

HENBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 25th September 2024, 7.30 pm at St Thomas Church Hall.

Part 1 Public and Press present

Present

Councillor David Nuttall DN
Councillor Mike Wood MW
Councillor Janet Bailey JB
Councillor Jane Beeken JBE
Cllr Lesley Smetham LS (Cheshire East)
Sue Loxham-Clerk SL

No members of the public were present.

Public Forum

24/76 Apologies for absence.

Councillor Simon Browne (SB) at a family event

24/77 Declarations of Interest

None

24/78 Minutes of last meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2024 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

24/79 PCSO/Beat Managers Report

Beat Manager reported an incident of anti-social behaviour in Henbury 1/9/25 resulting in a seizure of a motor bike.

24/80 Cheshire East

Cllr LS reported that the state of Cheshire East's financial problems remains dire with no signs of improving. Cllr DN welcomed the CE Transformational Plan but felt that it was more aspirational than achievable and questioned the cost given the state of the budget. The last date to respond to the highway's satisfaction survey is 30th September 2024.

Cllr DN raised the issue of 5 Edgeway's planning refusal. He felt that the applicants had received poor customer service, since the process had taken over 6 months from application to inspection. The refusal decision was final with no right to reply. This is despite all other residences in the road having undergone major changes over the years. The council agreed to Cllr DN sending a letter of complaint to the planning department regarding the poor customer service the applicants had received.

24/81 Status Update on Major Development.

Nothing to report

24/82 Highways & Road Safety

As of today no updates on the Broken Cross junction regarding the safety issues had been received.

24/83 Flood Risk

No movement from either Bellway or Mr Mitchell towards alleviating the flood issues and with winter approaching it is unlikely anything will happen soon.

ENWL surveyed the substation and have removed some vegetation to allow better drainage. They are reviewing the situation.

24/84 Footpaths

No issues reported

24/85 CIL money usage

Cllr DN met with a highways representative to discuss various options regarding improvement projects but still awaiting a response. It was decided that proposed plans be presented at the next meeting. It is extremely unlikely that the council could use any of the money for work on the Millennium Green.

24/86 Lower Church Hall car park

Cllr DN updated on further work installing of a new signpost by reusing the original sign. The leaf blower has now been serviced and so is ready for use. Cllr DN reported that the church is very appreciative of the support offered by the council.

Cllr DN had emptied the bin yesterday which was virtually full. He had approached CE regarding setting up a contract with them to empty the bin at HPC expense, but it had been rejected.

24/87 Millennium Green Trust

The Millennium Green Trust acknowledged receipt of HPC grant of £1500 and thanked the council for their continued support. Prior to the meeting Cllr SB circulated an update on the bonfire event which will take place on Sat Nov 2nd. An effective team has formed to manage this. Various changes are being implemented, with advance ticketing and some cashless entry options, plus different catering.

Although not on this agenda Cllr SB provided a valuable **Environmental project** update: The Mersey Forest Project will once again support our project through funding continued hedgerow creation at Marlheath Farm, where we will plant 150m of new hedgerow. This year we will also be supporting a project at Lower Pexhill Farm. After a site visit, it was agreed to target around 110m of new native hedge planting and Mersey Forest support discussions are in progress. This all means that since we pay for the materials up front and then claim back from Mersey Forest we may exceed the planned budget on spend for the project, but we will be recompensed so the net effect will result in less spend than budgeted. With this work we will then have planted almost 4500m of native hedgerow since the project started.

24/88 Review of Trees

Cllr SB also reported that the tree growth across Church Lane is under discussion - some pruning of lower branches is one option being considered and will be reviewed/completed as part of the bonfire preparation.

Cllr DN correspondence regarding TPO had provide sufficient information to help residents navigate and appreciate the terms and conditions. (see link below)

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/environment/heritage_natural_environment/trees_woodlands_and_hedges/trees-hedges.aspx

Other terms of reference are: - National Tree Safety Group NTSG or the National Tree Safety Group's Common Sense Risk Management of Trees and for go to Arboricultural Association for approved Contractors.

24/89 Village Housekeeping

- Cllr SB confirmed that following the last meeting an email was sent to Mr Slack at the vicarage about the overgrown hedge on Chelford Rd. No update received.
- Cllr MW reported that the Broadband Project was now complete, to all parties satisfaction.
- Cllr MW reported that Henbury has now suffered 7 days this year with little or no water supply. Following his lengthy discussions with United Utilities (UU) he has discovered that the problem is a faulty pressure monitoring valve. An UU internal meeting on 27/9 should release necessary funding for the work (~14days). For the work to take place it must be sanctioned at an October meeting. He will continue to monitor the situation.
- Cllr DN reported that he is to meet with the contractor to discuss winter gritting
- Residential waste survey not discussed
- No proposed Council tax changes so not discussed
- Christmas tree funding was approved

Cllr LS left the meeting as she was unable to comment on the rest of the agenda.

24/90 Accounts

Cash books and bank reconciliations were circulated prior to the meeting.

Balance of Main account = £49514.40 (- as per bank 16/9/24 @ 9.43am)

Balance of CIL account = £19,983.75 (- as per bank statement to 08/07/2024)

Monies received Mersey forestry grant £843.75 & CE precept 11500 = £12 343.75

Payments

ICO	£35.00
SL clerks' salary	£268.71
HMRC	£60.80
DR Village green 12th July	£144.00
DR Village green 16th July (additional)	£250.00
DR Village green 18th July	£75.00
DR Village green 29th July	£75.00
SL HP Printer + Service agreement	£324.99
DR Village curb clearance/ greens edging (additional)	£210.00
DR Village green 3rd August	£75.00
DR Village green 11th August	£95.00
Millennium Green Grant	£1,500.00
SL clerks' salary	£268.91
HMRC	£60.60
DR Village Green 15th August	£95.00

PFK external audit	£252.00
DR Village greens 23rd August	£95.00
DR village greens 2nd Sept	£95.00
Norbury's Leaf blower service	£72.00
LCS signage & grounds maintenance	£706.80
SL Norton renewal for 2 years	£49.99
DR Village green 6th Sept	£95.00
SL Microsoft renewal	£148.32

Resolved the above payments be approved and signed for as a true and accurate record.

24/91 Budget/spending Review

It was agreed to revisit the review once potential projects for CIL funding had been proposed.

24/92 Planning Applications

None received

24/93 Clerk's Report / Parish Council Housekeeping

HPC has passed the external audit. Governance documents reviewed and amendments to relating to online banking agreed.

The next meeting will be on 20th November 2024 @ 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.