

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARTHOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE BARTHOMLEY VILLAGE HALL, BARTHOMLEY ON 10th SEPTEMBER 2019**

PRESENT:	Cllr T Clark	Chairman (in the chair)
	Cllr T Wilde	Vice-Chairman
	Cllr J Peacock	Cllr J Bailey
	Cllr S Gresty	Cllr R Nield

APOLOGIES: Cllr C Horrocks

ALSO PRESENT Dr. M Bailey (Clerk/RFO)
Cllr S Edgar (Cheshire East Council)
Cllr D Garety (Duchy of Lancaster)

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Horrocks and from Cheshire East Cllr M Addison.

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

There were no declarations of interest made by Members present.

15 MINUTES – 9TH JULY 2019

RESOLVED: Members resolved that the minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 9th July 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16 UPDATE ON MINUTES – REPORT OF CLERK

- Church Bank House – it was agreed that Cllr Edgar would follow this up, as it has been reported to Cheshire East Council
- Hungerford Place – repairs to the wet area on the road have been attempted by Cheshire East Council but these repairs did not work. It was agreed to report the matter back to CEC. It was also agreed to ask CEC if they had carried out the repair work. Cllr Edgar agreed to follow this up.
- Litter – the Duchy reported that the issue of litter at the service station was being monitored on a bi-weekly basis. It appears to be better than previously and bins are not overflowing. Duchy is meeting with the representatives from the service station to bring further pressure to bear and to see whether there are enough bins and whether they are emptied frequently enough
- Bridge House Farm – it was reported that the hedge had been cut
- Fir Tree Cottages – it was reported that the owners had been written to about the future of the properties
- 30 mph sign – it was reported that these are now in place
- Potholes – the pothole at Bank Cottage has been reported
- A500 – the road markings by the junction 16 roundabout has been reported to the Highways Agency and have now been done, as has the weeds on the roundabout
- Weed killer – this has been reported, in that the council do not want it used in the parish and would like to know what alternatives are available
- Litter picking equipment – this has been received (six lots of equipment) and a litter pick will be arranged
- SID – contacted Weston Parish Council but received no reply
- Willow Cottage – dealt with under ‘Public Question Time’ (below)

17 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

One member of the public was present at the meeting and raised the following issues: -

- Willow Cottage – the owner of the cottage attended the meeting in response to concerns raised by the council and others about the stones out the property on Deans Lane. Reported that there is confusion over who owns the verge and the area where the stones are located (council or the property itself). The resident asked, if the stones were removed, could traffic be more careful when it went past the property. The Council stated that a concern was who would be liable if an accident occurred and damage was done to a vehicle (Cllr Edgar to check this). The resident confirmed that he had maintained the verge in the past, but this had been destroyed by traffic.
- Tree maintenance – the resident asked whether the trees overhanging the roads on Deans Lane could be dealt with (needs to be reported to Cheshire East Council). The Duchy reported that a specialist had been asked to deal with issues such as this.
- Parking around the White Lion – the resident commented that problems had occurred with parking around the pub. The Council commented that the parking of vehicles in the area was an effective speed deterrent.
- Licensing – it was reported that the garage had applied for a licence to sell alcohol and nothing had been heard from Cheshire East Council (even though a meeting took place of the relevant Committee on 21st June 2019)

18 FINANCIAL MATTERS

18.1 Authorisation of Payments

£237.12	Dr. M J Bailey – salary payment for Clerk (July/August 2019)
£59.28	HMRC – tax on clerk’s salary (months 4 and 5)
£34.50	Shires Pay Services (Payroll Costs M1-M3)
£34.50	Shires Pay Services (Payroll Costs M4-M6)

RESOLVED: The above payments were approved by the Council

18.2 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1st April 2019-31st July 2019)

Members noted the statement for the above period.

18.3 Budget Monitoring – 1st Quarter 2019-20 (April-June 2019)

Members noted the statement for the above period.

19 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Cllr Steve Edgar attended on behalf of Cheshire East Council. The following matters were reported:

- B5077 – meeting to be held at Oakhanger Hall on 16th September 2019 at 7pm to seek to reduce problems on the B5077. Looking for solutions to deal with speeding (Parish Council asked to send representation and Cllr Edgar to attend)
- Enquiry Service – Cheshire East Councillor enquiry service is working well and is to be rolled out to Town and Parish Councils, so that any issues (excluding planning; flooding; highways) will be reported to one number and will be dealt with within 14 days. Will be rolled out during the autumn
- Footpaths – diversions to be applied at Flash House Farm to avoid farm buildings (application from the Duchy)
- Highways – resurfacing work on Butterson Lane as part of regular maintenance schedule. The Parish Council commented that signage needs to be better when roads are closed.

20 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Several issues were reported: -

- Engelsea Brook sign has fallen on the main road towards Alsager
- It was reported that the grid opposite Cherry Tree Cottage on Barthomley Road needs to be cleaned
- It was reported that a bridge over the A500 needs clearing of vegetation towards the M6 by Smithy Green and Church Fields Farm
- Grids by the White Lion Cottages has been reported
- Cllr Edgar said that he would get someone to look at all flooding areas in the parish and the Chair will send details of these areas to Cllr Edgar and copy the Clerk into the email

21 PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning issues to report.

22 COMMUNICATIONS/SHARED INFORMATION/REPORTS OF MEMBERS

- Cllr Clark – reported that jobs reported for the parish are not on the list for minor works schemes after attending the Area Highways Group meeting
- Cllr Clark – reported that a beat report had been received from the PCSO and included information about patrols of the village in August 2019. Looking at using the scarecrows to advertise issues in the village (the Parish Council agreed that it was time to remove the scarecrows). A police surgery was held in Barthomley on 31st August 2019. It was agreed that this had not been publicised well enough and needs to be advertised in the Parish News (put the PCSO in touch with those producing Parish News). It was agreed that this could also be advertised on the notice boards. Finally, it was reported that there had been some violent damage to livestock in the parish.
- Cllr Clark – confirmed that a questionnaire had been drafted to ask residents about their views for the parish. It was suggested that more ‘closed’ questions may be needed and could be printed when a newsletter is produced. It was further suggested that it could be distributed via the website. Will be brought back to the next parish council meeting. It was also suggested that a Likert scale could be used for responses.

23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Tuesday 12th November 2019 at 7.30pm – Barthomley Village Hall.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and concluded at 9.00pm