

# **BARTHOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the meeting of 20th November 2018**

### **PRESENT**

Cllr B Whittaker (Chair)

Cllrs J Bailey, J Peacock, T Clark, C Horrocks and T Wilde

Mark Bailey (Clerk)

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Gresty and Cllr D Marren.

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no members of the public in attendance the meeting.

#### **4. POLICE REPORT**

PCSOs Liz Jolley and Ollie Branfield were present at the meeting to provide an update on issues affecting the parish.

A number of incidents were reported to have taken place in the parish, including one personal nuisance; one theft of a motor vehicle; four other thefts and five reports of suspicious people in the parish.

It was reported by the officers present were trying to push more use of social media and also encourage people to use good neighbour packages.

It was also reported that Horsewatch patrols have increased.

Members were asked for any help they could provide in tackling crimes around farms including using spray to identify property.

The officers said that they would publish information on the Haslington Police Facebook page and also use notice boards where possible.

The police said that they were looking to hold meetings in every village within the Haslington police area and would be in Barthomley on 10<sup>th</sup> December from 6-7pm.

Members were asked to suggest things which would keep Barthomley safe and suggestions were put forward, including information in the pub; something to tackle the problem of fly-tipping; and information in Parish News.

Finally, it was mentioned that a proposal had been put forward for a community hub computer for local people to use.

## 5. **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Marren had prepared a written report in his absence, which included information on: -

*Foster Carers' Service* - Cheshire East Council has joined forces with Warrington, Halton and Cheshire West and Chester councils to launch a new, collaborative project to recruit more foster carers. The service, known as 'Foster4', operates across the four Cheshire local authorities and aims to recruit more foster carers, as well as provide greater support, training opportunities, rewards and benefits. 'Become a Foster Carer' information sessions are now taking place six times per month across Cheshire and the next information sessions in Cheshire East are: Thursday 6 December – 6pm, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, CW1 2BB

*The Little Book of Scams* - Cheshire East Council's trading standards service is about to launch the fourth edition of 'The Little Book of Big Scams' including advice on how to avoid being ripped off by crooks and con artists. Accessing online shopping and auction sites, holiday booking sites, ticket sales, even romance and dating portals – all have the potential to be exploited by scammers. Cheshire East Council's trading standards team is currently supporting several residents that have lost money to scams – from cowboy roofers to rogue dating websites. The booklet highlights the 'Take Five' campaign, which urges people to take five minutes to think carefully before passing on any information on the telephone, by email or text or by any other means where the recipient is not a recognised or known individual or organisation

*Highways* - stocks have been replenished and the highways service's 19 gritters are on standby to treat Cheshire East's road network. Gritting routes are planned and include the recognised high-level roads to the east of the borough, where snow and ice tend to have the most severe impact in extremely cold weather. The gritting teams will treat up to 1,200 kilometres (750 miles) of road, when wintry conditions are predicted by our weather forecasting systems, to keep key routes and services running as normal. The gritters, which feature location trackers, will be on standby 24 hours a day, seven days a week until the end of April and fill up from our stocks in the north and south of the borough. Although we treat nearly half of Cheshire East's road network, we cannot ensure that every road will be clear of snow and ice all the time, especially on untreated roads." Treatment of the roads in winter takes place on a precautionary basis to prevent ice forming, with snow being dealt with using specialist equipment such as attachable snow ploughs. Residents can keep up to date with gritting decisions by following the @CECHighways twitter account. Cheshire East's gritting vehicles can also be tracked as they treat the network at: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways) Further information about Cheshire East Council's winter service and guidance on travelling during winter can be found at: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways) The highways service can also be contacted on 0300 123 5020

*Proposed Day/Time Changes to Kerbside Waste Collections* - The proposal would see new routes and rotas adopted by Ansa Environmental Services Ltd for the recycling and waste kerbside collection services from summer 2019. This will allow financial saving of £600,000 and ensure the authority is collecting recycling waste in the most cost effective manner using fewer vehicles over a longer working period. The proposal would align the changes with the introduction of the authority's new food waste recycling service in 2019. Residents would receive a food recycling caddie and will also be advised of new collection times and days for recycling and waste. This collection may be an earlier or later collection time between 6.30am and 6.00pm and some may experience a Saturday collection. The proposals would also see the end of the garden waste collection winter shut down period, as food and garden waste would be collected for recycling all year round in the garden waste bin.

