 December 2019 in support of this year's Summer Play Scheme, had been very successful.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

(f) Saughall Signs

RESOLVED:

That this item of business be deferred to the next meeting of the Council scheduled for Monday, 3 February 2020.

139. PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES

Councillor A Bailey reported that there had not been a Parish Surgery on Saturday, 4 January 2020 because the Farmer's Market had not been on. He offered to preside over the next Surgery to be held at the beginning of February.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be received; and
- (2) Councillor A Bailey be requested to preside over the next Parish Council Surgery being held between 10.30am and 11.30am on Saturday, 1 February 2020 at the Farmer's Market in the Vernon Institute and bring a report on its proceedings to the next Council meeting scheduled for 7pm on Monday, 3 February 2020.

140. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

RESOLVED:

That the following communications and actions be noted:

- An email trail (attached) between Gaynor Harris and the Clerk where the Council is thanked for the donation it made to the Friday Club's Christmas Lunch.
- An email dated 13 December 2019 (attached) from Jack Thomas regarding environmental issues.
The Clerk would reply informing: That
 - She has contacted Cheshire West and Chester Council to ask about the possibility of tree planting on the grassed amenity areas at both Saughall Hey and The Ridings Estate. The Principal Authority was happy to consider this but it must, firstly, undertake a statistics check for underground services for the sites. Officers would let her know once this check had been carried out.
 - The Council has a litter picker who works 16 hours per week collecting rubbish from the Golden Jubilee Park.
 - Plastic bags are not on the Parish Council's agenda at the present time.
- Signpost – winter 2019.