

Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council Meeting

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7PM

Present: Councillor J Edwards, Councillor C Topping, Councillor D Wheeler, Councillor L Walters, Councillor G Hudson, Councillor D Rutter, Councillor F Goodier and Councillor A Bell.

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks, two members of the public, two representatives from United Utilities and Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper.

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor J Edwards welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor M Shaw and Councillor S Roberts had sent their apologies for the meeting. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush also sent their apologies for the meeting.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

Councillor J Edwards declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 10, planning application for Vale Royal Abbey Arms as he owned local self-catering holiday accommodation.

Councillor A Bell declared an interest in relation to item 13, the location of the tommy statue as he was a member of the Royal British Legion.

3 Public Speaking Time

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council with regards to speeding issues as he was a member of the Norley Speed Watch group and wanted to discuss similar issues Norley was experiencing. The member of the public will email the clerk with suggestions and ideas.

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council with regards to issues with the old haulage yard and planning permission and planning enforcement issues on the site. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper will take this matter up with the Planning Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council. The clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

4 Update from United Utilities

The representatives from United Utilities reported that work was due to commence shortly and the public engagement sessions at Delamere Community centre will continue. Once the exact detail of the work is known a further letter drop will be sent to residents. United Utilities confirmed that they are meeting with Cheshire West and Chester Highways Department to explore options in trying to keep Station Road open for access during the roadworks when work commences in January/February 2024.

5 Sewerage issue on Earlsbrook Housing Development

The representatives from United Utilities reported that they along with the site owners of the Earlsbrook Housing Development were looking into a permanent solution for the drainage issues on this site and the site owners would attend the next Parish Council meeting in October.

6 Request for a public meeting regarding Earlsbrook Housing Estate

The request for a public meeting regarding the Earlsbrook Housing estate was considered by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of up to £100 was approved for room hire.

No further action was approved at this time. The clerk was requested to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting for further consideration.

7 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the minutes of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 18th July 2023 were approved.

8 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

The clerk had confirmed that Morreys Nursery had offered plants for the planters at Frith Avenue. Councillor D Rutter will collect.

The clerk has completed and returned the form to Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The clerk confirmed that the next Crown Farm Liaison meeting was on Thursday 23rd November at 2pm. Councillor F Goodier, Councillor D Wheeler and Councillor D Rutter will attend. The clerk was asked to contact Tarmac and request that they invite the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors.

The clerk reported that Parish Councillors had been invited to a Macmillan coffee morning on 29th September at Delamere community centre.

9 Vacant Seats

RESOLVED that;

The clerk will advertise the two remaining vacancies on the Parish Council. (One in the Delamere ward, one in Oakmere Ward.

10 Planning

The planning applications that had been received up to Monday 18th September 2023 were considered.

Councillor J Edwards declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 10, planning application for Vale Royal Abbey Arms as he owned local self-catering holiday accommodation. Councillor J Edwards remained in the room during this agenda item.

RESOLVED that;

No objections were made to;

- (a) 23/02424/FUL and 23/02425/LBC, Vale Royal Abbey Arms Hotel Abbey Lane Oakmere Northwich CW8 2HB. Erection of a detached building to provide guest bedrooms.
- (b) 23/02661/FUL, Two storey extension to side of property. 39 Mere Crescent Oakmere Northwich CW8 2HQ

11 Finance

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

Bank account balance is £26,844.97 at 31st July 2023.

£24.41 refund for the coronation broken mugs and £44 advertising income received in July.

Bank account balance is £24,625.53 as at 31st August 2023.

No Income received for August 2023.

RESOLVED that;

the following payments be authorised;

Joanne Monks	August pay	466.94
Joanne Monks	Clerk expenses August	26.00
Cheshire Pension Fund	August contributions	170.50
Cheshire Community Action	Annual subs	20.00
Cheshire Woodlands	Tree survey Little Wood/Frith	1,536.00

Joanne Monks	Sept pay	466.94
Joanne Monks	Clerk expenses Sept	32.30
Cheshire Pension Fund	Sept contributions	170.50
Information Commissioners Office	Data protection fee	40.00
HMRC	quarterly payment	273.00
Delamere Community centre	Room Hire for 12.09.23	6.00

12 Request from Willington Parish Council for a 50% contribution for a grit bin for Waste Lane Kelsall

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council would not make a financial contribution towards the cost of purchase of a grit bin and salt for Waste Lane in Kelsall.

13 Location of tommy statue

Councillor A Bell declared an interest in relation to item 13, the location of the tommy statue as he was a member of the Royal British Legion and remained in the room for this agenda item.

RESOLVED that;

The tommy statue would be located near the flagpole at the entrance of Little Wood off Waste Lane Oakmere.

14 Leadership Lunch proposal from PCSO

The clerk was asked to contact the PCSO to clarify whether the meeting was for members of the public to attend and to ask questions from the various organisations. The request will then be considered at the next Parish Council meeting once this has been clarified.

