



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
18TH JANUARY 2016 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman
Councillor Stefan Pyra -Vice Chairman
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Chris Flahery
Councillor Maurice Simon
Councillor Margaret Simon
Councillor Brian Silvester

In Attendance:

CEC Ward Councillor Sarah Pochin, Sue Togay – Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th September 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman once the following amendments were made:

Item 62. Councillor Silvester had requested information on the contract in relation to the procurement of the Parish PCSO. Clerk to provide Councillors with copy contract.

Item 66D: A resolution had been made with regard to the Precept figure to be requested from Cheshire East BC for 2016/2017. The figure requested usually took into consideration the Tax Base Figure provided by CEC. Unfortunately this was as yet unavailable. With this in mind it was resolved that the amount that residents pay for 2016/2017 should remain unchanged from this financial year at £14.99 for a Band D property. Once tax base figures were received from CEC, The Chair to calculate the amount and the Clerk to request the appropriate amount. The amount to be confirmed at the January meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Proposed Speed Sign Stickers on Wheelie Bins – As progress had halted with regard to the joint Fire Authority initiative, it was decided that Rope PC should go ahead and provide the speed sign stickers for Rope Lane. The Chair gave an update on progress for information. He had sourced an appropriate supplier and passed around some suggested designs for approval. Discussion took place with regard to delivery area (Wells Green Lights to Gresty Lane Lights), wording and whether they were light reflective. Councillor Pochin kindly offered to deliver. A leaflet would be produced to accompany the sticker supplied to residents. The Chair to circulate a draft of this and purchase 200 stickers. Payment amount to be confirmed at next meeting.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

None.

6. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Berkeley School Drop Off Zone and Car Park – Councillor Pochin was pleased to inform the Parish Council that CEC were prepared to fund the Car Park Project and



had offered an amount of £70k in the 2016/2017 financial year. However the Governors had remarked that this did not include a tarmac surface and funding was also needed by the school for the perimeter fencing. The School had inferred that it may request some funding from Rope PC. However Rope PC's remit is not able to supply capital funding for this type of project. The offer from CEC was now on the table for the Governors to consider and discussions were ongoing with CEC. The residents of Rope were a high priority for the Parish Council which endeavoured to work alongside all stakeholders to provide solutions. Rope PC made a resolution to send a letter to The Chair of Governors and The Head Teacher and support the proposal. The Chair to supply a draft for approval by Councillors.

Shavington High School – The Head Teacher was concerned about the effect of the Basford West Development. As numbers were low at the moment she wished to attract further pupils. A priority concern was safe travel to school. Cheshire East Councillors Sarah Pochin, Margaret Simon and Steve Edgar had met with the Head in relation to a Safe Walking Route to School Initiative and related issues. This had been successfully approved as a planning condition and may result in free transport and enable easy travel to the school for potential new students in the area.

The Road Crossing – the official consultation period was now taking place and residents had been consulted.

Heart Defibrillator - Councillor Pochin asked if there was one in situ in the parish. After discussion on this topic it was decided it was a good concept but it needed an appropriate site for use.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

Dog Fouling – The Chair had received an email from a resident who was very concerned about dog fouling. He had advised of the work of the CEC Community Wardens and PCSO's and requested their intervention in the area.

Evergreen Way – the dog bin had been emptied into the hedge. Cllr Pochin would inform the CEC Community Wardens.

Oak Tree Walk – the grass had overgrown the path which was reducing in width and therefore not fit for purpose. Councillor Maurice Simon asked if we could look into its reinstatement. If funding by CEC via ANSA was not available then perhaps it could be presented as a project for Community Service. Councillor Pochin to follow up any available resources.

Fly posting – Councillor Maurice Simon mentioned the posters regarding missing cats etc. that appeared but were never taken down. To be mentioned to the Community wardens but a simple solution is to remove inappropriate or out of date posters.

Banners, Rope Lane Bridge – these were rather abundant and a distraction to drivers. Councillor Pochin to follow up with Keith Davies, Community Warden.

The Lamp Columns on Evergreen Way were faulty – Clerk to report them to Highways.

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

Pot holes were evident in the Berkeley Crescent/Rope Bank Avenue area. Councillors Margaret Simon and Sara Pochin to follow up.

9. POLICING MATTERS:

Unfortunately there were no Police Officers present. The Clerk to ascertain this unusual lack of Police presence.

A query was asked in relation to 20 mph signs being advisory or compulsory in school vicinity.

Rope Parish Council Meeting – 18 January 2016



Councillor Silvester asked if there was any feedback on parking near Berkeley School. The Chair had been in the vicinity and had noted that it was not too bad at the moment and that there would seem to be no further tickets issued. Councillor Pyra had stated that a Pinewood Crescent resident was unhappy with the situation and the Wardens had met with him.

10. PLANNING MATTERS:

Local Plan – The Inspector had asked about the implications of the HS2 proposal as the current plan does not take into account the knock on affects. There will therefore have to be a revised plan. The Inspector had also given further interim views and was unhappy with the piecemeal process. There was now a revised schedule for September 2016 and still no 5 year housing supply.

Rope Garden Nursery According to the Strategic Planning agenda, this was to be an item for inclusion but there was no guarantee of this. The excuse for delay is that the planning officers are overwhelmed by the volume of work at present.

Local Applications: there were very few at the moment in the parish. A recent application for 25 Fuller Drive had caused neighbours to contact Councillor Pochin who had advised them and checked their objection and been received by CEC.

CHALC Letter in relation to Crewe & Nantwich Area Meeting. Chalc members had discussed procuring a Planning Consultant in order to represent the interests of local parishes in relation to the green gap at the Public Examination. It had requested a contribution from Rope of £231.25. After consideration of this request it was decided that we would enquire first why they felt that CEC's defence of the green gap was not sufficient before agreeing to a financial contribution.

11. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

Shavington High School – The Chair had attended the Annual Prize Giving.

12. CLERK'S REPORT:

General Correspondence All relevant correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors electronically... All other items were included in the main body of the agenda.

13. FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

None

B Payments

Section 137 Payments:

None

General Payments:

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made:

£262.86	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£ 65.71	HMRC for tax on Clerk's Salary
£7867.00	Police & Crime Commissioner ref PCSO's
£5.00	Cheshire East for rent of land for notice board

C. Audit Procedure

No actions at present.

D. Precept for 2016/2017

In line with the resolution made at the November meeting (Item 66D) it is confirmed that the precept amount requested from Cheshire East BC is £12,404.