

BETCHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2023 AT 7.30 PM AT ST PHILIP'S CHURCH, HASSALL GREEN

PRESENT

Councillors J Batchelor, B Colclough, A Curwen, S Farrington and A Malbon
Ralph Bason, Clerk. J Wray, Cheshire County Council.

Three members of the public were in attendance.

Apologies from absence were received from Councillor R Moss

1. CHAIRMAN

Councillor Curwen was elected Chairman for 2023-24

2. VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Batchelor was elected Vice-Chairman.

3. ELECTIONS 2023

Six Councillors were elected on 4 May 2013:

Jean Batchelor
Barbara Colclough
Avis Curwen
Susan Farrington
Angela Malbon
Robert Moss

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2023. It was agreed that re-consideration be given to the provision of a sound system in the church hall to improve the conduct of meetings.

5. DEFIBRILATORS

Although a site had been agreed for a defibrillator to be supplied in Hassall Green, quotations for supply had been greater than those for which had been budgeted.

The Clerk would look for less expensive supplies.

It was also agreed that a preferred site be found for Malkins Bank.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman invited electors of the Parish to speak on apposite matters. Concerns included the condition of gulleys in Hassall Green, the footway near Station House; the exit from the Salt Line Car Park; the condition of Charles Square play area; overgrown vegetation at Bridgefoot, Hassall Green; and the faulty signs at New Inn Lane Junction.

It was reported that traffic in Hassall Green had increased in quantity recently and was becoming faster.

Concern was raised regarding deficient grit supplies in Hassall Green over the previous winter.

The Clerk undertook to raise these matters with the relevant authorities.

Concern was expressed about the apparent increase in volume and speeding of traffic through Hassall Green in recent years. It was agreed that Cheshire East Highways be asked to look into this.

Residents of the Parish requested that the "No Through Road" signs at Stannerhouse Lane be made permanent.

There had been an incident at Malkins Bank playground and it was agreed that the new PCSO be asked to look into the matter.

The Forum formed the basis of the Annual Parish Meeting for which due public notice had been published.

7. FINANCE

(a) The Council approved application for exemption to full audit of Parish Council's accounts by an external auditor. Accounts would be subject to internal audit which will be reported to the July meeting.

(b) The Council approved the following expenses:
Clerk's Salary – £151.31 (two months) = £302.62

Clerk's expenses - Postage £2.42; Travel - £24 (attend meeting and to post notices)

Plants for Planters in Malkins Bank - £110

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

23/1592C – The Covert, Love Lane, Betchton - Proposed driveway gates, garden walls and extended driveway – to oppose because of traffic visibility.

The Council also noted that enforcement action at New Inn Lane (use of old car park) and Love Lane (unauthorised car sales) were ongoing.

9. PLANNING DECISIONS

23/0647C - Land off Sandbach Road Church Lawton - Use of land for recreational angling including creation of 7 timber fishing pegs around existing lake, parking for 8 vehicles, replacement gate and pedestrian access track – Approved.

10. RODDYMORE MILL

The Clerk reported on correspondence from the developers of Roddymore Mill and Cheshire East Council and noted that Roughwood Lane and Betchton Road were due to be reinstated, resurfaced and open by 31 July.

11. DUBTHORN HOUSE

Further to Minute 54 (2022-23) Councillor Wray informed the Council that Cheshire East flood risk team had responded to requests and had cleared the inundated area in Dubthorn Lane (more than 120,000 litres of water) and ensured that the brook adjacent now flowed freely.

..... (Chairman)

..... (Date).