



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15TH JULY 2019
AT SHAVINGTON ACADEMY**

PRESENT:

Councillor Stefan Pyra – Chair
Councillor Ben Wye – Vice Chair
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Councillor Margaret Simon

In Attendance:

Sue Togay – Clerk, CEC Councillor Allen Gage

40. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None

41. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

42. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th May 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

43. MATTERS ARISING:

Ref 30: Overgrown Walkways. The overgrown walkways had been reported to Cheshire East and it had been confirmed that Bentley do in fact maintain their own area on Pym's Lane.

Ref 33: Police Issues. The Clerk had emailed PCSO Moulton ref issues in the parish and requested information on the potential presence at Rope PC Meetings. The Chair had spoken to the PCSO's who had confirmed there would be no attendance at meetings but continued to attend the schools regarding relevant issues. The Clerk to ascertain from Police what are the new provision with regard to Police Presence in Rope. CEC Councillor Gage was meeting with the local police and would bring these issues up as well as the school parking which was an ongoing problem.

Cllr Wye continued to carry out Speedwatch sessions in the area and discussions took place to see if students at Shavington Academy could take part as part of a citizenship programme. This would also give profile to the Parish. The Chair to mention at Governor's Meeting.

Ref 29: Hump On Rope Bank Avenue/Bankfield Ave. CEC Cllr Gage confirmed that this was still awaiting attention but was on the action list.

44. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Rimsdale Close: Overgrown hedge on junction with Glaisdale Close. No visibility at junction. Cllr Gage to follow up.

Clean Team: The Chair had costed some equipment but there was some information on the Cheshire East Website with regard to potential equipment and funding. The Clerk to follow this up. It was felt that this initiative should expand to the parishioners to 'look after their own patch' and instil some civic pride as a community. This plus other items prompted the need for a Rope Newsletter. The Clerk to send an electronic copy of the Rope Newsletter to Councillors. The Chair to ascertain if Shavington Academy could print. Previous print costs were £100 with Councillors distributing.

45. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

CEC Councillor Allen Gage gave a report on the following issues:

- There had been some complaints regarding swarms of bees in Rimsdale Close and Salander Crescent.
- Beechcroft Avenue Street Name Plate: Needs replacement.
- Double Yellow Lines, Berkeley Academy: This item is on the Area Highways List.
- Cllr Gage has been allocated a seat on the Planning and Children & Families Scrutiny Committees at CEC.
- Crewe Town Area Health Plan is at its next stage. There are options for a new bridge with access for the station to Gresty Road. This proposal is planned to go ahead whether HS2 goes ahead or not.
- Schools Funding Pilot for Special Needs Children: 10 Cheshire East schools are taking part in the Pilot due to non-uniformity nationally in funding.



- Designated Traveller Site: Due to many unauthorised encampments in green spaces in Cheshire East, it is imperative that a designated transit site is adopted. This process is taking part at present with public consultation open at present.
- Berkeley Academy Playing Fields: Councillor Flaherty explained the problems regarding children gaining unauthorised access to the school fields and had spoken to The Head and Chair of governors. Access was via some overgrown trees adjacent to the fence. Cllr Gage would ask for these to be cut back. It was apparent that alternative places need to be allocated for use of football for the children in the area. There had been some goal posts in the field at the end of Oak Tree Walk (Middle Field). Discussions took place as to how the Parish could make this happen. Cllr Gage would ascertain what permissions were needed plus costs and agreements necessary.

46. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Oakhurst Drive: A Skoda Estate is always parked at the top near the junction. The Clerk to email PCSO to see if this is causing an obstruction.

47. POLICING MATTERS

No attendance and Beat Reports would no longer be received. Information would be on the website.

48. PLANNING MATTERS:

None.

49. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

Shavington Academy Governors: The Chair reported that a new head had been appointed – Emma Morris.

Cllr Wye had taken part in The Geology Tour Of Crewe which had been extremely interesting.

Wybunbury Charity AGM : Cllr Flaherty had attended her first meeting as Representative. Funds had been awarded and Bob Squirrell had provided all relevant documents. The poster would be updated and put in noticeboards and website for the up and coming academic year.

50. CLERK'S REPORT:

General Correspondence - All relevant correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors electronically.

Co -Option: No applications had been received in relation to co-option. However Cllr Simon confirmed that Robert Dodd who had stated verbally that he was interested had prepared an application as the Clerk had sent a reminder. Councillors agreed that Mr Dodd be contacted and co-opted at next meeting if he agrees.

Register Of Interest Forms: All Councillors had now returned and these would be sent to Cheshire East for publication on the CEC website.

Letter From Shavington Youth Club (SYC): This had been received from Linda Buchanan, Chair requesting a donation and support. She had supplied numbers in each parish that used the club as the club was in danger of closing. Councillors discussed the request following on from discussions in Item 45 relating to lack of provision of youth activity in the area and potential setting up of goal posts in the green space area, Councillors requested that a scoping exercise of youth activities in the area be carried out in order that any Parish funding can be best directed. A token £50 would be donated to SYC with a request that Mrs Buchanan attend a future meeting to inform Councillors of its activities.

51. FINANCE

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

1. Shavington Academy: A request had been received for the annual Rope Prize.
2. A request had been received in relation to a donation towards Shavington Youth Club.

B. Payments

Section 137 Payments:

1. Resolved that a donation of £50 be donated to Shavington Academy for the annual Rope Prize.
2. Resolved that a token donation of £50 be made to Shavington Youth Club.



General Payments:

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made:

£2,000.00	St Mary's Church ref War Memorial
£ 281.90	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£ 70.47	HMRC
£ 359.11	BHIB (Insurance)
£ 173.04	JD Business Services (Annual Audit)
£ 5.00	Cheshire East (License for Noticeboard)

C. Audit Procedure

The Audit procedure for 2018/2019 was now complete and the Certificate Of Exemption had been sent to the external Auditors, relevant documents had been published on the website and the posters for Exercise of Public Rights had been placed in the Parish Noticeboards. The Clerk had now received the internal report from JDH Business Services which noted the following:

1. A number of the payments listed under S137 analysis in the accounts can be classified under other specific powers. The clerk had looked at the appropriate section of the Local Government Act 1972 but as it was not clear had sought further clarification from John Henry of JDH and would report back at the next meeting.
2. Reserves carried forward are 156% of the precept level. Sector guidance is that general reserves should be in between 25% and 100% of the precept. Councillors noted this and discussed the fact that £2,000 had been pledged to St Mary's War Memorial. Councillors were keen to identify projects to support within the community to use reserves.

RESOLVED: That the report from JDH Business Services are accepted and followed up with solutions to be placed on the report as part of next year's audit.

52. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Noticeboard in Berkeley Academy: The Clerk to ascertain the logistics of moving.

Bank Mandate: The Clerk to procure paperwork to add and remove signatories

Financial Information: Cllr Wye asked if it was possible to request financial information. The Clerk is happy to provide any information to Councillors and will provide a financial statement at each meeting.

53. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

Monday 16th September 2019.