



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT SHAVINGTON ACADEMY

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance:

Sue Togay – Clerk, CEC Councillor Sarah Pochin, PC Ollie Cross (part meeting).

53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Margaret Simon, Councillor Maurice Simon.

54. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None.

55. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd May 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with a spelling amendment to 52C 'Return'.

56. MATTERS ARISING:

- Foliage over the hazard markings on the bridge over the brook on Gresty Lane had now been cleared
- Foliage covering the signage before the bridge on Rope Lane was however not cleared even though it had been reported. Councillor Pochin to chase up with Highways.
- The Pelican Crossing on Rope Lane had a very short crossing time. Councillor Pochin to chase up with Highways.

57. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

None

58. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Sarah Pochin gave feedback on the following:

- **Berkeley Academy** Drop Off Car Park was now under construction. Any trees taken down on the smaller car park would be replaced and there was a TPO was on the large oak tree. The area adjacent was being cleared and grassed for a future potential phase 2. In addition, the safety fencing was being erected. Any highways work was being held back until work on site was completed.
- **Mobile Mast** – no new comments on this issue had been received.
- **Local Plan** – this has now gone through but there was a challenge from Muller which is now being dealt with by Senior CEC Officers and should have no impact.
- **Shavington Academy** – The Fire Service have a programme for CPR training and Councillor Pochin was trying to encourage the Head to take part. 'Skills & Growth Company' - Cheshire East Council has established an 'arm's length' company to deliver an enhanced service for skills and economic growth. This is to tackle long term unemployment and to ensure the best employment and skills opportunities. Councillor Pochin was also trying to encourage engagement with the school on this.
- **SID** – the Chair referred to the issue of a SID in the Parish as the previously CEC owned one was now not available. Councillor Pochin stated that unfortunately there would be no justification to have it reinstated as there was now a crossing on Rope Lane and the abundance of reports on speeding on Rope Lane had now reduced to zero.
- **Defibrillator** – Councillor Pochin asked Councillors again to reconsider installation in the Parish. The Chairman had said this was a good idea but there was no suitable location for it.

59. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Evergreen Way – this had now been cut back.

Path near Crofters Close – Councillor Flaherty again mentioned how slippery the surface was. Councillor Pochin to meet with her on sit to view and come up with a solution.

60. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

SID was discussed under 59. Environmental Matters.



61. POLICING MATTERS

PC Ollie Cross gave his apologies at attending part way through the meeting as there were staff shortages and he was having to cover additional areas. There had been a very low level of ASB in the parish compared to other areas. There had been problems with gangs of youths both in Wistaston and Willaston who did not have dedicated PCSO's. As one of our PCSO's was not able to carry out all duties, an additional one was being arranged to take her place. PC Cross reassured Councillors that he monitored activity in the area and would inform the Parish of any concerns if they arose.

In relation to the Beat Report Councillor Silvester had requested statistics at the last meeting in July on how many Speed Watch Sessions had been held and also more detailed supporting evidence and validation as mentioned on the report. This had not been received. PC Cross suggested that Sergeant Kerrie Snowdon is asked for these figures.

Councillor Pyra also asked if there was any further information on the new PCSO service which would be in place in the Parish from April 2018 onwards when the present arrangement terminated. PC Cross did not have any further information.

62. PLANNING MATTERS:

The Cheshire East Local Plan was finally adopted However there had been a challenge by Muller. Councillor Pochin reassure Councillors that this would not affect the adopted Local Plan. The Plan 'prepares for HS2' and now further work would take place in relation to 'HS2 being in place'.

In relation to Neighbourhood Plans, it was felt as Rope was covered satisfactorily in the Plan that there was no need for a Neighbourhood Plan to be produced.

63. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

Crewe Area Parish Liaison Meeting with Crewe Town Council – The Chair had attended with other neighbouring parishes. This had been a very informative meeting attended by the Chair. Topics included the regeneration of Crewe including the new retail development (to include a housing and leisure element, the future of the market and potential demolishing of the present Library to make way for a new Archive Building. Crewe TC were also very supportive of HS2 and retaining the existing station as the terminus. Discussion also took place in relation to devolution of services from CEC. The Chair felt encouraged that Crewe TC wished to work with all parishes in the area and looked forward to a further meeting at the end of the year.

The Environmental Scrutiny Committee, Cheshire East was meeting reference Car Park Charges on 19th September 2017. Councillor Pochin was to attend as it was to revisit harmonisation of Car Parking charges across Cheshire which at present saw some areas not charged.

64. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

65. FINANCE

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

No requests had been received.

B. Payments

Section 137 Payments:

No payments made.

General Payments:

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made:

£268.17	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£50.00	Royal British Legion x2 wreaths.
£67.04	HMRC
£164.40	JDH Internal Auditor
£14.66	Thomson Planning

C. Audit 2016/2017

The Internal Audit process by JDH was now complete and with one small amendment relating to unrepresented cheques, was clean. This amendment did not however affect the figures on the Annual Return Statement which had been sent off to BDO with relevant documents for the final stage of the audit.