

BETCHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@betchtonpc.org.uk
Website: www.betchtonpc.org.uk

27th February 2025

To the Members of Betchton Parish Council

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the ORDINARY MEETING of Betchton Parish Council to be held on **Thursday, 6th March 2025 at 7.30 pm at Malkins Bank Golf Club, Betchton Rd, Malkins Bank, Sandbach, CW11 4XN** when the undermentioned business is to be transacted.

Yours faithfully

M Clough

Mrs M Clough
Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

A G E N D A

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence for this Meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from Members of the Parish Council, relating to matters on this Agenda.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2nd January 2025 to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair of the Parish Council.

4. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

To consider applications for co-option onto the Parish Council.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

To receive any questions from Members of the Public.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Application Reference Number: 24/4693/EIA

The Parish Council to note that its support of the residents in requesting to the Planning Authority that an Environmental Impact Assessment is undertaken for the following proposal has been submitted to Cheshire East Council:-

Application Reference Number: 24/4693/EIA

Application Type: EIA screening / scoping

Proposal: Screening Opinion for an outline application in support of a residential development of up to 320 dwellings, open space, landscaping, associated infrastructure and works, including earthworks and drainage

- **New Planning Application**

(ii) Application Reference: 23/4004C Full Planning

Site address: Malkins Bank Golf Club Betchton Road, Malkins Bank, Sandbach, Cheshire East, CW11 4XN

Development Proposal: Proposed installation of surface water drainage system including outfalls to Birchenwood Brook; and installation of a passive reactive barrier treatment system.

- **Decisions made under Standing Orders**

(iii) **Application Reference:** 25/0211/OUT

Location: Land To The North And South Of The A533 The Hill, Sandbach,

Proposal: Outline application, with all matters reserved except for access, for development comprising up to 325 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), creation of a community park located between Manor Road and the A533 The Hill and other open space and landscaping, associated infrastructure, including earthworks and drainage

The Parish Council OBJECTED to this application and submitted reasons for the objection.

7. SPEEDING VEHICLES

To note the following response provided by Cheshire East Council regarding the Parish Council's report of speeding vehicles (Highways reference 3470873):-

The Council have no powers to prosecute speeding drivers, therefore any concerns of this nature must be reported to the police. The police should be able to provide you with their available options for speed enforcement to identify whether or not there is an issue at this location.

Concerns relating to speeding can be reported on line using the report a traffic incident tool using the following link: <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-b/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>

Your request for repeater signs and warning signs has been noted. We can also advise you that 30mph repeater signs cannot be installed as national legislation prohibits the installation of repeater signs or markings within a 30mph speed limit where street lighting is present. The Highway Code states that "the presence of streetlights generally means that there is a 30mph speed limit unless otherwise specified". All motorists should be aware of this.

8. DUBTHORN LANE – HIGHWAY MIRRORS

To note the following response from Cheshire East Council regarding the Parish Council's enquiry about the provision of mirrors on Dubthorn Lane:-

We don't allow mirrors for driveways or any other reason on the public highway, and take down any we find.

Whilst a mirror may assist with egress from a property, a mirror is legally an obstruction on the highway.

If you don't have good visibility from your driveway, we recommend you look at what you can do to improve sight lines. Possible measures include cutting back vegetation, moving fences, or widening gateways.

9. MOTORWAY BRIDGE

To note that the Clerk has reported the Parish Council's concerns over this Bridge to the Highways Agency (Reference: FMS6947653). The Highways Agency reported that this was a matter for the Local Highways Department, so a log was made (Reference: 3471128). A Highways Officer was to visit the site and report back. The response received was *The officer has noted that the structure belongs to National highways and the issue has been forwarded to them.*

10. MALKINS BANK FOOTPATH

To note that the Clerk has again contacted Cheshire East Council to advise them that the Parish Council supports the residents in their request for footpath clearance (Ref: 6947704)

11. FLOODING ON ALSAGER ROAD

To note that the Clerk has referred this matter to Cheshire East Council and responses to additional questions have been sent.

12. PLAY AREAS

To note that the Clerk has received the following replies from ANSA to enquire about the future plans for the play areas in the Parish. Members are asked to consider a response to the query regarding Old School Site, Hassall Green.

Charles Square - It was flagged during recent inspections that the Tractor unit was at, or getting towards end of life. The decision was taken to remove the equipment. When the new slide unit is installed, the Borough Council team will clean / pressure wash the safety surfacing. Regarding the other play equipment, the Borough Council is heavily reliant on external funding to improve its play areas. If funding is not available to replace or improve the play equipment, the equipment will be removed when it is deemed at end of life.

Old School Site, Hassall Green – The equipment on site was deemed not fit for purpose, and was removed. The site is recognised as a playing field, rather than a play area. As such, if there is appetite, the Borough Council could consider informal football goals on the open space, if the Parish Council was keen to pursue this avenue.

13. GRANTS

In light of a recent request for funding from an organisation from outside the Parish, the Parish Council to consider whether it is in a position to give grants to such organisations.

14. ASSET REGISTER

To approve the Asset Register. Asset Register Circulated

15. PARISH COUNCIL EQUIPMENT

In light of recent advice received from Zurich Municipal, the Parish Council to consider the implications further.

16. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

To receive an update report from Councillor Wray.

17. BUDGET AND FINANCE 2024-2025

To consider a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on the Budget and Finance 2024-2025.

18. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Parish Council to approve the appointment of Davenport Accountants as the Parish Council's Internal Auditor.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Members to note the details of the following meetings:-

Annual Parish Meeting – 1st May 2025 at 7.00 pm

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 1st May 2025 at 7.30 pm

20. URGENT ITEMS

To discuss any other matters that the Chair considers requires consideration as a matter of urgency.