

TWEMLOW PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Terra Nova School on Monday 9th May 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Brandreth (Chairman), Tomkinson, Warkentin and Price

In attendance: S Jones (acting Clerk) and 3 members of the public

28/16 Election of Chairman 2016/17

Cllr Brandreth nominated himself as a candidate for Chairman. There were no other nominations.

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to appoint Cllr Brandreth as Chairman.*

Cllr Brandreth signed the acceptance of office of Chairman in the presence of the Clerk.

Cllr Brandreth that as there was no item on the agenda for the election of a Vice Chairman this item would be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

***Resolved:** To add the election of Vice Chairman to the agenda of the next meeting.*

29/16 Public Session

Members of the public raised the following items

- Minute 20/16 regarding the complaint against Cllr Tomkinson needed to be amended to show that the complaint had been found to have not grounds by the Monitoring Officer.
- Website – There were incorrect items on the site eg the Complaints Procedure was not for Twemlow PC and as it has not been approved by the Council it should not have been placed on the web site at all. The developer had indicated he would be able to help correct any errors and upload documents if the Council would let him know what is required. However he would be taking holiday at the beginning of June for 3 weeks.
- Concern was expressed about the poor attendance from residents at the Annual Parish Meeting and Monthly Parish Council meetings could endanger the future of the Parish Council. **Action:** In future Clerk to invite Cllr Kolker and Cllr Gilbert from CEC to Parish Council meetings and request that if one cannot attend the other should coming in their place.
- Request for the holly hedge at Garden Cottage be cut back as it is encroaching on the pavement. This belongs to CEC. **Action:** Chairman to take a picture and send it to CEC Highways and ask them to cut the hedge back.

30/16 Apologies

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr Basford.

31/16 Minutes of the Meeting of 14th March 2016

Cllr Tomkinson asked for Item 20/16 Matters Arising from the Minutes to be amended as follows:

To replace “The Members Code of Conduct” section with

Complaint

MT reported that the Monitoring Officer at Cheshire East Council had dismissed the complaint by Mr Marshall Barnett about her comments on behalf of TPC to the Southern Planning Committee on 30 September 2015 regarding application 15/3137C. There was no case to answer as there had been no breach of the Members’ Code of Conduct.

Additionally Cllr Tomkinson asked for Item 25/16 Chairman and Members Report to be amended as follows:

Complaint

MT asked all members whether they had released the summary of her 3 minute speech to the Southern Planning Committee to Mr Marshall Barnett. All members denied passing on the document - as did the Clerk.

Cllr Warkentin requested that item 19/16 Minutes to be amended to say that the Complaints Procedure could not be approved as the amended version had not been re-circulated to councilors before the meeting and that the item should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting of the 14th March as a true record of the meeting subject to the amendments proposed by Cllrs Tomkinson and Warkentin.*

32/16 Parish Councillor Vacancies

The Chairman indicated that there are currently 2 vacancies as Cllr Thomas has resigned, but only one could be co-opted at the meeting as the Parish Council is still waiting to hear from the Electoral Department at CEC regarding the other vacancy. Cllr Basford has indicated that he intends to resign from the Council in the near future. **Action:** Clerk to write up advert for Co-option and to post on notice boards and web site once there is a decision from CEC.

33/16 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Litter on Goostrey Lane – in the Lay-By. Residents have very kindly tidied this up in the past. **Action:** Clerk to report the litter to CEC.

Footpath near the bridge – CB reported that he believed this has been cleared of litter.

British Hearth Foundation Funding – The next round of funding has not yet been launched but they will notify the Council when the next round starts.

Saltersford Bridge - The Parish Council reported to CEC Highways that it was happy with the work on the Twemlow side but the work on the Holmes Chapel side was lacking. **Action:** Chairman will take this up with Cllrs Kolker and Gilbert as there has been no response from CEC Highways.

Manhole Cover – has been repaired.

34/16 To Note Planning Applications

To note following applications which have been circulated to members before the meeting and any since the publication of the agenda –

- 16/1565C The Orchards Farm, Twemlow Lane, Twemlow Green, Crewe CW4 8DS. Demolition of redundant barn and erection of proposed agricultural workers dwelling and associated access and parking arrangements. **Decision:** *No objections.*
- 16/1391C Acres Croft , Forty Acre Lane, Twemlow Green, CW4 8DU Proposed material alterations to include render of existing brick work. **Decision:** *No objections.*
- 16/1453C Acres Croft, Forty Acre Lane, Twemlow Green, CW4 8DU Proposed automatic gate and wall to replace existing entrance to site. **Decision:** *No objections.*

The Clerk confirmed that if Councillors or members of the public were concerned that building work is being carried out without planning permission or beyond the scope of permission granted, they should contact Planning Enforcement at CEC via the CEC web site or to planning@cheshireeast.gov.uk .

