



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY  
16<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2011 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman  
Councillor Robert Dodd - Vice Chair  
Councillor Marjorie Dodd  
Councillor Andy Pennance  
Councillor Chris Flaherty  
Councillor Simon Bowkett  
Councillor Maurice Dodd  
Sue Togay– Clerk

**In Attendance:**

CEC Councillor Brian Silvester, PCSO Peter Corbett, Rev Andy Taylor,-New Life Church, Fuller Drive

**21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

None

**22. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

None

**23. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**24. MATTERS ARISING:**

**Rope Lane Nursery –** The issues had been reported to all relevant CE Departments. Highways had no issues ref the site and Environmental Health had also reported they had no outstanding issues. However, The Monitoring and Enforcement officer (Mineral & Waste) had visited the site and was dissatisfied with it. An impending meeting with the owner was scheduled to improve the site within expected standards. Network rail had also been alerted regarding the pallets near the line.

**Rope Lane Bridge –** Network rail had been alerted to the shrub growing out of the bridge and the general bad condition of this heavily used area by the local High School students.

**Street Name Plates –** had been reported to Highways and the site had been visited to order and site suitable SNP's. In addition the damaged crash barrier had also been reported and inspected.

**Dog Litter Bins –**In response to a recent complaint from a parishioner, Caroline Griffies of Streetscape had requested inspection of the bins in the parish with a view to repair or replacement. The Clerk to ascertain the result of this inspection. As dog fouling continued to be an issue in the parish, further articles would be included in future newsletters and on noticeboards. The Clerk to ascertain how many fines had been issued with regard to this and in what area.

**Fly Posting –** Councillors asked that certain slimming groups that were flyposting in the area were informed that it was an offence. Posters for these groups were already being displayed in the community noticeboards.

**Newsletter –** After discussing the format, it was queried whether the letter could be pre-folded for ease of distribution.

**25. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**Hedges –** Cllr MS asked to ascertain whether there was any enforcement by CE for hedges to be cut back that encroached on footpaths. There was a large leylandi in Farndale Close as a typical example. The Clerk to speak to Highways.

**Pavements –** The raised pavement in Lochleven Road that had originally been reported by Councillors Simon and Silvester had not yet been attended to. The Clerk to ascertain if this had been programmed in to works in the area.

**Low Energy Lightbulbs –** An email had been received from The Eco Rep at Shavington Sports Centre offering a free supply of these to parishioners. It was agreed that posters could be displayed to highlight



this offer in noticeboards and Rev Andy Taylor did mention that he could also mention this to his congregation.

Issues raised by Mr John Fox via a phonecall to The Chair:

1. A request by Mr Fox for the removal of the obsolete pathway to the old parish noticeboard was discussed but as this was in a grass verge not a public high use footpath or a health and safety issue, the removal was considered prohibited by cost.
2. Requested dates of parish council meeting to be included on future newsletters.
3. Pointed out overgrown leylandi hedges in Bankfield Avenue and Bridge Close. Some considerable years ago, Parish Councillors had inspected 'patches' of the parish for these overgrown hedges. The Clerk was already ascertaining the CE Highways policy with regard to this and as a result consider if this practise could be useful to reinstate.

Gresty Lane – This was now due for resurfacing.

#### **26. POLICE MATTERS -**

PCSO Peter Corbett gave a report on any ASB or crime that had occurred in the parish.

In April, there had been 3 recorded incidents of theft and shoplifting and some incidents of asb. Patrols had therefore been increased

In May there had been a burglary in Rope Bank Avenue.

Spar Community Funding – as mentioned in the previous meeting, the Spar had now contributed £300 to the Interactive sessions and the shortfall of £140 was now being raised by initiatives involving the Sports Centre Manager, PCSO's and The Spar Shop.

There was continuing misuse of school fields which were being addressed by additional patrols.

Speedwatch – The frequency of these sessions had now been increased in response to the Neighbourhood Action Meeting. A further newly trained volunteer had been assisting in this.

Fly Tipping – there had been some incidences in the Gresty area.

Rope Hall Lane- there had been a hedge fire

#### **27. PLANNING MATTERS**

There had been 4 planning applications which councillors could inspect to make comment if they wished.

#### **28. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

**Planning Meeting** -There was a public meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm at Willaston Social Club where CE Planners were attending.

**Berkeley School Governors Meeting** – The proposed school time changes was now being consulted upon and no decision had yet been made.

#### **29. CLERKS REPORT:**

##### **Correspondence Received:**

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

##### **Cheshire East**

Planning App – 11/0524N – 3 Brecon Way

Planning App – 11/0355N – conservatory, 19 Northfield Place

Planning App – 11/0909N – pitched roof and glass roof, 73 Laidon Ave

Rope Parish Council Meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011



Planning App – 11/0705 – Garage Ext, 11 Glaisdale Close  
Letter advising Queen's Diamond Jubilee

**Other:**

Shavington High School Newsletter – x 2 editions  
CPRE – Cheshire Viewpoint Spring 2011-05-07 Cheshire Community Action Letter Ref Membership  
Mid Cheshire Footpath Society – Notice of AGM  
CPFA – Letter ref Play Space Advice

It was the intention of The Clerk to review the present Parish Risk Assessment in order to comply with External Audit Procedure at the July Meeting

**30. FINANCE:**

**A. Requests for Financial Assistance:**

None

**B. Payments**

**Section 137 Payments:**

None

**General Payments:**

£310.02 Clerk's Salary  
£506.49 Aeon Insurance

**Annual Consideration of Clerk's Salary**

Due to the financial climate, in line with The National Association Of Local Councils it was decided that a continued pay freeze would apply to the Clerk's Salary.

**RESOLVED** : That the Clerk's Salary should remain at £1860.12 pa.

**C. Audit Procedure**

The Clerk provided a Photostat copy of the Annual Return for 2010/2011, a bank reconciliation and a copy of the Variance Explanation. These documents needed to be approved in order for The Chair to sign and accept the Annual Return on behalf of the council which could then be sent off to both external and Internal Auditors.

**RESOLUTION:** The Annual Return for 2010/2011 was signed and dated by The Chair on behalf of Rope Parish Council.