

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 17TH MAY 2010 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – (Chairman)
Councillor Robert Dodd (Vice Chair)
Councillor Marjorie Dodd
Councillor Maurice Simon
Councillor Andy Pennance
Mrs S Togay – Clerk

In Attendance:

CEC Councillor Margaret Simon, PCSO Michelle Minton

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Chris Flaherty, CEC Councillor Brian Silvester, CEC Councillor Ray Westwood.

23 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

24. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th March, 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman once the following amendment was noted:

The Chair had not attended the Highways Meeting in relation to problems on Gresty Lane.

25. MATTERS ARISING:

Parish Notice board – The notice board was now sited on Fuller Drive in the vicinity of the boundary sign.

Parish Grants – A cheque for £1,616.00 had now been received.

Newsletter – The Newsletter had now been produced and distributed by Councillors and Councillors were pleased with the exercise. The Clerk to work on second issue for approval. The Chair had been doing some work on a Rope PC Logo which he presented to Council.

RESOLVED: That the Chair further amend the logo for approval and future use on the noticeboards, letterhead, website etc.

Website - Due to problems with the previous provider, the Rope website had now been transferred to a new provider but it was very obvious that it is a 'free' website. The Chair proposed that to improve the appearance of the site, that Rope PC pays an amount of £83.56 for provision for the next 2 years.

RESOLVED: The Chair take action to improve the website at the appropriate cost.

Councillor Vacancy - Two expressions of interest had been shown by Sandra Jones of Laidon Avenue and Simon Bowkett of Whirlow Road. Both residents of Rope had been asked to provide further information in writing to be considered by Council. However, Mrs Jones had not pursued her initial interest and after consideration by Rope PC of Mr Bowkett's application, Council made a resolution as follows:

RESOLVED: That Rope Parish Council co-opt Mr Simon Bowkett as a Councillor to Rope PC and that he be invited to the next meeting.

Offer of Rope Prize to Shavington High School – The Clerk had made contact with Rachel Bertenshaw, Acting Head who had been delighted at the offer of a prize to the school. Her suggestion for the prize was related to Community Involvement. Further contact would be made to make the appropriate arrangements for the November Presentation Evening.

It was also suggested that we offer some form of prize at Berkeley School. Cllr Andy Pennance to mention at the next Governor's meeting.

Shavington Sports Centre – Support for a Community Sports Initiative – The Clerk had contact Gerard Baldwin in relation to some form of community sports initiative to be sponsored by Rope PC. He had discussed ideas with the Sports Centre staff and they had suggested that Rope PC may wish to sponsor regular free sessions in the interactive area during the dark evenings from September to March.

This would also involve the local PCSO's who could promote these evenings and attend as a relationship building exercise. After some discussion the following resolution was made
RESOLVED: That Rope PC give Shavington Sports Centre £1,000 towards the Autumn Sessions as suggested and also request an indication of costs for extra lighting features for the interactive suite.

26. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Dog Fouling – This was still a problem outside Berkeley School. The Chair mentioned the recent Cheshire East article in the local paper and was surprised at how low the fine was. It was noted that there had been a fine issued in Rope Parish.

Green Gap Policy – A letter had been received from Willaston PC in relation to their Parish Plan but also ref the local strategic plan with Cheshire East in relation to the Green Gap Policy. Willaston PC had made representation to CE but felt there was an appetite to have an open meeting in relation to this issue. The letter also enquired whether Rope PC had any similar actions planned. The Chair had sent a holding reply. After some discussion the following resolutions were made:

RESOLUTION: Rope PC should write to Cheshire East and also support any open meeting planned.

PPGI – Survey Of Open Space, Sport & Recreational Facilities – the Chair had received a survey form which he ran through to complete. The Clerk to provide a large map to the Chair to clarify where the open spaces are.

Litter Bins – some of the litter bins had been removed at the Eastern Road lay-by and Farndale Close/Glaisdale Close. The Clerk to inform Graham Burgess, CE to replace.

27. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Michelle Minton introduced herself as the new PCSO to replace Neil Flanagan who had now moved out of the area. Her mobile number is the one previously used by Neil.

Having very recently been allocated to the area she was still getting the feel of the parish and its issues. There had been a very low level of incidents in the parish and the problem of speeding had been addressed by twice a week speedwatch sessions and the use of the SID. PCSO MM offered to go out with Councillors on speedwatch sessions in the parish.

PSCO to provide updated contact details for the noticeboards/website and in the future provide articles for the newsletter

28. PLANNING MATTERS

None

29. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Cheshire East LSP Meeting – This had been attended by the Chair and was extremely interesting. The meeting was to formulate aims for Cheshire East for the next few years. An important issue highlighted was the green gap policy.

Discussions took place in relation to Crewe Vision and the Crewe area itself.

Wistaston Parish Plan launch – The Chair read both Willason and Wistaston Parish Plans and felt that an incredible amount of effort had been made in producing them. Until such times as it is necessary to produce one, Rope PC felt that it did not wish to pursue this initiative.

30. CLERKS REPORT:

Correspondence Received:

A list of correspondence received was circulated and the communications made available:

Cheshire East

Planning Applications:

PO 10/1017N – 2nd Storey Side Extension, 28 Salander Crescent

PO 91740N – 4 bay structures to store tools etc, Broughton Farm

PO 10/1254N – New build dormer bungalow on existing garden, 19 Northfield Place, Shavington

PO 10/0576N – External Signage, Shavington Sports Centre

PO 10/1294N – 1st floor extension, 34 Whirlow Road

General Correspondence:

Audit Of Open Space Provision.

Cheshire Police Authority:

None

Other:

Cheshire Community Action Newsletter

Willaston PC – letter from Clerk ref Green Gap Policy

Concert Programme – Sandbach Voices

Invitation to Wistaston Parish Plan Steering Group Launch

CPRE – Cheshire Viewpoint

CPRE Copy of Fieldwork

CPRE – Countryside Voice

Cheshire County Playing Fields Assoc Letter Spring 2010

31. FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

Wistaston Memorial Hall – Request for £200 towards toilet improvements

B. Payments

Section 137 Payments:

Wistaston Memorial Hall –

RESOLVED: As Wistaston Memorial Hall had received no donations from Rope PC for some time an amount of £400 was agreed.

General Payments:

£310.02	Clerk's Salary
£87.05	JDH – External Auditor Fee
£176.25	Cheshire East for siting of noticeboard, Fuller Drive
£504.55	Aon Limited – insurance

Appropriate expenditure relating to the website was approved- see resolution Ref Item 25 above.

C. Audit Procedure

The first stage of the audit for 09/10 had now been completed by JDH and their comments completed on the Annual Internal Audit Report of The Annual Statement. The Annual Statement form had now to be presented to the Audit Commission, as External Auditors, and the Clerk sought approval from Rope PC of these accounting statements.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Statement is approved by Rope PC and signed by The Chair on its behalf.