

BETCHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM AT ST PHILIP'S CHURCH, HASSALL GREEN

PRESENT

Councillor L Barber, Chairman; Councillors J Batchelor, A Curwen, S Hollinshead, and R Moss;
Ralph Bason, Clerk; Cheshire East Councillor J Wray.

Apologies – B Colclough, S Farrington.

10. MINUTES

The Parish Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2021

11. PUBLIC FORUM

Further to Minute 2, concerns expressed again about the stuck grid in Alsager Road. It was agreed that Cheshire East Council be contacted again about the concerns expressed at the last meeting.

12. MOTORWAY BRIDGE

The Council considered the reply from the Highways Agency regarding screening following the upgrade of the M6.

It was agreed that further screening be sited by planting either side of the canal, and by boards on the bridge itself such as those which screened the Capricorn mixed development adjacent to Junction 17. The Council noted that because of the extra running lane which replaced the hard shoulder, traffic was closer to properties in Hassall Green and so the noise was substantially greater than before.

It was also agreed to ask that the fencing and trees which had been removed from the back garden of Station House, the owner of the house had reported that this had been agreed with him by the contractors at the time. The trees, it was noted, had been important in that they helped shore-up the embankment.

13. FINANCE

Expenditure

The Council approved the following items of expenditure:

Clerk's Salary – 2 months @ £133.99 = £267.98;

Clerk's expenses - Postage £2.36 Travel - £24 (attend meeting and to post notices) printer toner £17;

Balances

The Council noted the current financial situation:

Current account - £ 11,164.79

Reserve account - £ £1,866.03

14. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered the following Planning Application which had been received for consultation purposes from Cheshire East Council:

To consider Planning Applications submitted to Cheshire East Council and referred to the Parish Council for consultation:

21/4439C – Land off Roughwood Lane, Hassall, CW11 4YA – Detached dwelling – object on the grounds that there was too little local amenity in the village to sustain any further development; there was concern about the safety of access from the proposed development to the road; loss of wildlife; and loss of agricultural land.

15. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Council noted the following decisions made by Cheshire East Council:

21/2525C - The Orchard, Smithy Grove, Hassall Green, CW11 4YB Detached garage, two storey front bay extension, single storey side extension and garage conversion - approved;

21/2133C - Dean Hill Farm, Newcastle Road, Betchton, CW11 2TG - Listed building consent for removal of store/boiler and hopper room and the construction of a single storey sun room extension – undecided.

21/3401C – Land off Hood Lane, Betchton – Detached Garage - undecided

It was noted that Cheshire East had responded to this concern of the Parish Council at the length of time it was taking to process some applications by saying that it had been short of staff, but that they were recruiting to rectify the situation.

16. CHESHIRE BUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Council considered Cheshire East Council's improvement plan and the pilot scheme being undertaken in the rural area south and west of Nantwich of a new Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service on 4 October 2021 named 'go-too'.

The Council agreed to ask the bus company once again to consider reinstating a service to the centre of Hassall Green and that Cheshire East Council be asked to put a timetable at the bus stop at Betchton Road junction.

17. PLANTERS AND SEATING

The Council considered the idea of siting planters and seating in the parish and it was agreed that the Chair look at the feasibility of this, in the first instance by discussing it at the nature reserve open day on 19 September with people who specialised in producing such items using reclaimed wood.

18.DOG WASTE BINS

The Council agreed to ask that a dog waste bin be sited at the entrance to the public footpath which links Charles Square with Betchton Road.

19.CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk reported on correspondence received regarding matters raised inc sign near New Inn crossroads and speed limit signs in Hassall Green. On the second matter it was agreed to ask Cheshire East Council to remove overgrown vegetation which obscured the 30mph sign at the junction of Roughwood Lane and Alsager Road

20.COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillors reported on their areas of responsibilities and other matters.

Councillor Hollinshead reported that because of Covid-19 there had been no meetings of the Almshouses Trust for 18 months but he understood that all was operating well.

Councillor Moss reported on meetings with the Police.

Councillor Bachellor reported on concerns about car sales at Love Lane Farm and it was agreed that Cheshire East be asked about the planning status of the farm.

It was also agreed that the developer of Roddymore Mill be asked for an update on the reopening of Betchton Lane and Roughwood Lane.

..... (Chairman)

..... (Date).