

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF BULKELEY AND RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

Present: - Councillors Idina Hastings, Mike Dixon, Sue Dixon, Linda Gaden. David Edwards, Andrew Mitchell, James Weddell, Jonathan Knight, Mike Hassall, Peter Groves. CEC Cllr Stan Davies. Mrs Ruth Shackleton (Clerk).

1. **APOLOGIES**

None received.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors were invited to declare pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests arising from matters on the agenda.

No declarations were received.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Resolved:- That the Council approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 16th May 2017. Proposed by Cllr Weddell on and seconded by Cllr Knight.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. **OPEN FORUM**

There was no consideration of this item as no members of the public were present.

6. **POLICING**

Report from the Police Cluster Meeting:-

Cllr Hastings attended the police cluster meeting on Wednesday 13th July at the Goodwill Hall Faddiley. Seven parishes were represented and a representative from Cheshire East. The figures relate to the period 1st April - 30th June.

Crime :-

Across the cluster there were 7 burglaries, 7 criminal damage, 0 drug offences, 1 other offence, 11 public order offences, 7 theft/stolen goods, 2 vehicle offences and 6 violence against the person. Two burglaries happened in Bulkeley; a garden shed was broken into and a lawn mower stolen, and a stables was broken into and items of tack removed. At a later date, two people were arrested in Chester and found to have numerous items of tack, so they might have been responsible for this theft.

Road Traffic Accidents:-

There were 6 accidents in our parish; 4 with injury and two damage only. Two of the accidents with injury happened at or near Ridley Green corner and the other two were on the A534 in Ridley and one near the Poacher. The two with no injury happened on the A49 in Ridley.

Anti-Social Behaviour:-

There were no incidences of anti-social behaviour in the parish, but inevitably one at Peckforton Castle where a drunken guest offered to fight everyone.

7. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

7.1 To accept and approve the following payments:-

The Council approved the following payments:-

Chq No	Date	Reason	Amount
203	19/09/17	Mowing Playing field	£ 250.00

204	19/09/17	Bickerton Village Hall (Room Hire)	£ 36.50
205	19/09/17	Running Costs / backdated salary	£ 75.17
206	19/09/17	Kevin Jones	£ 255.00

The Clerk was paid by Standing Order.

Balance at bank as at 30/09/17:- £4,007.70

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

7.2 Receipts:-

Precept received:- £1,750.00

7.3 Internal Audit:-

The Internal Audit report has been returned with no matters arising.

7.4 Annual Audit:-

The annual return was presented to the Council including a certificate for the Notification of Conclusion of Audit and details of the External Auditors opinion

Resolved:- That the Council approve and accept the certificate issued by the External Auditor for the Annual Return. Proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Gaden.

8. **INTERNAL PROCEDURES**

To confirm adoption of the following (as circulated with minor amendments):-

- Standing Orders
- Financial Regulations

Resolved:- That the Council agree to the following:-

- To adopt the updated Standing Orders.

Proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Knight.

- To adopt the updated Financial Regulations.

Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

9. **PLANNING UPDATE**

See the Planning Applications register attached for details of all applications received.

10. **HIGHWAYS**

10.1 Speedwatch:-

Cllr Hastings updated the meeting regarding the Speedwatch campaign. The Council agreed to purchase hi viz vests.

10.2 A534:-

Councillors considered the problem of overtaking through Bulkeley and agreed to contact Highways regarding the options.

10.3 Footpaths on A534:-

Footpath and Dropped Kerbs:- The Council considered the request received from Mrs Flavell Matts regarding the footpath and dropped kerb problems in Bulkeley. The Council agreed for a representative to meet with Highways after their meeting has taken place with Mrs Flavell Matts. The Council also agreed to contact CEC and request costings and feasibility.

Footpath opposite the Chapel:- the footpath is overgrown. The Council are to contact CEC to establish who owns the land before arrangements to cut the grass are made.

11. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**

The Council agreed for Kevin to continue maintaining the village.

12. **COMMUNITY PRIDE COMPETITION**
There was no Community Pride Competition in 2017. The competition is to be relaunched in 2018 as the Best Kept Village. Full details of the new format are to follow.
13. **PLAYING FIELD**
The playing field has been mowed eight times this year. The Council has paid for ten cuts, the remaining two cuts are to be done over the next month.
The Council discussed dog fouling at the playing field and the proposed CEC legislation. Councillors were encouraged to complete the online survey.
14. **BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL**
Cllr Hastings updated the meeting about the recent events at the hall and the funds raised.
15. **WEBSITE**
Cllr Weddell circulated a paper detailing the objectives of the website and the actions undertaken or required (see attached). The actions required include possible additions such as useful links, local pictures, local history, calendar of events, a detailed boundary map, survey on local issues, contact details advice and a news section.
16. **SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCILLORS**
Smaller authorities should publish a list of councillor responsibilities (e.g. committee or board membership and function of each councillor) the Council already publishes a list of all councillors and representation on external local public bodies when agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Council.
Resolved:- The Council agree not to delegate specific areas of responsibilities of Councillors. Proposed by Cllr M Dixon and seconded by Cllr Edwards.
17. **CHALC ANNUAL MEETING**
Cllr M Dixon agreed to attend the CHALC Annual Meeting.
18. **CEC DECISION MAKING EVENT**
Cllr M Dixon agreed to attend the CEC Decision Making Event.
19. **POLICE COMMISSIONER SURVEY**
Parish Councils have been invited to take part in the Police Commissioner Survey. The Council considered taking part in the survey and agreed to participate.
20. **CLERKS REPORT**
Nothing further to report.
21. **CORRESPONDENCE**
The list of correspondence received has been distributed to councillors.
22. **NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**
The date of next meeting is Tuesday 21st November 2017.

Website:- www.bulkeleyandridley.org.uk