

Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council Meeting

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY, PARISH MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.15P.M. DELAMERE COMMUNITY CENTRE, STATION ROAD, DELAMERE

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

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks.

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor A Bell welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor J Edwards sent his apology as he was unable to attend. Councillors J Taylor and D Rutter were not present.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

None declared.

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 20th January 2020 be approved as a correct record.

5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

The clerk had received an email dated 23rd January 2020 from the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding the potholes on Eddisbury Hill which had been logged under enquiry number 4894347. The Highways Department confirmed that they will undertake an inspection and plan for any actionable defects to be repaired.

Councillor A Bell had contacted the Forestry Commission regarding litter pickers. They are happy to loan some litter pickers for use by the Parish Council. Councillor A Bell will ask for five litter pickers from the Forestry Commission.

The clerk received an email dated 27th January 2020 from the Greenspace Officer at Cheshire West and Chester Council they confirmed that they have received the copy of the management plan and will consider the information supplied. The replacement of the wire meshing will be considered however in the interim they have made the areas of loose netting secure in order to ensure that the decking is safe.

Councillor C George reported that he would undertake the inspections for Frith Avenue and for Little Wood for February and send the report to the clerk.

6 Correspondence

The Parish Council have been invited to the induction of the new Rector on Tuesday 17th March at 7.30pm at St Peters Church with a reception at the community centre after the service. Councillor A Bell confirmed that he will attend and represent the Parish Council. The clerk was asked to book him a place.

The clerk has received an email dated 5th February 2020 from the Quarry Manager of Crown Farm regarding a meeting on Tuesday 19th May 2020. The site tour is at 1pm followed by a meeting at 2pm. Councillors D Wheeler, A Gore and R Gilbert-Bratt will attend and the clerk was asked to book them a place.

Councillor A Gore reported that potholes on Eddisbury Hill continued to be an issue and will send photos to the clerk in order for these to be logged with the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The clerk received an email dated 15th January 2020 from Kelsall Parish Council regarding anti-social behaviour in the area.

The clerk received a telephone call on 29th January 2020 from a company regarding the potholes at the top of Waste Lane, these have been reported to Cheshire West and Chester Council under HW171097467.

The clerk has received some questionnaire forms back regarding the Frith Avenue field and she is collating the responses from residents.

The clerk has received an email dated 3rd February 2020 regarding a defibrillator training course at the community centre on Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7pm. All Parish Councillors were welcome to attend.

The clerk has received a letter regarding the increase in the pension contribution rates for Cheshire Pension Fund from 1st April 2020. The current rate is 21.8% and this will increase to 22.6% from 1st April 2020. The clerk will notify Cheshire Community Action who administers the payroll.

7 Planning

No planning applications had been received.

8 Finance

Amended standing order forms were completed and signed in order to amend the clerk's salary and pension contributions from February 2020 onwards in light of the pay award.

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 £25,613.27 as at 31st January 2020.

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

Earmarked funds as follows;

£3160.00 for speed sign on Station Road agreed at December 2019 meeting.

£872.83 for Parish Council solicitors' fees (Butcher & Barlow) appointed 16th October 2017. (deduced from the New Homes Bonus fund).

£2,000 for Frith Avenue project, resolved to spend in November minutes.

New Homes Bonus fund (which is included in the bank balance) is £12559.76.

Income is £44.00 advertising income.

RESOLVED that;

the following payments be authorised;

| Method of payment | Payee | Particulars of payment | Amount |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------|
| Standing Order 21 st | Clerk | Salary for Feb | £369.19 |
| Standing Order 21 st | Cheshire Pension Fund | Employers & employees contribution for Feb | £133.35 |
| 001061 | Clerk | Expenses for Feb | £54.78 |
| 001062 | St Peters Churchyard Fund | Grant/donation | £664.00 |
| 001063 | Delamere Community Centre | Grant/donation | £350.00 |
| 001064 | Tarporley Hospital | Grant/donation | £200.00 |
| 001065 | Oakmere Cricket Club | Grant/donation | £100.00 |
| 001066 | NW Air Ambulance | Grant/donation | £100.00 |
| 001067 | Oakmere Methodist Church | Grant/donation | £100.00 |

9 Right hand turn for St Peters Church

The clerk had contacted the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding the estimated cost of the alterations to install a right turn for St Peters Church. The estimated cost of this was £4,000 to £5,000.

