

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT CHELFORD VILLAGE HALL ON 9th JULY 2009

PRESENT: Councillors A. Norbury, J. Leach, Mrs K. Gildon, R. Roycroft, Mrs J. Sims (Clerk) and PC Simon Warr.

APOLOGIES: Councillors B. Tyre and T. Boon.

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th May 2009, circulated prior to the meeting were passed and signed by Cllr Gildon.

PC Simon Warr reported to the Council on current issues of interest concerning Chelford:-

1 Police drop in sessions have been arranged at Astle Court Community Centre in July and August, these are to be advertised on the website and by posters around the village. PC Warr felt that initially people had been reluctant to speak to the Police but he hoped that these sessions would improve public confidence.

2 The Knutsford Police have just put in an order for two SIDs for use in the Knutsford area. There are only a handful of these devices at the moment which are rotated over a large area. Cllr Roycroft commented that the Council had previously offered to buy its own SID but CCC would not allow it on the grounds that there had been no fatalities on the road and that it would not be fair on villages unable to afford their own sign.

3 Goostrey which was previously in Congleton Borough has been allowed to buy two SIDs which it moves around several sites, this is done by a team of volunteers. Pc Warr felt it would be beneficial if someone from Goostrey was invited to give a talk on the subject at the one of the meetings. Rob Cramer from the Highways Department has also expressed an interest in attending to listen to the presentation.

4 A group of local teenagers have been causing trouble in the park areas around the Village. The group have been hanging around these areas until 2- 3 o'clock in the morning drinking and causing a disturbance. The Police have identified the people concerned and have spoken to them about their behaviour. It was felt that the contact telephone number for the Neighbourhood Police Team should be put on the website.

PC Warr (direct Line) – 0845 458 6380

To report a crime - 0845 458 0000

5 The Transport Team are responsible for crimes committed at the Station but for a quicker response it might be advisable to phone PC Warr.

6 The problem of cars parked on the pavement especially near Chelford Farm Supplies was discussed. This is not allowed but if the car is not causing an obstruction the policy is to leave it however if there is an obstruction the driver will be given a ticket.

MATTERS ARISING

Hedge at the Village Hall. The purchase of the land at the Village Hall was completed on the 13.7.09. The Registration of ownership with the Land Registry is still to be completed. Cllr Norbury has agreed with the vendor that the hedge can be taken out whenever it is convenient and feels that it would be easier after the crops have been harvested in early August. It was discussed whether the work should be put out to tender or whether the current contractor should be used. The Council felt that with the limited time scale the latter may be the preferred option.

Peaks and Plain. It was agreed that Peaks and Plains should be contacted to find out if the Council had any nomination rights regarding vacant properties in the Village.

Parking in the Village A meeting was held with Rob Cramer from East Cheshire regarding the parking problems by the Market.

1. Dixon Drive has parking restrictions from 9.00am to 5.00 pm from Monday to Saturday and it was suggested that this should be extended to include Sundays.
2. Parking for visitors in the lay-by by the bungalows on Elmstead Road has been causing problems especially on a Monday as visitors, carers and district nurses visiting the residents have been given parking tickets. A resident's permit system was discounted as many of the properties already have off road parking and so wouldn't qualify for such a scheme.
3. Residents in the area around the market site have been given an increasing number of parking tickets and are inconvenienced by not been allowed to park outside their property. It was proposed that the parking restrictions could be removed for a trial period but it was felt this may cause additional problems with increased parking by market visitors.

Concern was expressed concerning the length of the lease that Marshalls have on the land behind Chelford Farm Supplies and the parking problems the loss of the site would cause in the future. It was felt that the residents should be consulted over any proposals and that the Council should consider holding an open meeting for residents to attend. It was suggested that the opinion of residents could be canvassed first via the website and the Parish Magazine.

4. Cars have been parking beyond the bollards on Dixon Drive around the entrance to Clay Heyes on market days including Sundays seriously affecting visibility for residents turning out of the road. Parking restrictions were suggested but may result in the problem moving further down Dixon Drive.

