

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHOLMONDELEY & CHORLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT SCHOOL FARM, CHOLMONDELEY ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor A D Fennell In the Chair
Councillor J Clarke Councillor J Moody
Councillor R Probin Councillor G Willis

APOLOGIES: Councillors C Crossley, C Hopley, P Probin, D Sweetman and P Winward

29 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare any non-pecuniary or disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and, in respect of a DPI to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

No declarations were made.

30 MINUTES

30.1 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 July 2017

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 July 2017 be approved as a correct record.

30.2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 May 2017

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting were submitted for information and would be submitted for approval at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

31 CASUAL VACANCY

It was noted that there remained one Parish Council vacancy, but there were currently no candidates.

The vacancy could be advertised in the next newsletter.

Members were invited to consider Legal Topic Note L15-08 produced by the National Association of Local Councils and updated in May 2015. The document suggested that any potential candidates should prepare a statement setting out how they complied with the criteria for co-option. The Topic Note also provided an appendix with a suggested person specification for consideration when co-opting.

Members took the view that the current procedure should not be revised, i.e. that candidates make a brief presentation to the meeting, they be questioned by Members and then the matter is put to the vote.

RESOLVED: That the current procedure for co-opting to casual vacancies, be reaffirmed.

32 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor W S Davies was not in attendance.

33 FINANCIAL MATTERS

33.1 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payments be authorised:

£40.00	HM Revenue & Customs – Tax on Clerk's salary
£160.00	Mrs C M Jones – salary for the period 1 July – 30 September 2017.

33.2 Accounts 2016-2017

The audit has now been concluded by BDO LLP and its report was submitted. It was noted that there had been a number of minor clerical issues raised, but these had been resolved to the satisfaction of the auditor.

33.3 Budget 2018-2019

A draft budget for 2018-2019 would be presented to the meeting in November. In the meantime, Members were invited to give early consideration to projects which could be included.

No suggestions were made at this time.

33.4 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Paragraph 1(2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

33.5 Payroll Service

The Parish Council considered two quotations for the provision of the payroll service. A third quotation had been sought, but the company had declined to quote.

RESOLVED: That the quotation for provision of the payroll service, submitted by T P Jones of Harrogate, in the sum of £60.00 per annum be accepted.

33.6 RE-ADMITTANCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

34 DRAINAGE PROBLEMS – VICINITY OF A49

Over the last few months, Members had commented on highways work being carried out in the vicinity of the A49, but with no apparent progress.

The Clerk had made enquiries and at one stage was advised that it was BT work, but Members had subsequently advised that it was drainage work.

The Clerk contacted the CEC Drainage Team which had reviewed its street register to try to identify any permits relating to drainage works, but there were none listed within the last few weeks/months which matched the description of the works at this location. The Engineer had made a site visit and had observed a number of barriers and cones on the verge down Bickerton Road, but nothing related to CEC work.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Drainage Team and request one of its engineers to meet on site with Councillor G Willis, who would be able to explain the problem in more detail.

35 CHESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2017 (MIDDLEWICH) – 7.00 PM

The Cheshire Association of Local Councils was holding its Annual Meeting in Middlewich. The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm but there was a free buffet available from 6.00 pm.

Members were invited to propose a motion to the meeting. In addition, the Annual Meeting would be making four appointments of Executive Board Members. This was an opportunity for parish councillors to put themselves forward for membership of the Executive Board. The nomination should be made direct to ChALC as it did not require the support of the Parish Council.

Councillors C Crossley and D Sweetman were the Parish Council's representatives at ChALC events, and would be asked to attend.

36 CONSULTATION – CEC LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

The Parish Council was invited to comment on CEC's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy by 27 September 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council decline to comment on the CEC Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

37 UPDATE ON INSTALLATION OF BOUNDARY SIGNS

In the absence of Councillor Crossley, this item was deferred to the November meeting.

38 PLANNING MATTERS

38.1 Planning Applications

17/4511N Unit 1, Castle Farm, Bickerton Hall Road, Cholmondeley, SY14 8AQ
Change of use from an office B1 to a beauty salon.
Deadline date for observations: 9 October 2017.

RESOLVED: That no observations be made on planning application No. 17/4511N.

38.2 Challenge to the Local Plan

Under separate cover, the Clerk notified Members that Muller Property Group Ltd. had challenged the Local Plan Strategy.

The grounds of challenge alleged that the Council failed to take into account the issue relating to incorrect air quality data when adopting the Local Plan. A full and robust response had been sent to Muller Properties by the Borough Council, addressing the points the company raised. CEC's position was very firmly that the incorrect air quality data would not have resulted in any changes to the Local Plan.

The lodging of the legal challenge did not change the legal status of the Local Plan Strategy and it would continue to be applied in decision-making as the adopted Development Plan. It also continued to provide the strategic planning context for the preparation of neighbourhood plans.

39 PARISH NEWSLETTER

The last newsletter was produced in April 2017. The Council was invited to consider if a Christmas edition should be published.

It was agreed that a newsletter be issued, to include 'What's on' events at the Cholmondeley Arms and in the parish and information about the defibrillator at The Cholmondeley Arms. Councillor Moody reported on the problems with the equipment and the fact that it was not currently accessible as it required access via a code which had not been notified to her. The Clerk was asked to follow this up with North-West Ambulance Trust.

RESOLVED: That a Christmas newsletter be issued, and that its contents be finalised at the November meeting.

40 SHARED ITEMS

Members were invited to share information, or request items to be included on the next agenda.

The only issue raised was the possible requirement for a warning sign to be installed at the junction of Wrenbury Road with Nantwich Road as it was potentially dangerous.

41 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

21 November 2017

.....Chairman