

# **Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council**

## **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY, PARISH MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.15P.M. DELAMERE COMMUNITY CENTRE, STATION ROAD, DELAMERE**

Present: Councillors C Ball, D Rutter, A Gore, D Wheeler, C George, J Edwards, S Ralph, A Walsh, A Bell and R Gilbert-Bratt.

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks, Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather and one member of the public.

### **1 Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor A Bell welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor H Tonge sent his apology as he could not attend.

### **2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest**

Councillor A Bell declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 10 as he was a member of the Royal British Legion, as such he did not take part in the discussion or decision in relation to this item.

### **3 Public Speaking Time**

No members of the public were present,

### **4 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting**

**RESOLVED** that;

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 be approved as a correct record.

### **5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items**

The clerk has contacted the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to an update for the speed interactive sign. The Highways Department confirmed in an email dated 21<sup>st</sup> October that the advert for the sign has now been displayed on site. The clerk will ask the Highways Department for the closing date for this and the next step which the Parish Council needs to take.

The clerk received a letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 from Antionette Sandbach MP stating that she had written to the Chief Executive of Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding the issue of home to school transport. The letter from the Chief Executive of Cheshire West and Chester Council stated that the Scrutiny Committee were reporting back to the Council and will consider the recommendations of this committee.

Councillor C George and Councillor D Wheeler had met with a representative of the owners regarding a permission path from Station Road. They were hopeful that a path could be considered however this would not be possible until the development on the Hollies was underway.

Councillor A Gore confirmed that she would be undertaking an inspection of Little Wood and the field at Frith Avenue.

The clerk confirmed that she had ordered and received one thousand daffodils from the Street Care Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor H Tonge had confirmed that he would pay for these. The Parish Council thanked Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor H Tonge for these bulbs.

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted the Parish Council's solicitors for an update on the lease. The solicitors have confirmed in an email dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 that they have submitted all the documentation to the land registry and they are awaiting processing as they have got significant backlogs.

The clerk had received an email dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 from the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding the request for an extension of the proposed speed limit to cover Gresty's Waste. They stated that this was not possible due to the lack of density of the housing and the lack of recorded injury collisions.

## **6 Correspondence**

The clerk received an email dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 from the Chairman of Utkinson and Cotebrook Parish Council regarding its final draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The clerk received an email dated 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 regarding the organisation of a small friendly competition with local Parish Councils led by Crowton Parish Council. A meeting has been arranged for 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Crowton Village Hall to discuss this matter further and Councillor J Edwards will attend to represent the Parish Council.

The clerk had received an email dated 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019 from the Forestry Commission regarding a news update and they have invited Parish Councillors for a drop-in session on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November to discuss any aspect of the work. Councillor D Wheeler confirmed that he had attended this drop-in session for an update.

The clerk informed the Parish Council that there were new website regulations that had been issued. The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 came into force on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018. And all existing websites to be compliant from 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020. The clerk had circulated information about the new regulations to all the Parish Councillors for their attention. Councillor C George and Councillor J Taylor will look into to see if the current website meets the criteria.

The clerk had received an invite for the next Crown Farm Quarry Liaison meeting for 2pm on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Councillor C George and Councillor D Wheeler will be attending this meeting.

## **7 Right hand turn for St Peters Church**

The clerk had received a reply dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 from the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to the request to install a right-hand turn for St Peters Church off the A556. They have confirmed that this would have to be funded by the Church/Parish Council.

**RESOLVED** that;

The clerk was requested to contact the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council on this matter asking for this to be reinstated as this turn was used by a high number of residents on a regular basis.

## **8 Planning**

The Parish Council considered all of the planning applications that had been received up to 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

- (a) No objections were to be made to 19/03647/FUL, New detached dwelling. Land at Grid Ref 356670 368787 Chester Road Oakmere.
- (b) No comments were to be made to 19/03715/FUL, Conversion of existing garage/storeroom into one dwelling including extensions - amendment to application 19/02089/FUL, Highview Yeld Lane Delamere

Councillor C George asked Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather why public comments had been removed from the Planning website at Cheshire West and Chester Council. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather stated that he would look into this matter.

## 9 Finance

The clerk reported that the current bank balances were as follows and bank statements showing these amounts were presented and signed by the Chairman.

Bank account balance is £27,729.66 as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

(The bank balance amount includes the New Homes Bonus fund)

Total of earmarked funds to date is £4872.83. Earmarked funds as follows; £872.83 for Parish Council solicitors' fees (Butcher & Barlow) appointed 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017. (deduced from the New Homes Bonus fund).

£4,000 for Speed indicator Device for Station Road, resolved to spend in July 2019 minutes.

New Homes Bonus fund (which is included in the bank balance) is £14509.80.

No unpaid cheques. No income for October 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

the following payments be authorised;

Method of payment	Payee	Particulars of payment	Amount
Standing Order 21 <sup>st</sup>	Clerk	Salary for November	£361.96
Standing Order 21 <sup>st</sup>	Cheshire Pension Fund	Employers & employees' contribution for November	£130.68
001054	Clerk	Expenses for November	£31.35
001055	Cheshire West and Chester Council	Speed limit contributions for Stoneyford Lane	£334.00
001056	HMRC	Inland Revenue payment	£21.00
001057	Clive George	Payment for printing of the Delamere and Oakmere News	£434.58

## 10 Remembrance Stone at St Peters Church

The clerk had received a letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 from the PCC Secretary of St Peters Church. The letter thanked the Parish Council for their offer of support and invited Parish Councillors to attend the Service of Remembrance at St Peters Church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am.

