

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF BULKELEY AND RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2015**

Present:- Councillors I Hastings, A Mitchell, M Dixon, D Edwards, S Dixon and B Harvey, M Hassall, M Jones. CEC Cllr Stan Davies. Mrs R Jacks (Clerk).

1. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors P Groves, L Gaden.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors were invited to declare pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests arising from matters on the agenda. None were declared.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Resolved:- The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd September 2015. Proposed by Cllr M Dixon and seconded by Cllr S Dixon.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

4.1 Stonehouse Lane:- The hard-core at the entrance to the United Utilities site has been cleared up.

4.2 Pension Regulator:- The Clerk is to forward information received regarding auto enrolment.

5. **OPEN FORUM**

No members of the public were present.

6. **REPORT FROM POLICE CLUSTER MEETING**

Cllr Hastings attended the quarterly meeting for the Wrenbury Police Cluster which was held on 14th October in Bickerton Village Hall. Five parishes were represented and a representative from Cheshire East. The police were represented by new bobby Nicky Berry (who has been in this post before), and PCSO Sharon Jones.

Anti-Social Behaviour:- There were 9 reported Personal ASBs, 3 Nuisance, and no Environmental.

Road Traffic accidents:- Five were recorded with injury, 0 fatal, 8 damage only. Two cars collided near the Bickerton Poacher and one person suffered minor injuries. Two cars collided near Bridge Farm but no injuries, and 2 cars collided near the junction of the A534/A49 with a minor injury.

Recorded crime:- There were 22 cases in total; 4 burglaries, 0 criminal damage, 1 sexual offence, 9 theft/stolen goods, 7 violence against the person, and 1 vehicle crime.

At the discussion it was suggested that it would be good to know how many of the incidences were solved. At every meeting priorities are set for the next quarter (usually speed and theft) and again it would be useful to know what action was taken and what the results were. On the other hand it was agreed that officers should not be tied even more to their desks rather than be out on patrol.

Finally Gareth from Burland PC asked the officers to pass on our thanks to them and other officers for their bravery and dedication in their work, in light of the recent death of PC Phillips when hit by a car he had attempted to stop.

7. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

7.1 The Council approved the following payments:-

Chq No	Date	Reason	Amount
145	17/11/15	Bickerton Village Hall	£ 34.00
146	17/11/15	Running Costs	£ 14.91

147	17/11/15	A Mitchell – mowing play area	£ 125.00
148	17/11/15	Cardiac Science Holdings Ltd - cabinet for AED	£ 636.00
149	17/11/15	Kevin Jones - village maintenance	£ 37.50
150	17/11/15	DONATION: North West Ambulance	£ 100.00
151	17/11/15	DONATION: First Responders	£ 100.00

The Clerk was paid by Standing Order.

Receipts:- £1,250.00 Precept

Resolved:- The above payments were proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

Balance at bank as at 31/10/15:- £4,094.16

7.2 To agree and set precept for 2016 -17 financial year (see attachment B):-

Resolved:- The Council agreed to set the precept at £3,500.00 for the 2016 – 2017 financial year. Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr M Dixon.

7.3 To consider membership of CHALC:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed to renew its membership of CHALC. Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr S Dixon.

7.4 To consider donation to the First Responders and / or charity:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed to donate £100.00 to North West Ambulance and to donate £100.00 to First Responders. Proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Jones.

7.5 To consider purchasing a plaque for the lime tree planted to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed to purchase a plaque for the lime tree planted to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at a maximum cost of £25.00. Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

7.6 To review the Clerk's salary:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed for the Clerk's hours to increase from 2 hours per week to 3 hours per week this is due to the requirements of the Transparency Code which will lead to extra work. The Council agreed to increase the Clerk's salary to £1,800.00 per annum. Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

8. **PLANNING UPDATE**

8.1 See page 1 of the Planning Applications register attached for all applications received.

8.2 15/4858N - Change of use and internal alterations to convert redundant Methodist Church building to single dwelling and associated parking and amenity arrangements at Bulkeley Methodist Church, Wrexham Road, Bulkeley

Resolved:- The Council agreed to recommend the application for approval. Proposed by Cllr M Dixon and seconded by Cllr Jones.

