

## **HENBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7.30pm, at St Thomas Church Hall.

### **Part 1 Public and Press present**

#### **Present**

Councillor David Nuttall DN  
Councillor Mike Wood MW  
Councillor Simon Browne SB  
Councillor Janet Bailey JB  
Cllr Lesley Smetham LS (Cheshire East)  
Sue Loxham-Clerk SL

### **Public Forum**

#### **24/01 Apologies for absence**

Councillor Jane Beeken JBE was unable to attend due to business commitments.

#### **24/02 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr SB is a member of the Millennium Green Committee

#### **24/03 Minutes of last meeting**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

#### **24/04 Beat Managers Report**

The December Beat Managers report was circulated prior to the meeting. No further action needed. Our PCSO is Amy Mair.

#### **24/05 Cheshire East**

Cllr LS provided an update on the serious financial difficulties facing CEC. A full meeting of CEC will take place in February where the budget will be set may provide some clarity.

#### **24/06 Status Update on Major Development Planning Applications.**

No updates on any of the following *19/3098M*, *19/3816M*, & *19/5582M* *21/0289M*. Cllr LS agreed to approach planning for any updates on *21/0289M*.

#### **24/07 Footpaths and Flood Risk**

The whole council agreed to fund the renewal of part of Henbury Rise to Whirley footpath namely the low-lying sections between the cottages and the kissing gate. Cllrs were pleased with the result, and many have received positive feedback from users. It was noted that further work including renewal of other parts of the footpath may be required in the future.

The flooding at the top of Henbury Rise is still a significant issue. Cllr JB updated on her conversation with Mr Mitchell (landowner) regarding the flooding. He reiterated his commitment to install a drain but is still waiting for Bellway to install a drain into which he can feed his drain.

#### **24/08 Highways**

It was noted that there had been no significant work at the Broken Cross junction to address the outstanding safety issues. This would be monitored and reviewed at the next meeting.

It was also noted that the A357 was closed at Birtles bends due to flooding, but it was unclear what action had been taken to alleviate flooding resulting in the road reopening.

#### **24/09 Village Housekeeping**

Cllr DN updated on work performed on the drains responsible for the flooding on Church Lane and the electricity substation. A highways drainage team did a good job of jetting out some of the drains and clearing the water from the road and the substation. They also did a camera survey of all the drains. The survey highlighted more issues which they couldn't repair at the time. It is unclear if they will return but now the cleared drains are coping.

Cllr DN updated on Electricity NW regarding the flooding and vulnerability of the supply. They stated that flooding of the substation was solely CEC responsibility. The level supply and plan upgrades are sufficient. There may be an opportunity to meet the capacity manager to discuss this further.

Cllr JB reported that the grass verge at the corner of Church Lane and Andertons Lane was in a poor state. It was agreed that it had been like this for some time and solutions would need to be discussed.

Cllr SB stated that he was arranging the hedge cutting which would start as soon as he had the consent of all interested parties.

#### **24/10 Lower Church Hall Car Park**

Cllr DN reported that the Xmas tree had been removed and some crown lifting of the trees around the car park done at the same time as the equipment needed was already on site.

#### **24/11 Millennium Green Trust**

Cllr SB updated the council on the work performed on the swings to improve safety. Work on the play area will start once the weather is drier.

#### **24/12 Environmental Project**

Cllr SB stated that 50 trees have been planted on Birtles Lane south and that hedge row planting was scheduled to start in February.

#### **24/13 Review of Trees**

Nothing to report.

#### **24/14 Safety / Speed Limits**

Nothing to report but it would be looked at again at the next meeting.

#### **24/15 Infrastructure projects**

The use of CIL funds is strictly governed and whilst Cllrs SB, MW and DN had researched funding use criteria, no definitive check list was found. Cllr LS offered to ask David Malcolm, Head of Planning, to contact Cllr DN to discuss the matter.

## **24/16 Accounts**

The CIL account is now open and the CIL funding of £10114.35 transferred into the new account thereby reducing the main account funds to £38658.68 as per the bank balance recorded on 2/1/2024.

cleaning of road signs (Cllr Beeken)	£50.00
Christmas tree	£141.30
David Richards verges grass cutting + strimming 23th & 30th	£220.00
Then Media - website	£288.00
Clerks' salary SL + back pay Clerks Salary KM	£390.49
HMRC	£97.40
John Davies Tree work	£750.00
Xmas tree light storage, tools & stationery	£81.88
Copytrak AC	£174.66
Equipment (Cllr Beeken)	£41.98
David Richards verges clearing of gullies	£200.00
LCS Gritting	£660.00
HMRC	£77.40
Clerks salary	£335.93
LCS footpath renewal	£1,200.00

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

## **24/17 Planning Applications**

It was noted that there were no updates on the planning application 23/3688M. No objections were raised to 23/4834M.

## **24/18 Clerk's Report / Parish Council Housekeeping**

Nil.

## **24/19 Member's Report**

Cllr LS enquired as to whom this referred and as there was no satisfactory explanation offered, it was agreed that this item would no longer appear on the agenda.

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**The next meeting will be the on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 @ 7.30pm.**

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**Meeting closed at 9.15pm.**