There had also been a request to include the Remembrance Stone under the Parish Council insurance.

Councillor A Bell declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 10 as he was a member of the Royal British Legion, as such he did not take part in the discussion or decision in relation to this item.

**RESOLVED** that;

The Remembrance Stone could not be covered under the Parish Council insurance as it was not owned by the Parish Council.

The clerk was asked to contact the PCC Secretary to inform the church of this decision.

## 11 Meeting dates for 2020

**RESOLVED** that;

The meeting dates for 2020 were agreed as follows and the clerk was requested to circulate and put on the website and book the community centre accordingly.

Monday 20th January	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 10th February	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 16th March	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual Parish Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 18th May	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	7.15pm
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm
Monday 14th December	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7.15pm

## **12 Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillor J Edwards reported that there had been a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

A steering group was set up with Councillors J Edwards, C George, C Ball and A Bell with members of the public. Councillor J Edwards was the chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan group.

Councillor J Edwards confirmed that he had contacted Cheshire Community Action in order to set up a meeting and had approached Manley Parish Council with regards to extending the boundary of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

The clerk confirmed that she had consulted Cheshire Association of Local Councils with regards to the clerk authorising payments on behalf of the steering group without further authorisation from the Parish Council and that she would circulate the guidance received on this matter.

Councillor J Edwards asked the clerk to approach Cheshire Wildlife Trust for a quote for a wildlife survey.

The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group would be in January and they would look to do an event at the Annual Parish meeting in April. The clerk was asked to book the main hall at the community centre for this event.

## **13 Field at Frith Avenue**

Councillor C George reported that there had been a meeting of the Frith Avenue working group on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and that a low-key improvement approach would be favoured by residents. This included;

- a path across the site following the route currently taken by walkers;
- one or two extra tables and benches in the vicinity of the existing ones to the west of the site;
- one or two raised beds in the vicinity of the table/s;
- the grass to the east of the path to be cut short, while that to the west of the path around the table/s would continue to be cut as at present;
- bulbs among the trees to the west of the site;
- the goalpost to be kept;
- the character of trees and hedgerows around the site to remain as at present.
- one resident (not present at the gathering) would like the hedgerow along Station Road to be cut back to a closely trimmed hedge, but this view was not widely shared.

It was agreed that the residents of the area should be consulted before any plans are finalised. From the information currently available an estimate would be made of the likely expenditure required from the parish council. Provisional approval would be sought from the Parish Council prior to the residents' meeting.

Councillor A Gore had obtained a quote from a Grounds Maintenance company and Councillor C George stated that he would approach Tarmac regarding a quote and a possible grant application.

It was proposed that the Parish Council would agree in principle for the expenditure on the Frith Avenue project as described above up to a maximum of £2,000 (excluding grant funding).

Councillors D Rutter, J Taylor, A Bell, J Edwards, A Walsh, C George, D Wheeler and C Ball voted in favour of this proposal.

Councillors S Ralph, R Gilbert-Bratt and A Gore voted against this proposal as such it was;

**RESOLVED** that;

The Parish Council would agree in principle for the expenditure on the Frith Avenue project as described above up to a maximum of £2,000 (excluding grant funding).

#### **14 Oakmere Ward Vacant Seats**

The clerk informed the Parish Council that one application had been received for the post of Parish Councillor for the two vacant seats.

**RESOLVED** that;

The Parish Councillors considered the application form and CV, which had been received.

Mr Justin Taylor was co-opted as a member of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council onto the Oakmere ward.

The clerk gave Mr Taylor the declaration of acceptance form and the declaration of interest form for his completion and asked for both forms to be returned at the next Parish Council meeting.

The clerk will circulate a schedule of training events from the Cheshire Association of Local Councils, a copy of the Standing Orders and a copy of the 'Good Councillor' guide for their reference.

## **15 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors**

Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather reported that due to the election in December there would be a delay in Cheshire West and Chester Council considering any change in policy with regards to school transport. School Transport appeals will continue and these will be continued to be supported by the Ward Councillors.

Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather reported that Cheshire West and Chester Council had current consultations regarding the following;

- Social Housing Policy
- Council Plan

## **16 Councillor's report and future agenda items**

Councillor A Bell requested the clerk to contact Cheshire West and Chester Council to order grit bins for the following locations, Shakerley Close (reported to Cheshire West and Chester Council under 4888122), Mere Crescent (reported to Cheshire West and Chester Council under 4888125) and Frith Avenue (reported to Cheshire West and Chester Council under 4888126).

Councillor C Bell reported that the moss in front of the noticeboard on Hogshead Lane still have not been cleared and it remained very slippery. The clerk will contact Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to this matter. This has been reported to Cheshire West and Chester Council under 4888129.

Councillor A Gore reported that a 40mph sign was leaning into a hedge on Station Road in Delamere. The clerk has reported this to Cheshire West and Chester Council under 4888130.

Councillor D Wheeler reported that the bricks had been removed opposite Delamere House on Eddisbury Hill. Councillor D Wheeler asked the clerk to contact Cheshire West and Chester Council to clean the grids on Station Road as they were blocked. The clerk has reported this to Cheshire West and Chester Council under 4888131.

Councillor D Rutter asked Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather if there were funds available from the Ward Members budget for the community centre. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor J Leather stated that he would send him an application form for completion.



**17 Date and time of next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.15pm at Delamere Community Centre.

Chairman's signature.....Dated.....

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Minutes of the monthly Parish meeting of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019.