

HENBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th July 2023, 7.30pm, at St Thomas Church Hall.

Part 1 Public and Press present

Present

Councillor David Nuttall DN
Councillor Richard Slater RS
Councillor Janet Bailey JB
Councillor Jane Beeken JBE
Cllr Lesley Smetham (Cheshire East)
Kate Marsh – Clerk KM (retiring)
Sue Loxham-Clerk SL

1 member of the public was present.

Public Forum

23/70 Apologies for absence

Councillor Simon Browne SB (holiday)
Councillor Laura Furness LF (family commitments)
Councillor Mike Wood MW (holiday)

On behalf of the Council, Cllr DN thanked Kate Marsh for all her hard work, especially for her efficiency and the positive impact that she had. She will be missed but wished her every success in the future. She was presented with a gift and flowers sent to her home.

23/71 Declarations of Interest

None

23/72 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 24^h May 2023 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

23/73 Declaration of acceptance of Office -irrelevant to struct from the agenda

23/74 PCSO Report

The PCSO report was accepted, and no further action was required

23/75 Cheshire East

Cllr LS provided the following update:

CE has been awarded several grants, but none were applicable to this council.

The council expressed its disappointment in the services CE provide. The council feels it is effectively powerless in that there is no opportunity to access additional monies nor can change

decisions. The situation would only improve with adherence to a clear strategic plan and strong meaningful leadership.

23/76 Status Update on Major Development Planning Applications.

- 19/3098M –
- 19/3816M –
- 19/5582M –

It was noted that there have been no updates on the planning portal for the above schemes for the last 12 months.

- Action: to follow up on the review of submission of complaint.

21/0289M

No updates

23/77 Lower Church Hall Car Park

Fly tipping has occurred but clear up is complicated by the presence of asbestos which is now the responsibility of the landowner. This has meant the planned rewinding has had to be put on hold.

23/78 Millennium Green Trust

Cllr SB (via email)

New play area surface to be installed in 2023, moving away from the bark chippings approach. This will be a hard-wearing solution that won't need costly yearly maintenance. AGM was held on the Green in June, sadly with few visitors despite the advertising. Bonfire being planned for Sat 4th November.

23/79 Village Housekeeping and Broadband

No call on the broadband expense and so will not be discussed at subsequent meetings. It was noted that some of the hedges especially on Pepper St were overgrown which was causing an issue especially when turning at junctions. Cllr DN volunteered to contact house owners, but nesting birds may not result in a swift resolution.

23/80 Environmental Project

Update Cllr SB (via email) that activity will be planned for winter.

23/81 Review of Trees

Cllr DN informed the council that there was only 1 tree outstanding to be cut back

23/82 Safety / Speed Limits

- Captured from discussions in 23/79 most of the road signage in and around Henbury is obscured by vegetation. Lack of maintenance by CE.
- Speed limit not being adhered to on A537. The Council initially requested a speed awareness device but were told that a camera was needed. However, upon inspection, a camera was not an option. No further communication has occurred.
- Since the repair of the culvert on A537 near the junction with Whirley lane the road

- appears to be sinking on both sides
- All warning chevrons going into Birtles bends have been knocked down or are missing.
Action: to ask highways officer for a report on the situation on Birtles bends (Cllr LS)

23/83 Footpaths and Flood Risk

Still no response from CE engineer on the Henbury to Whirley footpath. Council were aware of a planned meeting of CE with the Belway's engineer but not aware if it has occurred. Concerns were expressed that any testing of the drainage system would be extremely local ie to the confines of the building site. It was felt that this would not address the issue of flooding during sustained periods of rain and that not to involve the adjacent landowner was an oversight possible jeopardising a satisfactory outcome.

23/84 Highways

Broken cross junction: Cllr JB raised the issue of the lack of provision for visually impaired pedestrians. Cllr RS said he was meeting with David Rutley at the Broken Cross junction on Friday 14th July to discuss a number of safety concerns.

23/85 Accounts

To note the balance of accounts = £38,831.88, as per bank statement to 30/06/2023.

Payments for approval:

Clerk salary - £242.94

HMRC - £54.20

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David Richards Grass Cutting - £425

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

23/86 Bank Signatories

Agreed.

23/87 Planning Applications

Nil

23/88 Clerk's Report / Parish Council Housekeeping

Nil

23/89 Member's Report

Nil.

Cllr DN on behalf of the council thanked Cllr Richard Slater for all his hard work, dedication and help over the last 18 years and wished him well in his new endeavours. He presented Richard with a gift.

The next meeting will be the on 27th September 2023 @ 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

