

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASHTON HAYES PARISH COUNCIL — held on Monday 2nd November 2009 – 8.00pm in Ashton Hayes Parish Rooms, Ashton Hayes, Cheshire.

PRESENT: Mrs P Tilley (Chair), Mr R Holland, Mr G Charnock, Mr H Deynem, Mr D Lee, Mr T Scadeng, and Mrs M Woods.

CLERK: Mrs Andrea Thwaite

ALSO PRESENT: 6 members of the public, Councillor Stuart Parker and Ashton Hayes Primary School Head teacher Chris Priddley

115 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from

Diane Stubbs  
Cllr Bailey

116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared the following interests:

Pauline Tilley declared a Personal Interest any housing matters – Pauline is a volunteer Member of Muir Housing.

Hugo Deynem declared a Personal interest in any Planning Matters as he is a member of Cheshire West and Chester and is on the Strategic Planning Committee.

117 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 7th October 2009 were accepted as a true record.

118 PRESENTATION FROM PARTNERSHIP OFFICER – CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL.

Item deferred until December 2009

119 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

A member of the public raised concern over recent incidents of anti social behaviour that had happened around the garages in Peel Crescent. Parish Councillors agreed to forward details of the

incidents on to the Police and liaise with Chester and District Housing Trust regarding cutting back the shrubbery.

A member of the public also raised concern regarding the Council's new refuse collection contract. It was reported that a resident who had been bin sharing had the bin removed. An Officer from the Council had informed the resident that bin sharing was not permitted.

RESOLVED: The Clerk and Councillor Deynem to obtain advice on this matter from Cheshire West and Chester Council and report back to December's meeting.

## 120 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence was received and circulated around Members:

1. Cheshire Police Authority – have your say consultation
2. Cheshire West and Chester Partnership newsletter

## 121 FINANCE

Chq No 459 To approve payment of the Parish Council's latest Solicitor invoice for works undertaken in relation to the acquisition of the recreational field.

Chq no 460 United Utilities Water bill for 21st July – 8th October £18.21

Chq no 461 £193.06. Mr Andy Barrett – Street Cleanser for October Based on 40hrs for October, less TAX and NI plus 0.45hrs owed from September

Chq no 462 £277.02 Andrea Thwaite – Clerk Salary and expenses for October and November.

Chq no 463 £49.60 H M Customs. Tax and NI payment for Andy Barrett.

Chq no 464 ££1,423.00 Estimate. Printing of Parish Plan. Payment will be COD (Cheque on delivery).

## 122 2009/10 SIX MONTH BUDGET REPORT.

Members received an updated on 2009/10 six month budget in preparation for precept setting in January 2010.

	budget	actual at month 7 (October)	VIRANCE BETWEEN BUDGETS AND ACTUAL (AST AT MONTH 7)	BUGETE D AMOUNT FOR 2010/11
<b>INCOME</b>				
Street Cleaners Grant	£3,244.80		£3,244.80	£3,640.00
Churchyard Grant	£400.00	£400.00	£0.00	£400.00
Parish Rooms Income (based on month seven actuals)	£1,400.00	£1,220.50	£179.50	£1,200.00
Precept 2009/10	£9,626.00	£9,626.54	-£0.54	£9,900.00
Grants received Going Carbon Neutral grants/donations	£0.00	£2,250.00	-£2,250.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£350.00	-£350.00	£0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£14,670.80</b>	<b>£11,247.04</b>	<b>£3,423.76</b>	<b>£15,140</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>EMPLOYEES</b>				
Clerk Salary	£2,916.57	£1,627.85	£1,288.72	£3,420.77
Street Cleaner	£3,244.80	£2,013.87	£1,230.93	£3,640.00
Parish Rooms Caretaker	£1,200.00	£208.08	£991.92	£940.00
	<b>£7,361.37</b>	<b>£3,849.80</b>	<b>£3,511.57</b>	<b>£8,000.77</b>
<b>ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES</b>				
Chairman's Allowance	£175.00	£175.00	£0.00	£175.00
Expenses (stationery, fuel, telephone, internet connection)	£800.00	£718.33	£81.67	£100.00
Internal Audit fees	£350.00	£268.56	£81.44	£300.00
External Audit Fees	£150.00	£305.00	-£155.00	£350.00
Parish Council Insurance (including new FIDELITY COVER)	£630.00	£0.00	£630.00	£660.00
Around Ashton - production (estimate based on 4 productions per year)	£200.00	£82.00	£118.00	£150.00
Donations (approx)	£150.00	£5,100.00	-£4,950.00	£150.00
Grass Cutting Village Hall	£300.00		£300.00	£300.00
Parish Rooms Expenditure	£1,000.00	£509.78	£490.22	£1,000.00
Memberships	£255.00	£230.65	£24.35	£250.00
Churchyard Grant	£920.00	£920.00	£0.00	£920.00
Misc Expenditure	£1,000.00	£2,046.03	-£1,046.03	£1,500.00

