14th March 2012

The Council met on 14th March, 2012 amongst the items discussed were:

Traffic and Road Safety on the A537 – Chelford Road Little seems to have been achieved by CEC Highways since the last report. However, it turns out that the accident may well not have been caused by any road design problems, speed limit, lack of road markings etc. but by one of the driver driving without due care and attention.

Local residents who are concerned about traffic speeds on the road would be most welcome to volunteer to be part of a Community Speed Watch which is being set up. Let me know if you are interested. The Police will of course give training.

Cheshire East Highways - CEC has attended to various items. Loose water on the A537 may not only be caused by blocked channels and gulleys but also by a drainage problem. CEC are aware of the need to take urgent action.

SatNav's - The Dept. of Transport have been told about Pepper Street so the Council will be notified of any conclusions reached at the 'Sat Nav Summit'. The special signs to guide HGV's from the A537 to Barlow's have still not been erected but will, fingers crossed, be erected before the end of March.

Electric Sub-Stations - The flooding that completely engulfed the Church Lane sub-station has been reported to Electricity North West who now own and maintain the electricity distribution network in this area. The poor appearance of the sub-station on Hightree Drive has also been reported with a request that action be taken to improve matters.

Telephone Box – After at least two years of BT not repairing the damaged kiosk in the Chelford Road lay-by, David Rutley, MP has been requested to draw BT's attention to this matter. Cheshire East Local Plan – The Planners are working on this matter. Proposals affecting the Congleton, Sandbach and Alsager area are being put forward. Whether the planners will then turn their attention to the Macclesfield area is not known. **The Parish Plan** - The Progress Report for items to be actioned by the Council was discussed and updated.

Millennium Green

As the Vicarage is now rented out ways and means of getting a power supply to the Green were discussed. Former power has been taken from a point in the Vicar's garage and payment made to him for this facility.

Re-planting work has been carried out to improve the hedge adjacent to Chelford Road.

Mr Roy Thornton requested the Council's support for the installation and on-going support of an improved children's play area. This is a feature requested in the Parish Plan

Environmental Report – Cllr Simon Browne and volunteers have been busy improving 450m of hedges and planting trees in various parts of the Parish.

Planning Applications - The application for extensions at 'West View' Andertons Lane has been approved by CEC. Decisions have yet to be made regarding Thorneycroft Lodge and the Flora Garden Centre.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday, 3rd May in the Church Hall. This is the meeting at which Electors of the Civil Parish of Henbury can air their views on the Council's performance over the last year and say what they would like to see achieved in the next twelve months. Do come along.

Date of the Next Council Meeting - The date for the Annual General Meeting of the Council is Wednesday, 9th May, 2012 at 7.30pm. As always, you would be most welcome to attend.

Swan Song – This is my last report of the Council's business as I intend to/did officially retire at the end of March. Having been requested to provide a report on Council matters by the late Peter Wilson my first piece was in November, 1999. I hope that you have found them of interest. I have enjoyed being Clerk and Responsible

Financial Officer and writing this column. It has been a privilege to have served the people of Henbury for 16 years but it is now time for a change and a new Clerk. My best wishes to you all.

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