Crown Land. The problem of the ownership of the tree belt is thought to have reverted to the Crown however there is some confusion as one resident was informed by a Treasury Solicitor that although the Crown owned the land it was not responsible its upkeep while another resident was informed that there was no record of the land been owned by the Crown. The condition of some of the trees is causing concern and the problem of ownership may cause problems with residents insurance if any damage was caused to their properties by an unsafe tree. The Council felt that it should perhaps consult a solicitor to try and establish the true ownership of the property.

It was suggested that the Tree Officer should be asked to come out and inspect the condition of the trees in the tree belt to give some idea of the problems the residents may have with the trees behind their property. It was agreed that the idea of the residents buying the land behind their property would only succeed if all the residents were involved.

Affordable Housing. Several proposals to build affordable housing in Chelford and the surrounding villages were discussed.

Vacancy on Council. It was agreed that Edward Michell should be co-opted onto the Council. This follows the advertisement of the vacancy for the statutory two weeks.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Boundary Committee – Electoral Review of new Cheshire East Unitary Authority
2. Zurich – Annual Health and Safety Seminars

3. Cheshire East – Notice of Knutsford and Bucklow Parish Cluster Meeting
4. Cheshire Community Action – Members Evening 7.7.09
5. ChALC – Representation on Local Strategic Partnership
6. Siècle UK – Dingle Bank Quarry Liaison Meeting 2.6.09
7. Astra Zeneca – Informal Evening 7.7.09
8. Manchester Airport – Runway Refurbishment Closures 2010
9. ChALC – Meeting 30.6.09
10. Site Inspection Record- Village Hall Playground
11. Nether Alderley PC – Re: Dobbies
12. Cheshire East – Local Strategic Partnership
13. Cheshire East – Minutes of the Knutsford and Bucklow Cluster Meeting
14. Land Registry – Registering your land – A guide for Parish Councils
15. Cheshire East – Dates for Diaries
16. Cheshire East – Site Inspection Record
17. Sibelco – Community Liaison Meeting (2.6.09) – Notes
18. Cheshire East – A-Z Contact List
19. Cheshire East – Strategic Housing Market Assessment
20. Manchester Airport – Draft Noise Action Plan

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. 09/1069M Chelford Farm Supplies – Re-building existing sales and storage area
2. 09/1578M 1 Ivy Cottages – Rear single storey extensions. **APPROVED**
3. 09/1457M Chelford Cof E Primary School – Single storey extension and addition of door to gable wall with canopy over. **APPROVED**
4. 09/1069M Chelford Farm Supplies – Re-building existing sales and storage area

ACCOUNTS PASSED FOR PAYMENT

1 Slater, Heelis, Collier and Littler – Fees for purchase of land	1159.75
2 AJN Landscapes – Village Maintenance	1317.21
3 E.ON – Village lighting	53.74
4 Safetyshop – Purchase of signs for playing field	29.27

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Egerton Arms – it was felt that the new signs at the Egerton Arms could be big enough to require planning permission. It was agreed that Vincent Farrell the Planning Enforcement should be contacted.

VILLAGE PLAN

Cllr Leach gave a progress report on the Parish Plan. It is now three months since the launch of the Plan and certain areas for action have been identified.

1. Traffic and Road Safety – to consult with all the relevant parties.
2. Environment and Appearance –
 - 1 Litter
 - 2 The problem with dog fouling in public areas

- 3 To improve the appearance of the embankment on Station Road
- 4 To continue the funding of the floral displays in the Village
- 5 To investigate the possibility of finding a sponsor for landscaping work on the roundabout
- 6 To improve the maintenance of footpaths

The committee have been advised to concentrate on activities that would require major funding which include:-

1. The provision of additional recreational facilities for all age groups.
 2. The improvement of footpath access from the Dixon Drive area to the Village Hall field.
- Quotes have been received for both of these projects, which have been identified as the main action points requiring external funding.