15 Tree survey for land at Frith Avenue and Little Wood

The clerk confirmed that the tree survey for the land at Frith Avenue and Little Wood had been undertaken on 13th July 2023 and the report had been circulated to all the Parish Councillors for their attention.

The overall risks from the trees on both areas appeared to be low. Only tree G2/5 was identified as presenting an elevated but Tolerable (yellow) risk. The remaining trees were found to be within Broadly Acceptable (green) limits. Limited safety recommendations were proposed, these however were all optional due to the low risk. A periodic review in two to three years was recommended.

RESOLVED that;

The tree survey report was noted and that they would be periodically reviewed.

16 Defibrillators

Following a post on the local residents Facebook page three residents have volunteered and the clerk has met with one resident to show them how to do this. The clerk will contact the other residents and arrange for training.

The clerk had received an email from a resident of Eddisbury Hill requesting the installation of a defibrillator for Eddisbury Hill.

The clerk was asked to contact the resident and signpost them to the owners of the site and to the British Heart Foundation.

17 Forestry England meeting

Councillor C Topping, Councillor S Roberts and Councillor D Rutter attended a meeting with Forestry England on Tuesday 12th September and reported that they had suggested bi-annual meetings. The clerk confirmed that Forestry England had stated the next meeting could be on 5th March or 12th March at 11.30am. The clerk was asked to contact Forest England to confirm the date of 12th March for the next meeting. The clerk was requested to put this as an agenda item for the February Parish Council meeting to discuss prior to the March meeting date.

The proposal for a D-Day beacon was discussed and Forestry England said they would investigate this. Forestry England discussed the forthcoming forestry works at Primrose Wood and Blakemere Moss and will provide an update for the newsletter. Forestry England confirmed that there were no concession car parking charges for local residents other than the annual parking fee and details of the concerts for 2024 was discussed.

18 Permissive path off Station Road Delamere

Councillor D Rutter and Councillor C Topping attended a meeting with a representative from the Hollies regarding a permissive path off Station Road Delamere on Tuesday 12th September 2023.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of £6.00 was approved for room hire of Delamere community centre on Tuesday 12th September for the meeting regarding the permissive path.

19 D-Day event

The clerk stated that if this event required expenditure that the expenditure will have to be approved by the Parish Council in advance of the event.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of up to £1,000 was approved for any expenditure necessary for the D-Day event.

An application from the Ward Members budget will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.

20 itravel on-demand rural bus service

An advertisement for the new service was included in the next edition of the newsletter.

21 Data Protection fee renewal

RESOLVED that;

The amount of £40.00 was approved for the renewal of the data protection fee.

22 Election costs from Cheshire West and Chester Council

The breakdown of the charge is as follows;

£181 (this uncontested fee is based on £165.00 + £16 per 1000 electors for Delamere Ward)

£181 (this uncontested fee is based on £165.00 + £16 per 1000 electors for Oakmere Ward)

RESOLVED that;

£362.00 was approved for the uncontested election costs for the May 2023 elections.

23 Retirement present for staff member at Delamere Post Office

The request from Councillor F Goodier was considered.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of £25 was approved as a contribution towards a retirement present. The clerk was asked to arrange payment of this amount to the Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor J Edwards.

24 Reports of dead foxes

A resident had reported two incidents of dead foxes around the Oakmere Way. The incident has been reported to Cheshire Wildlife Trust and Cheshire West and Chester Council.

RESOLVED that;

No further action was necessary.

25 Internet banking

The clerk confirmed that only Councillor A Bell and Councillor F Goodier were currently set up with internet banking access.

Councillor L Walters and Councillor C Topping have not yet obtained access from the NatWest as they are still awaiting the NatWest to do this.

26 Speed watch

Councillor J Edwards and Councillor F Goodier will contact the speed watch group to see if there is any interest to become a speed watch co-ordinator. The clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

27 Dog Fouling

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire West and Chester Council to request dog fouling signage for Station Road in Delamere and for them to undertake enforcement action on Station Road, Frith Avenue and for Eddisbury Hill.

The clerk was asked to contact United Utilities to request that dog fouling signage be put on the field at Eddisbury Hill to deter dog fouling.

28 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors and to discuss any issues for Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors

Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper reported that he was looking into issues from other parishes with regards to speed indicator devices.

Cheshire West and Chester Councillor T Cooper stated that he will contact the owners of the Earlsbrook Housing Development regarding residents' concerns.

Cheshire West and Chester Councillor T Cooper stated that if there were any issues with potholes then residents should report these individually to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper reported that he was investigating the possibility of an NHS contracted dentist for the area.

29 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor F Goodier requested that village gateway signs be an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor A Bell reported that the next edition of the newsletter is due out soon.

Councillor G Hudson requested that signage for Little Wood was an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor D Rutter requested that the purchase of grit salt for the Parish owned grit bins was an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting. All Parish Councillors were asked to check the grit bins to see if they required re-filling.

Councillor D Rutter asked Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper if he could contact Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding trees on common land near to Abbey Hill which required attention. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper will taken this up with Cheshire West and Chester Council.

30 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 16th October 2023 at 7pm.

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