

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARTHOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT BARTHOMLEY VILLAGE HALL ON 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Cllr T Wilde	Chair (in the chair)
	Cllr C Horrocks	Vice-Chair
	Cllr L Clifford	Cllr A Houldey
	Cllr J Peacock	Cllr M Connolly
	Cllr K Parkes	
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Cllr S Edgar (CEC)	Cllr A Heler (CEC)
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Dr. M Bailey (Clerk/RFO) Members of the public	

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**PART A**

**334 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cheshire East Cllrs Steve Edgar and Alison Heler.

**335 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.

**336 MINUTES – 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 (PARISH COUNCIL MEETING)**

**RESOLVED:** Members resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**337 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 March 2024 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. It was confirmed that this would be actioned as soon as possible.

- 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 continues to monitor the situation,
- Road to 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 requested a 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 situation, a position supported by the wider community, although not by neighbouring properties.
- 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. It was **AGREED** to write to Cheshire East Council to confirm ownership of the wall at the property.
- White Lion Pub – it was reported that a planning application had been submitted to renovate the pub. Members **AGREED** to write to Fisher German regarding the provision of facilities for the disposal of sewage waste as previously it had been noticeably inadequate.
- D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> 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 – reported that the road is falling in - Members expressed their concern about the situation. It was noted that Cllr Edgar was asked whether verge markings could be put in place. Cllr Edgar was asked about reinstatement of the hedge at Smithy Lane West – it was reported that this had now been done.
- Fir Tree Cottages – it was confirmed that a letter had been sent about the status of 3 Fir Tree Cottages – it was reported that a response had been received saying that the area was being maintained but Listed Building Consent was being sought.
- Police – a request had been made for feedback on incidents from

the police and it was mentioned that there was a 'Polce 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.

- Village Day - it was confirmed that no Village Day would be held in 2024, but it was reported that there would be a contribution to the bowling club centenary celebrations.
- Roads - it was confirmed that a tidy-up had been carried out after the road closures.
- Parish Council Records – it was **AGREED** that Cllr Horrocks would have a look at the records in the first instance.
- SID – it was suggested that a replacement is considered by the Parish Council.
- Rectory Drive – it was **AGREED** to contact the vicar regarding the issue of flooding and the removal of gravel at the end of Rectory Drive.
- Parking Places – the Chair said that he would share information on the provision of passing places in the parish.

### **338 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

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

- Resident One – confirmed that work would be carried out on the noticeboard.

### **339 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Members considered the following financial matters.

#### **339.1 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.23-30.11.23)**

Members noted the ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April-30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

- Members raised the point that the Parish Council needed to check on the Compact position.

#### **339.2 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.

The Parish Council **RESOLVED**: –

- (a) That a budget of **£4,678.82** be approved; and
- (b) That the Clerk is authorised to request a precept of **£4,000.00** from Cheshire East Council.

Members agreed to develop a plan for future years in terms of priority areas to feed into precept setting beyond 2024/25.

### 339.3 Authorisation of Payments

The following payments were presented to Members for approval.

£265.20	Dr MJ Bailey – Clerk salary (Dec 2023/Jan 2024)
£66.30	HMRC for months 9 and 10 of the tax year (2023/24)

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

### 340 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

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

### 341 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Members considered highway matters affecting the parish.

#### 341.1 A500 Widening

The Chair reported that the planned widening scheme may be in the balance – and will await further information from Cheshire East Council.

### 342 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.

### 343 COMMUNICATIONS/SHARED INFORMATION/REPORTS OF MEMBERS

Several items were raised under this agenda heading: -

- Cllr Peacock – reported the issue of water running down the church bank.
- Cllr Peacock – complaints received about the state of Smithy Lane West – asked that this is reported to Cllr Edgar. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Peacock would contact United Utilities to ascertain any information on water running down the lane. It was also **AGREED** that contact would be made with the Duchy about this situation.
- Cllr Peacock – mentioned the large pothole in the road by Valley Farm.

### 344 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm – Barthomley Village Hall.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and concluded at 9.26pm