

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARTHOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT BARTHOMLEY VILLAGE HALL ON 16TH NOVEMBER 2023**

PRESENT: Cllr T Wilde Chair (in the chair)
Cllr C Horrocks Vice-Chair
Cllr L Clifford Cllr A Houldey
Cllr J Peacock

APOLOGIES: Cllr M Connolly Cllr K Parkes

ALSO PRESENT Dr. M Bailey (Clerk/RFO)
Members of the public

PART A

323 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Martin Connolly and Cllr Kate Parkes.

324 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 at the meeting.

325 MINUTES – 12th SEPTEMBER 2023 (PARISH COUNCIL MEETING)

RESOLVED: Members resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th September 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

The following errors were noted: -

- Minute 321 – should read ‘hedge’ rather than budget (Smithy Lane Bridge item)
- Minute 321 – should read that the property had been empty for 12 months (Fir Cottages item)

326 UPDATE ON MINUTES – REPORT OF CLERK

The Clerk updated the meeting on the following matters from the minutes of the last meeting.

- Old Hall Farm – it was reported that the Duchy had reviewed the project and had revised proposals for a reduction in the number of residential units and the addition of three small work units in the relocated horse barn building. A paper is being put together prior to community consultation. The Duchy has agreed to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council
- Defibrillator – no updates – it was confirmed that the request had been made to Tony Peake and that the Clerk would check the defibrillator after every Parish Council meeting.

- Fence at Hungerford Place – Cllr Horrocks reported that residents agreed to the removal of the fence and to replace it with stones. Cllr Peacock confirmed that she had the stones. Members considered when the stones could be installed. Cllrs Peacock and Horrocks agreed to meet to discuss the matter.
- Grids – a list of grids was sent to Cllr Edgar – awaiting a response. It was stated that members of the public need to post issues on social media and tag Cheshire East Council into those posts with photographs.
- Litter Pick – it was reported that ANSA had picked the area, and it was agreed that work will continue seeking to tidy up the services area. The Duchy had agreed to contribute to the cost of the litter pick. The Parish Council **AGREED** to monitor the situation,
- Bluemire Farm – it was reported that the banks were getting eroded up from the back of the pub to Bluemire Farm. This is a particular issue when there are issues on the A500. Cllr Horrocks asked if this could be added to the highways list to Cllr Edgar to seek further advice. It was hoped that signage could be acquired for this and will ask for another meeting with Cheshire East Highways (via Cllr Edgar). It was reported that there had been no progress in this area, and it was requested that a site meeting be held with CE Highways to respond to the issues in the area. Still awaiting a site meeting. It was suggested that permanent traffic lights at the site might assist with this (replacing the existing temporary lights) – Members **AGREED** that this suggestion would be put forward via social media and Parish News (Cllr Houldey to action).
- Brookside Cottage – it was reported that the application had gone to Cheshire East Council and comments had been made by the Parish Council. Now awaiting a decision.
- White Lion Pub – it was reported that the ACV application had been successful. In addition, the Parish Council wrote to Lord O’Neill who indicated that the Trustees were looking at the building in conjunction with Fisher German. In turn, Fisher German confirmed that the intention is to keep it as a pub and that work will be carried out on the building. It was **AGREED** that this information will be shared via social media.
- D-Day 80th Anniversary – Members considered this matter, and it was suggested that it could be a part of the celebrations for the centenary of the Bowling Club. Cllr Peacock also said that she would raise with the Village Hall Committee.
- Smithy Lane Bridge – it was reported that the road is falling in and concerned about the situation. It was noted that Cllr Edgar had been asked whether there could be any verge markings in place. Cllr Edgar had also been asked about reinstatement of the hedge at Smithy Lane West.

- Fir Tree Cottages – it was confirmed that a letter had been sent about the status of 3 Fir Tree Cottages – a response is awaited.
- Police – a request had been made for feedback on incidents from the police and it was mentioned that there was a ‘Police Alert’ page where issues could be reported as well as a WhatsApp group to report issues relating to community safety. The local PSCO also reported that she had spent more time in the village.

327 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

One member of the public attended the meeting. The following points were raised.

- Resident One – will address the issue of the noticeboard.

328 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Members considered the following financial matters.

328.1 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.23-30.9.23)

Members noted the ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1st April 2023-30th September 2023.

328.2 Budget Monitoring Report/Receipts and Payments Summary (Quarter Two – 2023/24) (April-Sept 2023)

Members noted the budget monitoring report/receipts and payments summary for the second quarter of the 2023/24 financial year.

328.3 Budget Report 2024-25

A report was presented to Members for comment regarding the setting of the 2024/25 budget for the Parish Council. Members noted the contents and referred to the second quarter documents presented under the previous item.

328.4 Authorisation of Payments

The following payments were presented to Members for approval.

£265.20	Dr MJ Bailey – Clerk salary (Oct/Nov 2023)
£66.30	HMRC for months 7 and 8 of the tax year (2023-24)
£124.20	Shires Accountants (Payroll M7-M12 2023/24)

Note – a cheque was reissued to Cllr Janet Peacock for £40.00 to replace cheque number 605 (lost cheque).

RESOLVED: The above payments were **APPROVED** by the Council

329 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Borough Councillors did not attend the meeting and no report was provided.

330 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Members considered highway matters affecting the parish.

330.1 A500 Widening

The Chair reported that the planned widening scheme may be in the balance –

and will await further information from Cheshire East Council. The Chair will also pass on information regarding highways in the parish to Members for comment.

331 PLANNING MATTERS

Members considered planning matters affecting the parish. As per the decision made at the last meeting, it was agreed that future planning applications will be shared with the community via the Parish Council and that any links will be to the Cheshire East website.

332 COMMUNICATIONS/SHARED INFORMATION/REPORTS OF MEMBERS

Several items were raised under this agenda heading: -

- Cllr Horrocks – attended a meeting on the planned Village Day – it was noted that the pub would be closed for a time and a decision has been taken not to hold the Village Day in 2024. Discussions are ongoing to hold an event with the Bowling Club to see if the Village Day could be a part of the Club’s centenary celebrations in 2024.
- Cllr Houldey – asked about tidying up the roads after the closures – the Chair reported that the work will have sign-off inspection over the next week and diversion and signage will be removed ahead of schedule. It was also confirmed that a road sweeper would be used on the lanes.
- Cllr Horrocks – asked about Parish Council records and it was **AGREED** to ask former Parish Councillor Teresa Clark about these records (Clerk to action).
- SID – contact has been made with the company and it has been confirmed that the model is out of date.
- Cllr Horrocks – raised the issue of ‘quiet lanes’ – information had been shared between Members. It was communicated that an application would need to be made for this status.
- Cllr Peacock – asked if the Parish News had been sponsored this year.
- Cllr Peacock – raised the issue of flooding in the parish and removal of gravel at the end of Rectory Drive – could this be addressed. It was **AGREED** to write to the Diocese after checking the position with the Vicar.

333 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.30pm – Barthomley Village Hall.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and concluded at 9.19pm