

ACTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th September 2017 at 7-30pm in the Parish Rooms.

Present R Holt Chairman
 S Pardoe Vice Chairman
 C Ballantyne – Roberts
 H Bayley
 C Fifield
 D Hall
 J Oliver

Apologies R Forbes
 Cllr H Tonge CW&C
 Cllr P Williams CW&C

There was one members of the public present.

1 Public Matters

The resident introduced herself as Mrs H Golding of Rose Cottage, Milton Rough and mentioned that she had recently moved into Acton Bridge.

Mrs Golding reported on a road accident that had taken place on Saturday 2nd Sept involving a motor home type vehicle and a car. The car had finished up in the hedge along Milton Rough and the driver was injured. The motor home driver had not stopped the vehicle and is being sought by the Police.

Mrs Golding spoke about the visibility difficulties when leaving the property and the speed of traffic along Milton Rough. The Chairman gave a brief outline of the actions on speeding that the Parish Council has taken with CW&C Highways and that a set of 'dragons teeth' road markings is to be installed at the 30mph entrance to Milton Rough from Crowton.

Mrs Golding further mentioned that she has plans to remove the hedge at the front of the property and to replace it with a brick wall with pillars and fencing. The Chairman explained the visibility problems that residents living in the cul-de-sac further along Milton Rough have had. He also said that the Parish Council cannot give guidance or act as consultants but only submit comments when plans are submitted.

Mrs Golding was thanked for coming and speaking to the Parish Council.

2 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the 3rd July 2017 meeting

With small editorial corrections, the minutes were agreed and signed.

3 Matters Arising

Meeting of 3rd July 2017

Item 1 Public Matters

As the item related to the land at the site of the former Nursery on Station Road, Cllr Fifield declared an interest and temporarily left the meeting.

A Village resident, from Station Road, had raised the matter of the upkeep of the Nursery grounds and the removal of the buildings associated with the Nursery now that it has closed down. The resident said that he had checked the requirements of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and that the Local Authority can ask the owners to maintain the land.

The meeting discussed the planning permission that had been granted for the buildings in association with the horticultural business, that the land was originally meadow and that it has been accepted in all related planning applications to be part of the green belt.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would confirm the applicability of the Town and Country Planning Act and will write to the Local Planning Authority to request action. The Chairman confirmed that a letter had been sent drawing attention to the topics above and requesting appropriate actions be taken by CW&C with the land owners.
Action Clr Holt Completed

The Chairman reported that a reply had been received from CW&C and that he had also received a telephone call from an Enforcement Officer at CW&C. The Officer had visited the site, taken photographs and had discussed the subject with officers in the Planning Department.

The conclusion is that the site at present is not in too poor a condition to warrant a Section 215 Untidy Land Notice being served but will be monitored and that the current permission for the Nursery is still the last lawful use and that CW&C cannot insist on the buildings being taken down.

The Enforcement Officer also stated that the owners have been written to and advised of the complaint and their responsibilities to ensure the land does not deteriorate to a level where a Section 215 Notice has to be served.

7 CWAC Ward Councillors

Clr Fifield reported that he has complained about the lack of maintenance to the playing field and the equipment. He has been informed that there are plans to upgrade the equipment and he will chase progress.
Action Clr Fifield - ongoing

It was mentioned by Members that some people are using the field to exercise their dogs and this is strictly against the rules.

8 Reports from other meetings

Parish Council meeting with CW&C Highways

Arising from the meeting with CW&C Highways and the statement made by the officers of no matched funding for the interactive sign, the Chairman asked for views on the way forward. He mentioned that with the addition of the 'dragons teeth' road markings on Station Road there could be other locations in the Village for the sign.

The meeting discussed taking out a loan. Clr Fifield queried using reserves from the Bank and Clr Pardoe supported this method. Clr Ballantyne-Roberts said that at the recent meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner at Weaverham, it had been said by a Christleton member that they have a moveable sign. It was agreed that actual reserves (bank account less outstanding commitments) be established and that further information on type and costs of signs be obtained.
Action Clr Holt

10 Village Matters

- a). Work in Hazel Pear Wood – a work day was arranged for 11th July to remove Himalayan Balsam. Coppicing work is planned for 19th September. Volunteers will need training.
- b). The sign for the bend at Strawberry Lane / Acton Lane is obscured by growth. Highways to be notified. Clr Pardoe reported that he had been and cut back the obstructions from the sign

Action Clerk - Cleared

Meeting May 2017

4 Planning Applications.

Land at Hill Top Farm

Further to the route of the PRow to remain as it is, Members of the Parish Council had reported that a large hole has been dug adjacent to the path and masts with cameras had been installed. It was not known if these are permanent or for security during construction. Further checks on the work to be made by Members.
Action All Completed

It appeared from the angles set for the cameras that all the surrounding area would be viewed not just the private land of the owners. Members discussed the regulations (as understood) of the Data Protection Act (DPA) and the need for registration of CCTV with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) as was the case with the installation at the Gorstage Cemetery.

