

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 15th MARCH 2010 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – (Chairman)
Councillor Robert Dodd (Vice Chair)
Councillor Maurice Simon
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Mrs S Togay – Clerk

In Attendance:

CEC Councillor Margaret Simon, Councillor Brian Silvester, PCSO Neil Flanagan

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Marjorie Dodd, CEC Councillor Ray Westwood.

12 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

13. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th January, 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman once the following amendments were made:

Cllr Flaherty was in fact absent and was incorrectly also included on the present list
Item 14: Amend ward to Crewe South

Amend Cllr Margaret Simon as Cheshire East (CEC) Borough Councillor

14. MATTERS ARISING:

Parish Notice board – The notice board was about to be sited on Fuller drive near the Rope Boundary Sign.

Bankfield Ave (1st house) – The work was still ongoing.

Gasometer, top Oak Tree Walk – There was a smell of gas in the area. The Clerk to report.

Parish Grants – Rope PC had still not had any acknowledgement that the parish would receive the grant again this year but Cllr Silvester assured Councillors that this would be received for the year 2010/2011.

Newsletter – The Clerk provided a draft copy of the planned newsletter. The following amendments were made:

Remove the item on the Rope Charity and replace with info on PCSO's.

Use new website and email details

Insert 'issued and paid for by Rope PC'

Remove list of forthcoming meeting

History and walks section – good

Dog fouling – Already 3 enforcement charges in the area, don't be the next one

Request suggestions on how to improve parish. Once these amendments were made, then 2nd draft to be circulated for final approval and then printed for distribution.

Cllr Maurice Simon suggested that future projects that Rope PC should consider should be based on what we already have in the parish. He requested the Clerk speak to The Sports Centre Manager with regards to some form of tournament to be held for in The Summer Holiday period where Rope PC would provide money to arrange plus supply a shield or cup.

The Clerk also to follow up Shavington High School Prize.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Notice board at Berkeley School – had been smeared. The Clerk to remove
Street Lighting, Walkways – those previously reported had now been fixed.
Edgewood Drive Bungalow – very dirty. Councillors to observe the situation
New Road Name - not yet notified.

16. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO's Neil Flanagan provided crime figures for the Wells Green/Rope beat. There had been 6 crimes in the area in contrast to 4 in 2009.

At present there was a lot of incidents within The High School and therefore the PCSO's were spending time within the school to enable stronger relationships with the pupils to be forged. This did mean less time within the community but it was felt by Senior Police Officers that it was the best course of action.

The next Neighbourhood Action Meeting was on 16th March when CEC Highways and The Community Wardens had been present.

The training for Dog Fouling Enforcement had now been completed by the PCSO's in line with all Cheshire East PCSO's. The Community Wardens had already issued enforcement charges in the area.

Councillor Silvester is at present working on a PR initiative with regard to this enforcement. Rope PC have included in their new newsletter.

The PCSO's were offered space for relevant issues within the parish in the notice boards or in any future newsletters.

New Speedwatch signs are now up. Rope Lane showed that 20% of drivers were speeding, which is high in comparison to other areas.

17. PLANNING MATTERS

None

18. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Shaping The Future Of Our Communities – Held by Cheshire East and attended by The Chair. The Chair had downloaded the relevant documents, which included a survey on what CE will be like in 15 years. The Chair offered to supply to any interested Councillors

Town & Parish Council Conference – to take place on 17th March. The Chair to attend.

Shavington PC Meeting – The Chair Attended to sign the new PCSO Agreement.

Wistaston Civic Service – attended by the Chair

Highways Meeting ref Gresty Lane – attended by The Chair, Vice Chair and Margaret Simon. Important issues from the meeting:

A Speedwatch was to be set up by the residents on Gresty Lane/Looking at permanent SID/discussions of very bad surface conditions in the Lane/The Police were to contact The Cold Store ref large vehicles that parked in the entrance during CLOSED hours.

19. COUNCILLOR VACANCY & REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE

BODIES:

Due to the sad resignation of Councillor Heather Gage, there was now a councillor vacancy. The full Council agreed however, that The Clerk should first write to Heather with sincere thanks for all her hard work and ask that she reconsider.

If however, she were to decline, The Clerk to display the appropriate notice in the noticeboards, mention generally in the Newsletter and after that, if there was no interest expressed within the formal 14 day period of the formal notice, proceed to display further information in order to co-opt.

As Councillor Heather Gage had also been the Rope Governor Representative at Berkeley School and one of the Trustees of The Rope Charity, some consideration needed to be given to vacancies in various posts.

Councillor Andy Pennance had agreed to be the Replacement Governor at Berkeley School.

RESOLUTION: Rope Parish Council agree that Councillor Andy Pennance is the designated Governor at Berkeley School.

As various vacancies would now arise, these positions could be reviewed at the Annual General Meeting. Councillors were reminded that relevant reports needed to be produced for the meeting on 15th May and that an additional Governor Report for Shavington High School also be included.

20. CLERKS REPORT:

Correspondence Received:

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

Cheshire East

Planning Applications:

None

Planning Decisions:

one

General Correspondence:

Notification of Training sessions for Borough & Parish Councillors

Notice of postponement of Feb Training event n Code Of Conduct

Letter ref CEC Planning Service and assurance of service standards

Local List SPD Public Consultation Info

Cheshire Police Authority:

Eastern Area Have Your Say Meeting Notice - Jan 2010

Other:

Wistaston PC Invitation to Annual Civic Service

Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Newsletter Engage

The Playing Field – Cheshire County Playing Fields Assoc Newsletter

NSPCC – info on campaign to raise awareness of the Helpline

CHESHIRE community Action – Notice of Open Day & Members Evening

21. FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

None. As there had been no requests for financial assistance from Wistaston Memorial Hall since John Cooke resigned, Cllr Robert Dodd to speak to Wistaston Memorial Hall Committee and arrange a letter to be prepared requesting a donation.

B. Payments

Section 137 Payments:

None

General Payments:

£302.75 Clerk's Salary
£195.03 Clerk's Expenses
£89.10 CE – Room Hire for Jan-Nov 2010
££8.00 Mid Cheshire Footpath Soc 2010

C. Review Of Clerk's Salary 2010/2011

After consideration, Council decided that in line with Cheshire East's Policy, there the Clerk would receive no increase in salary for 2010/2011/.

D. Bank Account

Due to the resignation of Cllr Heather Gage, the Bank Mandate would be amended accordingly to include Cllr Andy Pennance and The Clerk.