Action: Chairman to check if there was planning permission in place for all the works.

Cllr Tomkinson highlighted an application which had not been sent to the Parish Council 16/2009C which was for an agricultural building and dated on 22nd April. **Action:** Chairman to contact CEC Planning regarding this application to find out why this was not notified to the Parish Council.

16/0459C – Cllr Tomkinson reported that the earliest this could go to the Strategic Planning Board is 15th June, the Southern Planning Committee 25th May and 29th June, Northern Planning Committee on 1st June. The agenda for the meetings is published on the CEC site a week before the meeting.

Action: Chairman to check the CEC web site and identify the date of the meeting.

35/16 Highways

- Letter from C Seddon – Twemlow Lane – sent a letter of complaint about the state of the junction of Twemlow Lane and the A535. She has asked for the Parish Council's support in her complaint. Cllr Gilbert (CEC) has confirmed it is on the list for treatment and has updated C Seddon. There is no date scheduled for this treatment. **Action:** Chairman to reply to C Seddon and to copy the reply to Cllrs Kolker and Gilbert, and ask them to report back and to keep the Parish Council updated.
- Road Traffic Accidents – on the A535 on 8th May in the afternoon on the bend opposite Twemcott. The accident involved two cars and motorcycle. The motorcyclist had tried to overtake one car and had .

- AOB

Parking on the pavement – There is no law in Cheshire regarding parking on the pavement. There is only an issue if people cannot get past on the pavement or the car is parked in a dangerous place.

Speedwatch – A co-ordinator for Speedwatch was floated at the last Parish Council Meeting. Andrew Davies has volunteered, new sessions will be organized in the next few weeks but we need to find out when the 7 people who have been trained are

available because we have to carry out Speedwatch with 3 people at a time. Twemlow Lane is the only road that Speedwatch can take place.

Once the session is complete Cllr Price will submit the forms.

Action: Andrew Davies to contact all trained Speedwatch members and organize sessions in the next few weeks.

36/16 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs Tomkinson and Warkentin reported that they had their 3rd Meeting on 31st March, reviewed all of the Neighbourhood Plan information and had consulted with the CEC and had come to the conclusion that a Neighbourhood Plan would not benefit Twemlow at this stage. However they recommended that the Neighbourhood Plan group should meet every three months to review the situation in the light of the Gladman appeal at Holmes Chapel.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group put forward a motion that the old MOD site should be put forward to Goostrey Neighbourhood Plan Committee as a housing development site under the call for sites from the Goostrey Neighbourhood Plan Committee. The site is 12 acres and is a brownfield site which should be used for housing in preference to green field sites.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Tomkinson and seconded by Cllr Warkentin .

The Chairman acknowledged that more housing was being called for all over the country and if there was a requirement for Twemlow to have more houses a brownfield site would be preferential. However, he was concerned that as there were currently only 4 members of the council and as such would prefer to delay the decision until the next meeting when they may have some new members.

Cllr Tomkinson highlighted that the decision needed to be made as the Goostrey Call for Sites was closing.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the motion put forward by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.*

37/16 Audit 2015/16

The Chairman read out the balance of accounts, receipts and expenditure for the period 1st April 2015 – 31st March 2016.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the signature of the Annual Audit and Statement of Governance by the Chairman and the Clerk.*

38/16 Accounts

To note the balance of account = £1042.88

To authorise the following payments –

- £112.80 Congleton Chronicle
- £25.00 Crewe Colour Printers (paid)
- £36.00 CPRE
- £592.31 Cranage Parish Council (clerks salary Jan to march)
- £50.00 Clerks expenses Jan to March

- £20.00 CCA
- £59.51 CHALC Affiliation Fee
- £300.00 Upper bridge enterprises

Receipts

- £2,250.00 Precept
- £8.00 Council Tax Support Transparency Code funding discuss

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve all the payments on the payments schedule.*

39/16 Cheshire East Matters - Cllr Kolker was not in attendance.

40/16 Chairman's and Members Report

Cllr Tomkinson reported that she had spent some time looking at the new web site and had found that there seemed to be some budget statements missing.

Action: Chairman to check that all budget statements are present on the website.

Part II

41/16 Applications for Clerk

Seven applications have been received. Four shortlist candidates were identified, However one of these had been received at the last minute.

Action: Chairman to circulate all 4 shortlisted candidates for councilors to make a final decision on the shortlist.

Resignation of Councillors

Cllrs Warkentin and Tomkinson resigned from the Parish Council at the end of this section of the meeting.

42/16 It was to be noted the next meeting was to be held at Terra Nova School on 11th July 2016 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm