



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2017 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman  
Councillor Stefan Pyra -Vice Chairman  
Councillor Andy Pennance  
Councillor Margaret Simon  
Councillor Brian Silvester

**In Attendance:**

Sue Togay – Clerk.

**14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor Chris Flaherty, Councillor Maurice Simon, CEC Councillor Sarah Pochin, PCSO Peter Corbett

**15. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

None.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**17. MATTERS ARISING:**

None.

**18. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

None

**19. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**

As Councillor Pochin was unwell The Chair was able to provide information on topics she had highlighted:

1. **Ward walk** – Councillor Pochin, the Chair, Keith Davies, Warden for CEC and 2 PCSO's attended. A member of the public had highlighted some possible drug dealing in the New Life Church area which the PCSO's would look into. Pot holes and footpath repair was needed in some areas which would be reported back to Highways and some dog fouling was evident but little litter.
2. **Community Payback** – Councillor Pochin will investigate whether the Community Pay Back Scheme may provide a solution to the problem with the overgrown footpath in the Parish.
3. **Berkeley School Car Park** – this is still going ahead but delay is due to the complex legal paperwork associated with the project and will probably be carried out in the Summer holidays
4. **Mobile SID** – Unfortunately CEC have moved the SID from Rope Lane to another location. The Chair suggested that the Council should consider purchasing a mobile SID. The CEC Highways recommended SID was more sophisticated and would provide data. Discussion took place as to who would be responsible for charging, deployment and data collection. A post may also be necessary for siting. Councillor Margaret Simon suggested that via a Fire Service Initiative that a small contribution may be available for installation of the post if necessary. It was decided that the Chair would make further investigations and further discussions would take place at a future meeting.

**20. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

**Verges, New Life Church** - Councillor Pennance reported that in the area of the New Life Church that the vehicle used to carry out work on a fallen tree had badly churned up the verges. Councillor Margaret Simon asked him to provide the photographs he had taken and she would look into it in her capacity as Councillor at Cheshire East. Some hedge work had been done on the walkways but this had been done by a resident. It was suggested that clean up work on the walkways could also be a project for the Community Pay Back Scheme.

**21. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

**Rope Lane Nursery** - Councillor Brian Silvester pointed out that there were still problems in the area of Rope Lane Nursery with flooding and damaged verges. He also asked if there was any update on completion of the car park and the import/export planning application. An update on the situation would be obtained.

**Pothole near Berkeley School opposite Rope Bank Avenue** – This had also been noted on the Ward Walk and was therefore reported. The piecemeal repairing of potholes was not efficient.

**Gullies** – CEC had informed the Council that a gully emptying operation would be taking part in the area in January however there was still some flooding in Gresty Lane/Rope Lane.

**Sign** - The sign for the traffic lights was obscured by foliage.



**Pavements on Fuller Drive from the junction with Whirlow Road to Laidon Avenue**– these were deteriorating badly. Councillor Simon would report.

**202 POLICING MATTERS:**

PCSO Peter Corbett had sent his apologies but a Beat Manager's Report had been provided.

**Parking Issues in Berkeley School area** – this had been addressed by intense uniform presence in the area by Police and CEC Enforcement Officers.

**Speedwatch** – sessions had been carried out.

**Drug Issues** – this was being addressed after being raised at the Ward Walk – ongoing.

**Vehicle Parking Junction Hanbury Close/ Fuller Drive** – this had been checked and no offences were being committed.

There were no issues of note in relation to crime trends.

The Chair had received an email from Superintendent Bill Dutton as he had promised to look into data information for the Parish. It had shown in December 2016 that the percentage of patrol time was low in relation to the arrangement in place. More information had been provided on the future provision of PCSO's under new arrangements 2018/2019. Discussions took place re public consultation and discussions with neighbouring parishes to consider the way forward. It was decided that a parish newsletter could be produced and further information from both Willaston and Shavington Parish Councils be sought.

**23. PLANNING MATTERS:**

**The Local Plan Strategy** – consultation has ended today.

**Site Allocation and Development Policies Document, Paper Consultation** – The Chair advises that Rope may wish to make comment on some relevant questions especially in relation to the green gap and will send the link to Councillors so that he may then make representation for Rope. Once the consultation is finished the Inspector will provide a report with main modifications the CEC will adopt the plan with changes.

Councillor Pennance had spoken to a resident with regard to an application on Foxglove Close as the site backs on to his boundary fence. The council advised that he speak to the planning officer.

**24. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**

**Wistaston Memorial** – the Chair had attended a meeting with John Moore, the Rector and the Church Warden. It had been decided that it was too expensive to move the memorial and the best solution was to add a new plaque with World War Two names on it and space for future names. In addition the hedges would be cut back in order for wreath laying to take place. Funding would be appropriate to the size of the parish with a suggested £1,000 from Rope and £3,000 from Wistaston. Money would also come from Church sources and appropriate grants. The first step was to look at necessary planning permissions, obtain costings, work with church architects and consult with the Royal British Legion. Future donations to the churchyard may need to be increased in line with increased costs.

**25. CLERK'S REPORT:**

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

**Rope PC Risk Assessment** – The Clerk had circulated an updated version of the Parish Risk Assessment in order to for Councillors to review its appropriateness.

**Pension Regulator** – in line with new legislation the Parish had to offer its employees the opportunity to take part in a pension scheme. The Council's staging date was 1<sup>st</sup> July and appropriate actions had been taken to be compliant.

**Audit 2016/2017** – Paperwork had been received to begin the process of audit and paperwork would be prepared for approval by Rope PC at the May meeting.

**26. FINANCE:**

**A. Requests for Financial Assistance:**

A request had been received from Wistaston Sports and Leisure Association.

**B. Payments**

**Section 137 Payments:**

Resolved: That a donation of £200 be made to Wistaston Sports and Leisure Club.

In addition, the cheque issue for membership to be cancelled and the Council to await a request for 2017 to be received.



**General Payments:**

**RESOLVED:** That the following payments be made:

£269.50	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£200.70	Reimbursement for Expenses to Clerk

**C. Review Of Clerk's Salary**

Resolved: That the Clerk's Salary be increased for 2017/2018 to £2011.26 per annum.