*Pre-Budget Consultation* - CEC pre-budget consultation for 2019-2022 is now live **on their website**. Findings from the consultation will be used to inform how services are delivered from 1 April 2019 through to 31 March 2020, so please submit your views before the closing date on 14 December

*Chief Officers* - Mark Taylor has joined CEC from the 22<sup>nd</sup> October as interim Executive Director - Corporate Services. During this period CEC have taken the decision to invest the Section 151 statutory responsibilities in Alex Thompson, the current Deputy S151 officer

*New Homes Bonus Scheme* - Cheshire East Council's cabinet has approved a £2m new homes bonus fund to assist communities where new housing developments have been built between 2011 and 2017. The scheme, which will run for 2 years, is designed to achieve positive benefits based on locally-identified needs. The priorities for each of the areas have been set by 7 geographical award groups, made up of elected members and a representative from the town and parish councils. The fund will give local councils and the voluntary, community and faith sector an opportunity to apply for projects that can make a lasting difference to communities and as such the minimum grant figure is set at £10,000 with no upper limit. The total allocations for each of the 7 areas are:

- Congleton £328,973
- Crewe £170,985
- Knutsford £61,790
- Macclesfield £121,739
- Nantwich £162,006
- Poynton £67,776
- Wilmslow £86,731

CEC are now inviting applications to the fund for all 7 award group areas. The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. More information, including the application form, is available on the Council's website.

**6. CHESHIRE EAST DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PROCESS**

No updates were reported to the meeting.

**7. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 11TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 meeting were considered by members.

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of 11th September 2018 be approved as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

**8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

*Old Hall Farm* – tenant and landlord now written to regarding ragwort in fields

*Hungerford Place* - with regard to the matter of a wet patch, Fisher German has been contacted

*Bridge House Farm* – it was **AGREED** to contact Cllr Marren with regard to the issue

*Litter* – CEC has been asked to clear away litter in the parish

*A500* – CEC officers contacted and may come to the next parish council meeting

*New Homes Bonus Scheme* – it was **AGREED** to work on a proposal to repair and re-surface the church drive, car park and village hall car park

*Flooding* – needs some work done on assessing the problem on the B5078

**9. HIGHWAY MATTERS**

There were no matters reported at the meeting.

**10. PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no matters reported at the meeting.

**11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Clerk presented two accounts for payment.

**RESOLVED**

That the following accounts be authorised for payment.

526	M Bailey	Salary	£174 .26
527	HMRC	Tax on Clerk salary	£43.56

The Council noted the latest ledger and budget monitoring information.

In terms of the 2019-20 budget, the Clerk reported the latest position including the likely balance in the accounts at the end of the current financial year (2018-19).

Based on this information, and the possible pressures on the Council, it was **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2019-20 would remain at £3,000.

**12. COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to report.

**13. REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

Members were invited to raise any issues of concern, which included:

- Cllr Whittaker – reported that the Duchy will be requiring the new KFC to keep the site clean and tidy
- Cllr Horrocks – reported that a Steering Committee had been set up to plan for a ‘village day’ on (probably) 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The Parish Council was asked whether it would support the day financially and otherwise. It was **AGREED** to include £500 in the budget for this purpose. It was also **AGREED** to provide questionnaires on the day for residents to indicate the most important issues for the village. Finally, it was **AGREED** that the day would last from 12pm to 7pm

**14. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 15th January 2019, 7.30pm