(Special Projects)				
Going Carbon Neutral Project	£0.00	£558.07	£0.00	£0.00
RECREATIONAL FIELD	<b>£0.00</b>	£2,374.37	-£2,374.37	£0.00
Parish Plan	£1,423.00	£0.00	£1,423.00	£0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>£7,353.00</u></b>	<b><u>£13,287.79</u></b>	<b><u>-£5,934.79</u></b>	<b><u>£5,934.79</u></b>

**Project deficit for 2009/10 (Before Precept is received)**

OTHER EXPENDITURE	£14,714.37	£17,137.59	-£2,423.22	£13,935.56
SURPLUS FROM BUDGETS AROUND FOR 2010/11				£1,204.44
Balance carried forward as at 31st March 2009	£41,606.00			

#### 123 2009 CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE

Following discussions it was agreed that 2009 Chairman's Allowance should remain at £175.00

RESOLVED: Clerk to process chairman's allowance for payment.

#### 124 PLANNING

The following planning application had been received:

09/11500/s73 – Re-opening of previously closed site access and remove of condition 5 from appear decision. Ashton Grange Cottage.

Resolved: Richard Holland to review this application on behalf of the parish council.

#### 125 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER'S SPACIAL PLANNING TEAM NEWSLETTERS

Members received the latest version of Cheshire West and Chester's Spacial Planning Team Newsletter - "special editions"

for major consultation events / documents and it was circulated around Members.

126 GOWY AND EDDISBURY COMMUNITY FORUM

It was agreed that Mr Holland and the Clerk would attend the Community Forum that will be held on Gowy and Eddisbury Community Forum will be held on Tuesday 24 November 2009, at Kelsall Community Centre, commencing at 7.00 pm.

127 RECREATIONAL FIELD UPDATE

It was reported that all the necessary paperwork had now been signed and the association had now started further funding raising initiatives.

128 COOPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that no nominations for the vacancy on the parish council had been received. The Chairman informed Members that Mrs Naomi Deynem would still be interested in the vacancy.

RESOLVED: Parish Council Members agreed in favour to co-opt Mrs Deynem onto the Parish Council.

129 2010 MEETING DATES

Ashton Hayes Parish Council agreed to held its meetings in 2010 on the following dates:

1. Monday 4th January 2010
2. Monday 1st February 2010
3. Monday 1st March 2010
4. Tuesday 13th April 2010
5. Monday 10th May 2010
6. Monday 7th June 2010
7. Monday 5th July 2010
8. August – no meeting
9. Monday 5th September 2010
10. Monday 4th October 2010
11. Monday 1st November 2010
12. Monday 7th December 2010

### 130 HIGHWAYS GENERAL

The Clerk informed Members that she had undertaken a site visit, with the Chairman, of entire the parish. Over 20 road defects, signage issues had been noted and subsequently been reported to Cheshire West and Chester's Highway Team. The Clerk reported that nearly 95% of the issues had now been resolved. The Clerk would monitor the outstanding items.

It was reported that following the recent heavy rain there had been incidents of flooding in Ashton Lane.

Resolved: Clerk to forward flooding details on to Highway Team.

