



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
14TH SEPTEMBER 2015 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman
Councillor Stefan Pyra -Vice Chairman
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Councillor Brian Silvester

In Attendance:

CEC Ward Councillor Sarah Pochin, CEC Ward Councillor Steven Edgar, PCSO Vicki Moulton, Sue Togay – Clerk and 5 members of the public

41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Maurice Simon, Councillor Margaret Simon

42. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

43. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th July 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

Councillor Pennance had not been allocated the task of looking at the potholes.

44. MATTERS ARISING:

Double Yellow Lines - These were successful but Cllr Silvester pointed out that the procedure had not included the correct consultation and they were therefore not legal. As a matter of urgency they had been completed and as the residents were happy with them, common sense had prevailed and relevant paperwork had been completed retrospectively. There was no issue as the Parish Council would have supported them.

45. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

(1) Problems relating to parking in the Berkeley School Area. Five members of the public attended and Mr Peter Moore of Cedar Way spoke mainly on their behalf. Residents present were very concerned about the continuing problems caused by parking at drop off and pick up time at Berkeley School. Due to the increase in parking directly outside the school and placement of double yellow lines, the parking problem had displaced to Cedar Way causing problems and upset for local residents. Other issues raised were the lack of consideration by parents, problems with bus and emergency service access.

The Chairman acknowledged the problems that residents were experiencing and assured them that all these issues had been a priority for the Parish Council for some considerable time and that although it had no powers of its own had been working alongside the School, Police and Cheshire East to evolve a solution.

CEC Councillor Sarah Pochin explained that the long term problems that the school created were being addressed hopefully via a solution working in conjunction with Cheshire East BC. Land was being held back by CEC in the transfer process of the school to academy status in order to create a drop off zone. This solution was in progress and she had met with a small team that day and all seemed positive with the commitment from CEC working in future conjunction with the school.



The problem of parking on verges had been solved recently by the installation of a small low level fence which it was hoped had eased the problem.

PCSO Vicky Mouton informed the meeting that enforcement powers were split between the Police and CEC Wardens. The Police had attended 5 out of 9 days since the beginning of the term and had used their enforcement powers when appropriate. In conclusion it was decided that in addition to any present actions, the Chair and Head of the School would be invited to the next parish council meeting and a request would immediately go to the Car Park section of CEC requesting intense presence of the CEC wardens in the area at appropriate times. In order to gain a co-ordinated approach, PCSO Vicky Moulton would be copied in to the request.

(2) **Extreme Speeding on Rope Lane.** Kate Watkinson, resident also wished to address her concerns to the PC. She lived on Rope Lane and had had considerable correspondence with the Borough Council and the Chair in relation to extreme speeds on Rope Lane. Discussions took place with regard to Speedwatch sessions taking place in the area which are by volunteers only and which had no enforcement powers, only letters of notice. PCSO Vicky Moulton explained that Shavington had carried out some sessions but that more volunteers should be trained. Ms Watson volunteered for this and PCSO VM would contact her to make arrangements. Vicky had also recently been trained to use an enforceable camera however there is a lot of demand for this from other areas so it is not often available for use in Rope

Previous requests for repeater signs had been refused but the SID had been sited. It was felt however that it was in the wrong place and discussion took place about relocating. The forthcoming pedestrian crossing would be installed on Rope Lane and consultation re its positioning would take place and would hopefully improve the situation. The Chair thanked Ms Watson for her attendance and offer of assistance with Speedwatch sessions.

46. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Cheshire East Ward Councillor Sarah Pochin informed the Parish Council of the following:

- Pavements on Bridge Close and Wisterdale Close were in bad condition and now being repaired.
- The SID was now sited on Fuller Drive but it was felt to be sited incorrectly. The Chair would liaise with Stuart Bateman of CEC to improve this.
- The entrance to Berkeley School had now been replaced with new tarmac.
- There had been some very positive publicity re the Ward Walk. Councillor Silvester requested that he is notified when the Ward Walks take Place
- Cllr Pochin had been in contact with the School Site Manager and informed that there would be a further application relating to the design aspect of the build. She would monitor this.
- She had received complaints from a resident about the state of the street name plates in some areas with a request for a complete replacement scheme. It was felt however that the majority were still in good repair and would be replaced only as and when necessary.



47. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

Rope Boundary Sign, Eastern Road – this was overgrown.

Hedge at Bridge Close/Bankfield Avenue – this was reported as overgrown but after inspection was considered reasonable.

Fence top Bankfield Ave – was this over obtrusive – checked previously and deemed appropriate.

School Hedge – emails had been sent to the head in relation to the boundary hedge with no action. The Clerk to send the previous email and ask for a response.

Evergreen Way – someone had placed a home-made sign. Ask wardens to remove.

Mobile Phone Mast – no further contact at moment.

48. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

Speed Indicator Device -The SID had been installed as discussed in section 48. Reporting of street lamp column problems had only taken 3 days to resolve.

49. POLICING MATTERS:

Please see section 45 in relation to Berkeley School Parking problems and Rope Lane Speeding. PCSO Vicky Moulton had taken part in the Public Participation section as they were all Police related. Other policing issues in the area within the general incident report showed very little activity but there had been one theft from a motor vehicle on Rope Bank Avenue, a burglary on Fuller Drive and a dog bite incident on Dunham Crescent. PCSO Moulton and PC Roberts intended to distribute leaflets to inform residents of security awareness such as unlocked cars and premises. The Chair thanked Vicky for all her hard work in the parish

CEC Councillor Pochin asked Councillor Silvester if he had said he was on a Police Commissioner Panel. This was responded in the negative. He had stated that he had viewed the meeting as any member of the public can do.

50. PLANNING MATTERS:

Local Plan – the examination had been resumed and a meeting was planned for 6th October. There were areas of uncertainty as if there were any large changes then the process may have to begin again. The Inspector has a responsibility to find a pragmatic way of proceeding.

The Appeal for 53 Houses on Rope Lane had been agreed with Phase 1 in Shavington and Phase 2 in Rope.

The Appeal for 175 houses in Wistaston was being fought by CEC as this was another argument in relation to preservation of the Green Gap.

Rope Garden Nursery – this had been deferred again until 21st October. The Chair would send an email to the Planning Officer stating the Parish's concern on this delayed and deferred process.

51 FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

None

52 CLERK'S REPORT:

General Correspondence Received: Very little hard copy correspondence was now received. Any electronic correspondence was passed on to the Chair who then cascaded the appropriate items to all members for information. Therefore, it was not thought necessary to continue listing all at each meeting.

Notice Boards – Information on Councillors - Councillor Silvester had proposed that all contact information for Councillors be included in the boards. After discussion a resolution was made which rejected the suggestion.

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The Agenda for Rope PC Meetings no longer indicated the right for members of the public or press to attend. The Clerk to amend to the original format which included this which had obviously fallen off when retyped recently.

Risk Assessment – the current risk assessment for the parish had been circulated for consideration and potential amendment. A resolution was made after review that this was still a wholly appropriate risk assessment.

Grant Funding in Relation to Transparency Code – items of IT could now be grant funded in order that the transparency code be fulfilled. The Clerk asked that permission be given to apply for a printer/scanner/copier and a laptop. A resolution was made confirming the Clerk to go ahead and apply

Shavington School Prize – the Clerk had obtained some costings but the original letter of request was unclear from the school. Councillor Pyra to clarify.

Bank Mandate – Signatory Councillors were asked to complete the appropriate forms for the Clerk to Amend with National Westminster Bank.

53. 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
£50.00	Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday
£125.52	JDH Business Services for Internal Audit Procedure
£ 5.00	Rental of land for noticeboard

C. Audit Procedure

The Clerk was awaiting response form the external auditor to the recent audit