



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
18TH NOVEMBER 2013 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman
Councillor Robert Dodd - Vice Chair
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Stefan Pyra
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Sue Togay– Clerk

In Attendance:

CEC Cllr Brian Silvester, PCSO Peter Corbett, PCSO Peter Corbett, Ms Sarah Pochin

51. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None

52. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr Bob Squirrell in relation to a request for financial assistance from St Mary's Church, Cllr Robert Dodd in relation to any Planning Applications related to his land ownership.

53. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th September 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman except for the following amendments:

The misspelling of Cllr Silvester's surname.

Item 48 mentioned the Core Strategy when in fact it should have stated The Key Stage 2 results had been reviewed and the governors were not happy with reading results.

54. MATTERS ARISING:

Shavington Governor – The Clerk has enquired and received a response from Shavington High School. At present there was no vacancy for a Community Governor but they would inform the Council if and when one came available.

Councillor Vacancy – Even though at the September meeting Councillor Stefan Pyra had now been co-opted, Councillor Simon Bowkett had unfortunately now handed in his resignation as due to new family arrangements could not attend evening meetings. His input into the Council had been very much appreciated. The Clerk now to proceed with the correct procedure to advertise the vacancy and inform Cheshire East Democratic Services.

55. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Berkeley School Hedge - Councillor Pennance had mentioned the overgrown hedge at Berkeley School which was obscuring the street lights and road signs.

Outstanding issue - The Clerk to ascertain who is responsible for the hedge at The Medical Centre.

Chalk based paint – The community wardens had now picked this up from the Clerk and the Chair had arranged to go out on a walkabout on 19th November

Street Lighting Column at Junction Rope Bank Ave/Laidon Ave – Cllr Pyra to report via Highways system.

Letter from Aon (Rope PC Insurers) ref Snow Clearance, salting and gritting. As Rope PC had been provided with snow clearance equipment from CEC in 2012, this letter with regard to policy guidelines in respect of legal liabilities of the policy was read out. After discussion it was decided that to clear any pathways within the parish in the event of bad weather could present serious legal liability and therefore it would not be carried out by Rope PC. The Clerk to ascertain if a grit/salt box could be sited in the parish.

Trees in the parish – An oak tree had now been felled in the parish as there was no tree preservation order (TPO) in place. A considerable amount of work had gone into identifying significant trees and



Obtaining a TPO order on them in the past. It was suggested further trees could be captured in an order if we featured an article in the next newsletter.

Mud on Eastern Road – there had been significant mud on the road when one of the fields was being cleared of crop which was reported from several sources. CEC had cleared it and would charge the landowners responsible.

56. POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Peter Corbett reported on any crime and anti social behaviour (asb) issues in the parish pointing out specifically a parking nuisance on Laidon Ave, nuisance calls in Oakhurst, increased asb activity at Halloween. Included in the crime figures was a further incident at Rope Lane Nursery plus thefts from motor vehicles, theft from a doorstep, 2 burglaries, 1 domestic assault (pedestrian hit by stones from moving vehicles and a motorcycle in the New Life Church Area.

The parking problem at Berkeley school continued to be a problem but PCSO's were attending.

The next Neighbourhood Action Meeting was now being planned and the Police and Crime Commissioner was visiting Shavington PC.

Cllr Silvester asked about any 'Lights on Bikes' initiatives. PCSO Corbett had planned to attend assemblies at both schools in the parish on this issue. He had also visited the Co-Op in Shavington to highlight this to the staff as the young people that do the paper rounds are very vulnerable.

There was considerable build up of vehicles on both sides of Gresty Lane at Rope Lane Nursery. The Clerk to speak to CEC Officer.

57. PLANNING MATTERS:

The Chair gave an excellent report on the present situation in relation to issues in the Local Plan affecting Rope PC. The Chair suggested the following comment in relation to the Core Plan:

- Support the fact that there are no developments in Rope.
- Support green belt concept in Rope
- Ref separate consultation on the non preferred site should support the exclusion of site that was proposed for Rope.

The Chair had also received a letter from Edward Timpson MP as a follow up from the meeting attended by The Chair and Councillor Stefan Pyra.

Gresty Oaks Planning Application – Cllr AP asked if Highways opinions were considered and given any weight. A close eye needs to be kept on any planning applications submitted.

As a parish council it is felt that we have done everything that it could do.

58. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Meeting with CEC Leader plus Parish Councils and Action Groups. – The Chair had attended.

Remembrance Day Service – The Chair had attended the Crewe and Wistaston services and laid a wreath on behalf of Rope PC. It was noted that the Wistaston Memorial needs renovation but they no longer wish to move it.

World War One 100 Year Commemoration 2014 – Consideration needs to be given for any activities and also considered in the precept request.

Berkeley School Governors – a special governor vacancy was being considered and an ad and person spec was being produced at present.



Councillor Training – Cllr Pyra had attended a ChalC Workshop which he found well worth attending. It had been attended by both new and experience councillors.

CEC Meeting Town & Parish Councils, Alsager – The Chair had attended. Issues discussed were varied and included the change in green bin collection and resilience plans.

Meeting with Edward Timpson MP and Nick Bowles – This had been attended by The Chair and Councillor Pyra and had been interesting but not reassuring. The main message to parish councils was to support CEC so that the process would be as quick as possible.

59 CLERK'S REPORT:

General Correspondence Received: None. All contact this period has been electronically. This is forwarded to the Chair who will then pass on any relevant information to all Councillors.

60. FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

A request had been received from St Mary's Church with regard to a grant towards the graveyard upkeep

B Payments

Section 137 Payments:

RESOLVED: That a grant of £250.00 be paid to St Mary's Church

General Payments:

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made:

£253.07	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£63.20	HMRC for tax on Clerk's Salary
£40.00	Chalc Councillor Training for Cllr Pyra.
£64.00	Society Of Local Council Clerks
£3922.33	Police & Crime Commissioner for PCSO.

C. Precept for 2014/15

Based on figures supplied by the Clerk, The Chair provided and Expenditure and Income Breakdown for consideration by Councillors. After discussion the following resolution was made:

RESOLVED: There would be no increase in the precept from 2013/14 and that the precept request to Cheshire East Council is £11,730.00.