

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF BULKELEY AND RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH MAY 2016**

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

1. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors. M Hassall, M Jones.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

3. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Resolved:- It was proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr M Dixon that Cllr Hastings be elected as Chairman for 2016 - 17. The Chairman duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

4. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Resolved:- It was proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Gaden that Cllr Groves be elected as Vice Chairman for 2016 - 17. The Vice Chairman duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

5. **CHAIRMANS REPORT**

See attachment for Chairman's Report.

6. **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS**

Bickerton Burial Board Representatives:-	Cllr Jones and Cllr Groves
Association of Parish Councils Representatives:-	Cllrs Hastings and Cllr M Dixon
Bank Signatories:-	Cllr Hastings, Cllr Groves and Cllr S Dixon
Bunbury Charities:-	Cllr Hassall
Bickerton Village Hall:-	Cllr Gaden

Resolved:- That the Council agree to the above appointments.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Resolved:- That the Council approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th February 2016. Proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Groves.

8. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 8.1 First Responders:- The Council are to replace the cheque that has not been cashed.
- 8.2 Plaque for Lime Tree:- The plaque was shown to the meeting and will be installed by the lime tree as soon as possible
- 8.3 Football nets:- The nets at the playing field have been repaired.
- 8.4 Clean for the Queen:- Equipment was provided by CEC and used on the appropriate day. Photos were taken. If anyone wants to use the litter pickers etc, they should contact Idina.
- 8.5 Centenarian:- Various suggestions have been discussed; the Council suggested that a seat be installed on the playing field.

9. **OPEN FORUM**

No members of the public were present.

10. **POLICING**

Report from the Police Cluster Meeting:-

Cllr Hastings attended the police cluster meeting for the Wrenbury area on Wednesday 11th May at the Goodwill Hall. All information relates to the period 1st January to 31st March:-

- Beat officer Nicky Berry reported that due to a series of break ins and thefts earlier in the year the police had mounted Operation Meteoroid, during which time they had concentrated their efforts on patrolling the Bickerton, Bulkeley, Cholmondeley area after dark.
- Currently they are visiting farms in an effort to relate fields to the owners so that if they find poachers in a field they can phone the farmer to establish if he has given permission for the intruders. They are also encouraging people to sign up for Cheshire Alert.
- Road Traffic Accidents. There were 19 accidents across the cluster; none of them involved injury or death. The only local incident was near the Poacher when a car skidded on ice.
- Anti-Social Behaviour. Were 12 Personal ASBs, 5 Nuisance, 1 Environmental.
- Crime. There were 6 burglaries (one at Bulkeley), 1 criminal damage, 1 drugs 1 other offence, 6 public order, 1 robbery, 4 theft/stolen goods, 2 vehicle, 8 violence against the person. None of the other offences happened in this area.
- Static speed camera figures from 1st Feb to 30th April:-
A51 Alpraham; 1431
A 49 Spurstow; 42
A49 Bunbury; 252
A534 (Bickerton Poacher); 0. The camera was being upgraded to a digital device with some relocation work.
- Speed was set as a priority for the next quarter. A representative from Burland wanted signs put up showing how many people had received tickets for speeding. Nicky said there was no way at the moment for the person who issues the speeding tickets or warning letters to divide the incidences by area. They are very short staffed and it would mean a new database. Cllr Hastings I suggested that as well as giving the police the forms on which the speeding information was recorded, they should email the results to the Parish Council and include it on their website. Also of course, signs are a matter for Cheshire East.
- The next cluster meeting will be Wednesday 20th July.

11. **ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Resolved:- That the Council agree to the Adoption of the Code of Conduct for Members.
Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr M Dixon.

12. **STANDING ORDERS**

Resolved:- That the Council agree to the Adoption of the Standing Orders. Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Harvey.

13. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

13.1 To agree to appoint Richard Salmon to carry out the internal audit:-

Resolved:- That the Council agree to appoint Richard Salmon to carry out the internal audit.
Proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

13.2 To accept and approve the Risk Assessment (see attachment):-

Resolved:- That the Council agree to approve the Financial Risk Assessment. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

13.3 To accept and approve the Annual Return for Audit purposes (see attachment):-

Resolved:- That the Council agree to approve the Annual Return. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

13.4 To accept and approve the Annual Governance Statement:-

Resolved:- That the Council agree to approve the Annual Governance Statement. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

13.5 To accept and approve the following payments:-

The Council approved the following payments:-

Chq No	Date	Reason	Amount
160	17/05/16	Running Costs	£ 28.91
161	17/05/16	Kevin Jones - village maintenance	£ 225.00
162	17/05/16	CHALC (subs)	£ 101.15
163	17/05/16	Community Lincs Insurance Services	£ 170.68
164	17/05/16	Cheshire Community Action (subs)	£ 20.00
165	17/05/16	Richard Salmon (internal audit)	£ 30.00
166	17/05/16	Barlows (install defib)	£ 36.23
167	17/05/16	Red paint for phone box	£ 10.99
168	17/05/16	Transparency Code Funding:- Website costs	£ 72.00
169	17/05/16	Transparency Code Funding:- Dell laptop	£ 418.80
170	17/05/16	Bickerton Village Hall	£ 26.50
171	17/05/16	Plaque for lime tree	£ 24.76
172	17/05/16	First responders (replace chq)	£ 100.00
173	17/05/16	Transparency Code Funding :- Alzheimer's Society - donation	£ 100.00

The Clerk was paid by Standing Order.

A claim to reclaim VAT paid by the Council has been submitted to HMRC.

Resolved:- The above payments were proposed by Cllr Hassall and seconded by Cllr Groves.

Balance at bank as at 31/03/16:- £3,346.38

14. **PLANNING UPDATE**

See the Planning Applications register attached for all applications received.

15. **COMMUNITY PRIDE COMPETITION**

15.1 To receive update:-

Cllr Hastings met with the judges at the end of April and showed them around the village.

Comments included that the noticeboards required maintenance. The next round of judging will take place mid May with the final round in mid June.

15.2 The Future:-

The Council considered entry to the Community Pride Competition in future years. The Council discussed paying for more work as it is too much for one person. Local handymen are to be approached about maintenance work on the notice boards. Cllr Hastings is to prepare a list of tasks that are required in the village.

Quotes are to be obtained to carry out repairs to the noticeboards.

15.3 To agree how many hours for Kevin Jones is to work:-

Cllr Hastings is to clarify Kevin Jones's insurance arrangements and to ask how much time he has available.

The Council agreed for Kevin Jones to work up to three hours per week if so required.

16. **COUNCIL STATUS**

A committee at Cheshire East Council are due to meet to discuss community governance review.

17. **KEY ISSUES**

Cllr M Dixon expressed concerns regarding responses by and feedback from CEC with regard to Planning Submissions from Parish Council. The Clerk is to check the CEC website for planning notifications.

Concerns were raised regarding the website as Cllrs have found it difficult to locate planning applications. The Clerk is to write to CEC to express the concerns raised.

Cllr M Dixon suggested that the Council adopt a planning policy to deal with planning applications.

18. **PHONE BOX / AED UNIT**

The signage for the phone box is due to be installed. Barlows have installed the electrics for the AED unit. David Wrench has agreed to be custodian for the AED unit. The painting of the phone box is to be finished. Cllrs queried how the unit will be maintained and inspected also are there any associated costs.

The Council formally thanked Cllr Mitchell for all his work with arranging the AED unit.

19. **WEBSITE**

Cllr M Dixon had circulated the proposed layout and items that are to be included on the new Council website and invited comments / suggestions from Cllrs.

Cllr M Dixon proposed that the Council does not continue with the newsletter that appears in My Village News. He suggested instead that the newsletter be posted on the website with a reference in the editorial section of My Village News that directs people to the website to view the newsletter.

The Council considered having a Facebook page but agreed not to proceed at present.

The Council formally thanked Cllr M Dixon for all his hard work in setting up the Council website.

20. **BUNBURY CHARITY REPORT**

The item was deferred.

21. **MEDIA POLICY**

Resolved:- The Council agreed to the Adoption of the Media Policy. Proposed by Cllr M Dixon and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

22. **BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Gaden advised that forthcoming events at the Hall are circulated.

23. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

24. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The list of correspondence received has been distributed to councillors.

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

The date of next meeting is Tuesday 27th September 2016

Annual Parish Meeting

Cllr Mitchell informed the meeting that Mark Schofield is due to submit a revised planning application for 13 dwellings at the Mill Road site