

HENBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 27th September 2023, 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
Councillor Jane Beeken JBE
Cllr Lesley Smetham (Cheshire East)
Sue Loxham-Clerk SL

1 member of the public was present.

Public Forum

23/90 Apologies for absence

None

23/91 Declarations of Interest

Cllr SB is a member of the Millennium Green Committee

23/92 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2023 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

23/93 PCSO Report

The PCSO July report was circulated prior to the meeting. No further reports received but the new PCSO will be taking up their post shortly.

23/94 Cheshire East

Cllr LS provided the following updates:

- Plans were being formulated to address the black hole in the finances.
- Environmental committee were meeting on 28th September
- Consultations of both Sustainable drainage and Parking were ongoing.

Cllr DN expressed concerns that Parish Councils will not get any major support from CE. The loss of yet another CEO means yet more instability and yet another change of direction when the new CEO is appointed.

The HPC strongly felt that currently there was no sanctions/enforcements were being applied and as a result nothing was being resolved. Cllr MW and Cllr SB were actioned to send a letter

of complaint to the CEO regarding the totally lack of sanctions being applied to Bellway Homes regarding breaking planning rules by continuing to increase the number of occupied homes.

23/95 Status Update on Major Development Planning Applications.

- 19/3098M, 19/3816M, & 19/5582M

Cllr SB provided an update. Bellway have started to build some affordable housing in compliance with their planning application. Jones homes have granted permission to erect a board prior to starting the proposed 216 new homes.

Concerns were raised regarding what pressure if any was being applied to Bellway Homes to rectify the 23 safety features highlighted at the Broken Cross junction. Hence the increased need for the letter of complaint as mentioned in 23/94

21/0289M no decision note has been recorded

23/96 Footpaths and Flood Risk

HPC is unaware of any further action regarding Henbury to Whirley footpath. It has been noted that significant amounts of water have accumulated in the fields that the footpath crosses so raising concerns regarding a risk of flooding. Cllr Smetham agreed to ask for an update.

23/97 Lower Church Hall Car Park

Fly tipping has occurred but any clean-up is complicated by the presence of asbestos. The clean-up is the responsibility of the landowner. This has severe cost implications and so it was agreed to continue to maintain it and keep it tidy with the aim of returning it back to the Church.

23/98 Millennium Green Trust

Cllr SB updated the council on the new play area surface, which is to be installed, moving away from the bark chippings approach. This will be a hard-wearing solution that won't need costly yearly maintenance.

The decision to cancel the Bonfire planned for Sat 4th November was difficult but was due to a shortage of trustees. HPC is keen for the Bonfire to happen in 2024 as it is a major event in the village calendar.

A grant application was received from Millennium Green Treasurer for £1500. As budget was available HPC agreed to grant the required sum.

Cllr DN sort clarification that when the Millennium Green hedge cutting took place that it would include Church Lane as per usual.

23/99 Village Housekeeping

Cllr DN updated on the non-budgeted additional work that has been performed to reinstate the grass verges to their original state. Most of the work was needed following the failure of the gas company to be held to account by highways. The work included Anderton Lane and Pepper St.

23/100 Environmental Project

Cllr SB stated that there are plans to perform more tree planting this winter. Last year's activities were very successful and were effectively self-funded thanks to the generosity of the farmers.

23/101 Review of Trees

Cllr DN informed the council that there was a plane tree needing to be cut back and was waiting to hear from the contractor. There maybe other trees along Church Lane that might need attention next year.

23/102 Safety / Speed Limits

No response from highways over speed limits

23/103 Highways

Cllr JBE highlighted the work of an individual who is actively engaged in cleaning road signs. Cllr JBE was allotted a budget and actioned to arrange for the cleaning of identified pavement-based road signs in the Parish.

Items identified for meeting with Cllr C Browne on 1st November.

- A537 - gutters/ gullies all failing i.e. blocked
- Lack of appropriate safety barriers just 2 rail fencing
- Road sinking
- Grass verge has “disappeared” leading to the loss of safety feature.
- Flooding on Birtles bends & missing signs.

State of kerbs and roadside edges along Henbury Rise ie weed treatment

23/104 Accounts

To note the balance of accounts =£35 264.95 as per bank statement to 06/09/2023

leaving gift clerk	£ 90.00
ICO	£ 35.00
HMRC	£ 110.40
Clerk salary KM	£ 242.94
Clerk salary SL	£ 251.59
David Richards grass cutting	£ 65.00
David Richards grass cutting +reinstating verges	£ 95.00
Leaving gift for Cllr	£ 100.00
SL stationery and postage	£ 28.82
stationery Cllr DN	£ 15.00
David Richards grass cutting + tidying verges	£ 75.00
Clerk salary SL	£ 251.39
HMRC	£ 56.40
LCS landscaping Clearance of lower church park	£ 600.00
LCS landscaping Edging verges into Henbury	£ 300.00
David Richards grass cutting, tidying + drain clearance	£ 250.00
David Richards grass cutting + strimming	£ 90.00
Norton renewal	£ 64.99
Bus shelter repairs and maintenance	£ 606.00
David Richards grass cutting + strimming	£ 90.00

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

23/105 Planning Applications
Nil

23/106 Clerk's Report / Parish Council Housekeeping
Quotation for Internal audit agreed.

23/107 Member's Report
Nil.

The next meeting will be the on 8th November 2023 @ 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.