

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARTHOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT BARTHOMLEY VILLAGE HALL ON 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

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

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**PART A**

**345 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Parkes and Connolly and from Cheshire East Cllr Edgar.

**346 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.

**347 MINUTES – 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024 (PARISH COUNCIL MEETING)**

**RESOLVED:** Members resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**348 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 – the Duchy attended to update the Parish Council on the plans for the site. Further work has been done by the Duchy on proposals – now fewer residential units and workshop units have been included in the plans. It was reported that construction costs had risen so that overall costs of the scheme had increased substantially. The Duchy will be meeting to consider the future of the proposal. It was reported that existing buildings do need to be made wind/watertight.
- 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 Peacock reported that the stones had been located, although the area needs to be cleaned up.

- Grids – a list of grids had been 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. Members noted that a report had come from CEH that the grids were in an acceptable condition and that work had taken place on grids in the parish.
- 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 (from White Lion pub) – it was reported that 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. This had been reported to Cllr Edgar, and It was hoped that signage could be acquired for this and a meeting with Cheshire East Highways (via Cllr Edgar) set up. 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. 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 noted that information had been gathered on ownership of the wall, and this had been raised with Cllr Heler.
- White Lion Pub – it was reported that a planning application had been submitted to renovate the pub – Cllr Heler was asked to follow this up. Members expressed concerns about the condition of the furniture in the building. It was reported that there was a considerable amount of mold in the property. Members asked that contact is made with Fisher German regarding this matter – to request access to remove the furniture. It was further reported that contact had been made with Fisher German regarding sewage disposal.
- 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 – no updates - 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.
- 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. A letter had been received from an ex-parishioner and it was **AGREED** to respond to this letter. It was further **AGREED** to correspond with the owners of 1 and 2 Fir Cottages regarding the concerns raised in correspondence.

- Police – a request has been made for feedback on incidents from the police.
- Village Day – Cllr Horrocks reported that a meeting will take place to sort out the workings of the Village Day Committee. It was reported that there would be a contribution to the bowling club centenary celebrations.
- Parish Council Records – it was **AGREED** that Cllr Horrocks would have a look at the records in the first instance. It was reported that the Village Hall did not want to store the records.
- SID – Members decided not to pursue the matter of purchasing a SID.
- Rectory Drive – it was reported that contact had been made with the Vicar – he has no issues with the Parish Council contacting the Diocese.
- Passing Places – the Chair shared information with Members. It was agreed to share the proposals and to consider them. The Chair reported that some discussions had taken place regarding noise abatement on the widened A500 via tarmac and fencing. It was **AGREED** to contact CEC with these comments.
- Smithy Lane West – the matter of the state of the road was raised with the Duchy who have said that the road is the responsibility of CEH. Members asked if the Duchy would take on the road. It was reported that the Duchy is looking at the issue. Cllr Heler agreed to raise the matter with CEH.
- Precept – it was confirmed that this had been requested from CEC for 2024/25.
- Compact – contact made with CEC – no response received.

### **349 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

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

- Resident One – reported that varnish had been applied to the noticeboard.

### **350 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Members considered the following financial matters.

#### **350.1 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.23-30.12.23)**

Members noted the ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup>

April-31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

### **350.2 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.23-31.1.24)**

Members noted the ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023-31<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

### **350.3 Budget Monitoring Report/Receipts and Payments Summary (Quarter Three – 2023/24) (April-Dec 2023)**

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

### **350.4 Authorisation of Payments**

The following payments were presented to Members for approval.

£265.20	Dr MJ Bailey – Clerk salary (Feb/March 2024)
£66.30	HMRC for months 11 and 12 of the tax year (2023-24)
£120.00	Barthomley Village Hall (Room Hire)
£6.00	Dr MJ Bailey – Reimbursement (Land Registry Search)
£19.80	Shires Accountants (Payroll Costs)
£330.00	NetwiseUK (Website Costs)
£100.00	Parish News (Contribution)

Members approved a payment of £120 to Parish News. Members also requested that an update is drafted for Parish News on the meeting.

Members also agreed to update the website.

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

## **351 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Borough Councillor Alison Heler attended the meeting and provided the following updates.

- Grids – reported that CEH had said that the condition is acceptable.
- Fly Tipping – it was noted that this has been reported.

Members raised the issue of a meeting with CE Highways regarding Radway Green Road from the pub going up the bank.

Members raised issues regarding potholes and Cllr Heler said that she would raise this with Cheshire East Highways.

It was also reported that the issue of the wall by Brookside Cottage had been raised with Cllr Heler.

The matter of increased traffic due to local developments was raised, together with issues with gullies.

## **352 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

Members considered highway matters affecting the parish.

It was reported that – on the bridges – weeds need to be removed, together with the triangle area. It was agreed to hold a community event to do this work.

It was **AGREED** to include Parish Council priorities on the next agenda – it was further agreed to publicise this in advance via social media and Parish News.

### **352.1 A500 Widening**

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

### **353 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.

### **354 COMMUNICATIONS/SHARED INFORMATION/REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

Several items were raised under this agenda heading: -

- Cllr Horrocks – reported that a large wagon had gone through the parish and damaged the verges. It was **AGREED** to write to the company concerned.
- Cllr Houldey – raised the issue of fly-tipping in the parish – been reported to the Duchy, but the rubbish is still there. It was **AGREED** to report to the police.

### **355 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm – Barthomley Village Hall (Annual Meeting)

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and concluded at 9.50pm