### 131 LOCAL COUNCIL'S EVENTS – 14TH OCTOBER

The Chairman and Clerk updated Members on the local council's event which they attended in Winsford on 14th October. The evening had been very informative and they had obtained some useful information.

### 132 PARISH PLAN UPDATE

Following their decision last month regarding how the Implementation Group should be formed, Members were asked to review their decision.

Mr Scadeng expressed concern over certain items contained in Ashton Hayes' Parish Plan. It was felt that the majority of the actions in the Parish Plan had already been completed by the Parish Council or were currently ongoing such as Footpath to Mouldsworth, Community Shop, and flower bed under parish signs.

Discussions continued over the pros and cons of both options in relation to how the Implementation Group should be established.

Meeting suspended

Mr Brooks informed the Parish Council that the Parish Plan Implementation Group could make their own decision on how it would be established without the backing of the Parish Council. Being part of the parish council would bar the PPIG from some grant funding. If a Parish Plan Implementation Group was

established independently away from the Parish Council it would enable residents to get involved in single issues rather than the wider issues that the Parish Council needs to address. The Parish Plan would be launched at the end of January 2010, where it was hoped that interested volunteers would come forward to help delivery elements within the document.

Mr Charnock raised concern over the route a resident would take if they had concerns over any matters of concern if the Implementation Group was independent from the Parish Council. He pointed out that the PC is the democratic body running village affairs that all councilors had been elected in a vote.

The Parish Council was reminded by members of Parish Plan Steering Group that Best Practice denoted that Implementation Groups be independent from Parish Councils.

Following further discussions, the matter of asking Ashton Hayes residents how they would like their parish plan to be implemented ie: Sub Group of the Parish Council or by an independent body was discussed.

#### MEETING RESUMED

The Parish Council continued with their discussion in relation to consulting the residents of Ashton Hayes how they would like their implementation group to be established.

To be open, consistent and transparent it was agreed that the residents of Ashton Hayes should be consulted and the questions should be formulated between Mr Vary – Chairman of Parish Plan Steering Group and Mr Charnock and Mrs Tilley – Parish Councils.

RESOLVED: The residents of Ashton Hayes to be consulted by ballot.

#### 133 2009 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

It was agreed Pauline Tilley – Chairman would lay this year's remembrance service reef on behalf of the Parish Council.

#### 134 GOING CARBON Neutral project

Mr Charnock updated Members on Going Carbon Neutral

initiatives. Three Members of the committee had been to Nøtterøy in Norway to launch the country's first community 'going carbon neutral' project. The launch was planned using the Ashton Hayes toolkit and involved all aspects of the island community which is home to 20,000 people. The British Ambassador also expressed his support for the initiative as it supported Norway's ideals of becoming a carbon neutral country by 2050.

The three day visit involved a series of presentations from the Mr Charnock and other members of the group, newspaper, radio and TV interviews. All expenses for the visit were covered by the Nøtterøy Town Council. Ashton Hayes would help Nøtterøy to make a film about its journey and the Parish Council had twinned with the Nøtterøy Council on a carbon neutral basis.

Mr Charnock informed Members that approximately 100 individual users on Ashton Hayes Going Carbon Neutral website per day.

He also informed the council that the new parish council website was getting an increasing number of hits each month.

#### 135 COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The Community Shop Steering Group confirmed that £16,370 had been achieved in grant funding to date with match funding being sourced.

The Committee had interviewed and appointed a Store Manager and volunteers were now needed to help in the shop.

A Community Team from Tesco had helped with funding the refurbishment of the shop.

Members were informed that the Community Shop bank had requested that the Parish Council acts as guarantor for three years. Mr Lee raised concern that the Parish Council could fund a failing business. The results from the Parish Plan stated that the village shop was the most important issues to residents.

**RESOLVED:** £5,000 for two years be allocated to support the Community Shop Project.

Five Members voted in favour.

136 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk informed Members that an application had been received for the vacant position of Caretaker/Booking Clerk and an interview would be held shortly.

137 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to hold the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 7th December at 8pm.

Meeting finished at 10pm

Signed .....

Date .....