



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
21st MAY 2012 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance:

PCSO Michelle Minton, CE Cllr Brian Silvester

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr Marjorie Dodd

22. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None.

23. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment: Cllr Flaherty had sent her apologies to the March meeting and Councillor Bowkett had indeed attended.

24. MATTERS ARISING:

Dog Fouling – The Chairman had now completed a walkabout with the Community Warden and PCSO. It was felt that the use of the chalk based paint and stencils and additional presence of the officers in the area was causing improvement within the parish with regard to the number of dog fouling incidents noticed by councillors. Councillors were asked to approve the procurement of further paint for use in the parish up to an amount of £100,

RESOLVED: That the Clerk to purchase approx 12 cans of paint up to the amount of £100.

Rope Lane Nursery: There had been further complaints in relation to this area ref flooding due to the blocking of the ditches causing a highways issue, vinyl banners, A boards, the planning application which had not yet been approved etc. The Clerk and Councillor Silvester to look further into all issues to obtain an up to date position.

Dropped Kerbs, Bankfield Ave: Now completed.

25. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Rope Lane Lights: The service manholes for the lights were cracked. Clerk to report to Highways.

Potholes: Clerk to report on Bankfield Avenue and Laidon Ave.

Mobile Library: CE Council; or Brian Silvester asked for comments on the reduction of the number of visits the library would make to the Rope area. After discussion it was decided that if the visits were to be reduced then they should take place in the most popular site.

Signage at Berkeley School: Progress was being made on the advisory sign which would be on a timer for the beginning and end of the school day. It was hoped that the yellow lines would be put in place over the Summer Holidays.

Evergreen Way: The hedges were now overgrown including a hedge near the school. Clerk to report to Streetscape and ascertain ownership of overgrown hedge..

26. POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Michelle Minton gave a report on crime and ASB in the area based on incidents reported. The following points were highlighted:

- There had been some minor thefts from allotments and a pushbike in a driveway.
- There had been a case of fraud and drive off after purchasing petrol at Tesco Express
- An attempted break in and shed break in. There was of increased incidence in Crewe at moment.. Of shed break ins



- Possession of cannabis near the school The Head Teacher was working alongside the Police.
- There was incidents of nuisance calls and harassment.
- Incidence of a quad bike on Fuller drive
- Youths were hanging around the Tesco Express and The Manor Pub

There was no general increase in either crime or ASB in the Parish but the light nights usually brought problems. There was good CCTV at Shavington High School but not Berkeley School. There was a zero tolerance ref the use of school fields in the parish.

Speeding continued to be a problem especially on Fuller Drive.

27. PLANNING ISSUES:

Interim Housing Policy: This was now in draft form and preserved the green gap allowing some development in Crewe which took the pressure of the Rope Area. The Clerk to make further comment to reiterate the Parish Council's View. On the green gap.

Rope Lane Planning Application 11/4549N : This had now gone to Appeal and all comments made on the original application would be forwarded to the appeal process. It was felt that Rope PC had no further comment to make at this time.

SHLAA (Strategic Housing Land Availability Study): as this is only based on a request for developers to see if they have any housing land, it may not affect Rope. It was felt that consultation was not necessary at the moment but that Rope PC wished to maintain the Green Gap in the parish.

28. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Meeting with Community Wardens: The Chair had completed a walkabout with the Community Wardens and PCSO in the Parish – see Matters Arising for more details.

Willaston Green Gap Group: It had been decided by this group that they wished to have an e-petition to send to Parliament ref retaining the Green Gap. Councillors were asked to look out for this going live and inform Rope parishioners. It was felt that this could be an item that could go in the next parish newsletter and the opportunity also to include positive items such as the work of the dog wardens and school road improvements in a potential September issue.

29 CLERKS REPORT:

Correspondence Received:

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

Cheshire Community Action ref membership

CPRE Copy Fieldwork Mag/Countryside Voice/The Playing Field/Cheshire Viewpoint

30. FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

None.

B Payments

Section 137 Payments:

None

General Payments:

£313.06 Clerk's Salary

£506.49 AON insurance for Parish insurance

C Audit Procedure

All paperwork was now being prepared for the First Stage Internal Audit by JDH. The Clerk had supplied a copy of the Bank Reconciliation and also a copy of the Audit Return for consideration prior to the meeting and now requested that Councillors approve the Annual Return for inclusion in this paperwork which would then be sent to The Audit Commission for final stage audit.

RESOLVED: That Rope PC approved the Annual Return 2011/2012 which was signed by The Chair on its behalf.