9. **COMMUNITY PRIDE COMPETITION**

9.1 To receive update:-

Cllr M Dixon informed the meeting about the 19 awards that are part of the Community Pride Competition and how the villages are judged and marked. The feedback received is as follows:- B&R was awarded 85% in the competition and was placed 5th in its' category. The judges' comments are as follows:-

- Redundant telephone kiosk and notice board made the perfect 'Little Gem'.
- Bus shelter tidy and of good order.
- Garden centre down a very narrow lane was of no special interest.

- Caravan park was all tidy but was not occupied at the time.
- The playing field was overgrown the first visit but had been tidied on the second visit.
- The judges commented that they understood the Chapel has not been used for some time and therefore the entrance to it looked uncared for.
- The area around the Millennium oak tree, time capsule etc was beautifully kept, very well mowed grass, as was the area round the notice board and the 'not in use' phonebox.
- Just a small amount of weed in some areas.
- No graffiti. No chewing gum. No dog fouling. A few weeds.

9.2 To consider entry to the competition in 2016:-

The entry packs will be distributed in January. The Council will consider entry at the February meeting.

9.3 To agree how many hours for Kevin Jones is to work during the winter:-

The Council agreed for Kevin Jones to work one hour per fortnight during the winter and to delegate the power to Cllr Hastings should additional hours be required.

10. **PHONE BOX / AED UNIT**

The heated cabinet has been ordered and delivered. Cllr Mitchell is to obtain quotes to paint the inside and outside of the phone box.

11. **NEW AED UNIT**

The Council are to make a bid for funding for an AED unit in Ridley.

12. **FUNDING PROGRAMME**

See item 13.

13. **TRANSPARENCY CODE**

13.1 To approve the application form to request for funding to comply with the Transparency Code:-

Cllr M Dixon and the clerk have met to go through the requirements of the Transparency Code and to complete the application form to request for funding in order to comply with the transparency code. This includes new equipment, setting up a new website and associated training costs.

Resolved:- The Council agreed to approve the application form for funding to comply with the Transparency Code. Proposed by Cllr M Dixon and seconded by Cllr Jones.

13.2 To consider and approve template for Parish Council website:-

The item was deferred to the February meeting.

14. **PLAYING FIELD**

Cllr Hastings informed the meeting of dog fouling at the playing field. The matter is to be reported to the dog warden at CEC.

15. **TOASTING THE OAK**

The Toasting of the Millennium Oak on the A534 will take place at 2.00 pm on 1st January 2016.

16. **BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

Cllr Hastings is to ask Cllr Gaden if she will continue as representative on the BVH Committee.

17. **BICKERTON BURIAL BOARD**

Cllr Jones and Cllr Groves agreed to continue as representatives on Bickerton Burial Board.

18. **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

The Council discussed how it conducts business between meetings and a request was made for Cllrs to respond to emails.

19. **SPEED LIMIT**

The Council considered requesting for a 50 mph speed limit at the junction of the A49 and the A534 in Ridley.

CEC Cllr Stan Davies agreed to speak with Highways regarding the matter.

20. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

21. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The list of correspondence received has been distributed to councillors.

Cllrs Hastings, Groves and M Dixon attended the Chalc AGM in Middlewich and advised the meeting of the proposal to increase the membership fee by 1p per elector was amended to 3p per elector and this was passed by an overwhelming majority. There were only 3 motions and all were relevant to all parishes which included:-

- Mollington requested that ChALC lobby for the right of parishes to be notified of accurate details involving sites for HGV operations. This was passed.
- Haslington requested ChALC and NALC lobby to raise the age for driving a tractor on public roads from 16 to 24, because tractors are now much bigger with increased horsepower. However several speakers pointed out that accidents involving agricultural machinery represented a very small percentage of RTAs (with no indication that the age of the driver played any part), and any 17 year old could legally drive a 1000HP car. The motion was heavily defeated as were two amendments increasing the age but to no specified age, and increasing the age in line with HGV rules.
- Mickle Trafford introduced a motion asking planning departments to give all reasons for granting or refusing applications. This was defeated by a majority.

22. **NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The date of next meeting is Tuesday 16th February 2016