RESOLVED that;

This was too expensive an option to pursue currently.

10 Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor J Edwards has consulted both Norley Parish Council and Manley Parish Council in order to extend the boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan into their Parishes.

The Neighbourhood Plan will therefore include the entirety of the Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council area except for that part covered by the Kelsall Neighbourhood Plan (Yeld Lane etc.). It will also include the bulk of Delamere Forest that forms part of Manley Parish Council's area, and a section of fields adjacent to Delamere Road and Delamere Forest that forms part of Norley Parish Council's boundary but is not covered under their Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council declared an intent to create a Neighbourhood Plan and to use the Parish boundary (excluding those areas already covered by Kelsall Neighbourhood Plan) and the bulk of Delamere Forest that forms part of Manley Parish Council's area, and a section of fields adjacent to Delamere Road and Delamere Forest that forms part of Norley Parish Council's boundary but is not covered under their Neighbourhood Plan.

11 License agreement for Interactive speed sign

The clerk has received a licence agreement for the interactive speed sign on Station Road. The interactive speed sign cannot be installed until this signed legal agreement is returned and the Highways Department have confirmed that the installation can go ahead. The clerk was unsure of what additional checks Cheshire West and Chester Council required as part of this licence agreement as such it was not signed until confirmation of what was required was provided and the checks had been undertaken.

The clerk confirmed that she had added the new speed sign onto the Parish Council's asset register.

The clerk had contacted the Parish Council's insurance provider and they had confirmed that there was contents cover for the value of £3,160.00 and that the Parish Council had insurance cover for third party claims for up to at least five million pounds and was covered for any act of negligence in relation to the speed sign which resulted in damage to third party persons or property.

12 Car Parking on Ashton Road Delamere

Following the Parish Council meeting in January, the clerk had contacted both the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council and the Forestry Commission with regards to this matter.

The Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council stated as the majority of the parking along this section is within the Forestry Commission land the Parish Council would have to contact the Forestry Commission requesting their action on this matter.

The Forestry Commission replied in an email dated 29th January 2020 stating the Forestry Commission have taken a few steps to try and alleviate parking issues such as cleaning out laybys to make them more obvious, improving parking signage around the visitors centre, promoting the use of the train and they were improving parking facilities at the visitors centre as part of the long term development project.

The clerk was asked to contact the member of the public concerned in order to provide an update on this.

13 Grit bins

Councillor A Gore reported that after researching the matter in some depth a 115 litre grit bin would be most suitable.

The locations of the grit bins were confirmed to be;

One on the land near the Parish Council notice board on the left as you turn right coming from the direction of Chester off the A556, into Mere crescent.

One is on the corner of Chester Road and Shakerley Close.

One is the corner of Chester Road and Frith Avenue.

One is on the corner of Mere Crescent and Chrimes Drive

One halfway down Racecourse Lane.

The clerk will send the maps with the locations and details of the grit bins to the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council for their approval. The locations of the proposed grit bins would then be advertised by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

14 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors

There were no Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors present.

15 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor D Wheeler asked if the clerk could contact the owners of the Court House development for an update and site visit.

Councillor D Wheeler reported the Post Office at the community centre was reducing their opening hours. Councillor C George stated that he would put an item into the next newsletter regarding this and Councillor A Bell stated that he would post this onto Facebook.

Councillor A Bell reported that Norley residents were having a meeting regarding the Liverpool airport consultation.

Councillor A Bell reported that a resident had complained regarding the speeding on the A54. The clerk was asked to contact the PCSO regarding this matter in order to request a speed enforcement camera.

16 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 16th March 2020 at 7.15pm at Delamere Community Centre.

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