Clr Pardoe offered to examine the DPA to verify requirements for private installations and to check if there any records with ICO for Hill Top Road.
Action Clr Pardoe.

Meeting April 2017

10 Village Matters

b) Bench on Acton Lane

Clr Pardoe reported on the contact with Weaver Vale Cycling Club and the cost of a replacement bench. After discussion with the Chairman an offer of £100 had been made as a gesture of support. A reply is awaited. Clr Pardoe will send another email requesting progress update. It was noted that the new bench has now been installed. Clr Pardoe confirmed that he had contacted the Cycling Club and a request for the £100 contribution has been received. Action Clr Pardoe - Completed

The Clerk confirmed that a cheque for the £100 has been sent to the Cycling Club together with a letter of thanks for their actions in renewing the bench.

Meeting November 2016

a) Petal Walks

It was confirmed that the new date is 16th September. The signs giving routes and information on the petal walks have been prepared. One of the signs is to be installed at the Parish Rooms. Leaflets advertising the launch event have been placed in all the User Group correspondence pigeon holes at the Parish Rooms. The Chairman asked as many Members as are free to attend the event.

4 Planning Applications.

The following applications had been received during the Summer break and the associated actions were confirmed by the Parish Council;

a) App 17/00686/FUL - Land to North West of Hill Top Farm. Information from the applicants to clear the planning conditions had been supplied. The access to the new property has been shown on a revised plan. It was thought by the Members that the entrance was rather narrow and vision would be restricted but that CW&C Highways would have to endorse the plan. The plan also showed that the access at the end of the boundary wall that was provided to give passage along the hedge line of the property for a footpath, is to be closed off.

b) Application 17/03283/FUL Cliff Cottage, Cliff Road for rear extension and refurbishment of garage. There were no objections or comments.

c) Application 17/03017/OUT – 71, Cliff Road for infill property. The Parish Council has submitted a letter objecting to the infill and loss of open space.

5 Planning Decisions

a) Application 17/02218/FUL - Scotches, 57 Cliff Road. Change of living accommodation and change of garage doors to French doors. Approved

b) Application 17/01532/FUL - Single dwelling at Wall Hill Farm Refused

c) Application 14/02511/FUL and 16/05246/FUL Acton Hall Farm – Clearance of reservations. The Parish Council had objected to continued enlargement and encroachment plus a retained outbuilding originally scheduled to be removed. Approved.

6 Financial Matters

6.1 Approval of cheques;

There were no cheques to be signed. The cheque for £100 for the contribution to Weaver Vale Cycling Club that had been signed by authorised signatories was approved.

6.2 Audit

The Clerk explained that some queries had been received from the Auditors regarding detail completion of the audit papers. These had been resolved but there would be a fee of £30-00 to be paid.

7 CWAC Ward Councillors

Clr Fifield reported on the proposed boundary changes for the new Wards and numbers of Councillors for the revised arrangements of CW&C. He said that Acton Bridge would remain with Weaverham and Cuddington, taking on Crowton and Norley. Kingsley would be split up. The Ward would be losing Dutton and Bartington.

Clr Fifield also reported on the contacts he has had with CW&C Planning Officers on the operations and application at Town Farm Quarry. A number of residents and members of the Stop the Tip Action Group had highlighted the increased traffic to and from the site.

Clr Fifield also mentioned the proposed charges for car parking in Northwich and that a Councillor has stated that he will 'call-in' the proposal if / when made.

8 Reports from other meetings

a) Police and Crime Commissioner Meeting with Parish Councils at Weaverham

Clrs Holt, Ballantyne-Roberts and Oliver had attended. All were impressed by the determination of the PCC to achieve the best policing for CW&C. As in all matters cost is a big factor. Some police stations were planned to be closed. It was intended to move into premises with similar bodies, i.e. the Fire Service. Northwich is not scheduled in the closures.

b) Joint Cemetery Committee – The Clerk is to leave and a replacement is required.

9 Correspondence

CW&C – Letter in reply to Station Road topics.

CW&C – Draft boundary Commission proposals and poster for comments to be submitted.

ChALC – letter on Transparency Code Funding

CPRE – Fieldwork and Countryside Voice brochures received.

CPRE – Neighbourhood Plans – Brochure received

J Parker – Bulbs catalogue.

10 Village Matters

a) It was mentioned that there has been a break-in at Weaverham.

b) The sign for the railway station has at last been remounted on Station Road.

c) The Chairman mentioned that the replacement seat at the junction of Hill Top Road / Cliff Road, funded by WI, ABCA and the Parish Council, is being progressed...

d) It was mentioned that there have been road markings for installation of Broadband equipment. There has not been any contact from OpenReach or BT on the matter.

e) The Chairman mentioned that the Bowls Section of ABCA wish to renew their storage hut / pavilion and were getting estimates for the cost.

f) The Chairman said that a new PCSO has been appointed to our region. The officer is completing introductory training and will then be in a position to set dates for surgeries.

11 A.O.B.

None.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 2nd October 2017, starting at 7-30pm.