

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING OF HANKELOW  
AND THE ANNUAL MEETING OF HANKELOW PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 14 MAY 2012**

**PRESENT:** Councillor G Foster Chairman  
Councillors Ainley, Cope, Jones and Lee

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 14 parishioners

The Chairman opened the Village Meeting during which Val Morrey, Chair of Hankelow Amenities Group reported on the Group's activities during the previous year.

Councillor A Lee, Chair of Hankelow Improvement Plan Group reported on the progress of the Parish Plan.

Councillor C Ainley updated the Parish Council and residents on the implementation of the 30 mph speed limit through the village.

Residents were invited to raise issues with the Council.

The Chairman then closed the Parish Meeting and opened the Parish Council meeting.

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**1 APOLOGIES**

No apologies.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2012**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 6 February 2012 were read, and being accepted, were signed by the Chairman.

**4 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Person elected</b>	<b>Proposed by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
Chairman	Councillor G Foster	Councillor G Cope	Councillor I Jones
Vice-Chairman	Councillor G Cope	Councillor C Ainley	Councillor A Lee
Public Hall Committee	No representative appointed	The Clerk was instructed to write to Geoff and Olive Stretch, Public Hall Caretakers, to inform them that Geoff Cope had stood down and it was agreed that no representative from Hankelow Parish Council should be appointed.	
Burial Board	Councillor G Foster		
Police Cluster	Councillor C Ainley		
Highways	Councillor C Ainley		

.....Chairman's initials

## **5 MATTERS ARISING**

### **(a) Registering of Hankelow Village Green**

The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to Cheshire East Council on 12 February 2012 informing the Council that an index map search reveals that Hankelow Parish Council has not been registered as owner of Hankelow Village Green even though an Order of the Chief Commons Commissioner dated 25 June 1973 directed that Cheshire County Council register the Parish Council as owner of the Green in its capacity as Registration Authority. The Parish Council requested clarification.

Cheshire East Council has confirmed that Hankelow Parish Council was duly recorded on the register of Village Greens as the owner of the Village Green on 12 February 1975. However, the function of the Land Registry, as a national body, is separate from the function of the former Cheshire County Council and the current Cheshire East Council in relation to village greens. The further step of registering ownership at Land Registry by way of an application for first registration still remains to be done.

The Parish Council is now in receipt of the necessary documents to register the land and it was AGREED that Councillor G Cope should contact David Young, Solicitor, Nantwich for advice on registration of the village green with the Land Registry.

### **(b) Bench at Park View, Hankelow**

Councillor I Jones reported that he had priced the making of a bench and the Clerk had printed information from suppliers of suitable benches. It was AGREED that the Chairman should make enquiries of local people, prepared to make a bench.

### **(c) Community Pride/Community Spirit Competitions**

The Clerk reported that Cheshire Community Action judges would be inspecting the village now and in the coming months but the judges of the Community Spirit Competition had not yet contacted the Parish Council to arrange a meeting with local groups.

### **(d) Speed Limit**

Councillor C Ainley reported that progress on the 30 mph speed limit was delayed following the raising of an objection. As a result, the final decision on implementation would be subject to a review by the Cheshire East Highways Strategic Director, expected in about four weeks' time. Councillors C Ainley and I Jones had visited a local manufacturer of interactive speed warning signs. The cost of a single moveable sign would be in the order of £2,000 plus vat. One or more signs could be incorporated into the 30 mph traffic scheme if they were funded by the community. The Parish Council is holding £500 in funds which was designated for use for traffic-calming purposes some years ago. It was suggested by Councillor C Ainley that the funds should be used towards the purchase of interactive signs should the 30 mph speed limit be finally approved and enforced. Proposed by Councillor G Cope, Seconded by Councillor I Jones.

### **(e) Parish Council Dedicated E-mail Address**

It was AGREED that as the Clerk was leaving and a new Clerk was to be appointed, the setting up of a Parish Council dedicated e-mail address at the Clerk's home should be left in abeyance.

### **(f) Publication of Parish Council Minutes**

The Clerk had enquired about the publication of Council Minutes prior to the Minutes being formally approved at the next Council Meeting. Cheshire Association of Local Councils had advised that it is in order for Parish Council Minutes to be published after approval by the Council but prior to a formal meeting, provided that they are marked "UNCONFIRMED" on each page. It was AGREED that the Council should adopt this method.

**(g) Cheshire Fire Service**

The Clerk read a letter from Matthew Maguire, Policy and Research Manager, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, in response to a query Hankelow Parish Council had raised regarding possible changes to the level of service residents may receive following changes to the way Cheshire Fire Service is run. Matthew Maguire was able to confirm that response times to incidents would remain unchanged.

**6 PROGRESS REPORTS**

**(a) Parish Plan**

Councillor A Lee reported that Cheshire East Council requests that the Parish Council passes the following resolution –

“That the Parish Council endorses the Parish Plan (published in March 2012) as an expression of the community’s aspirations and acknowledges it as a framework for community action within the parish.”

The Parish Council unanimously passed the resolution.

**(b) Police Cluster Meetings**

Councillor C Ainley had not attended a Police Cluster Meeting.

**(c) Burial Board Meeting**

Councillor G Foster has attended a Burial Board Meeting. The base is now in place in Audlem Cemetery on which the stone will stand which will commemorate the lives of those whose remains had previously been placed in unmarked graves.

There had been vandalism in the Chapel of Rest.

**(d) Public Hall Committee**

Councillor G Cope had not attended a Public Hall Committee Meeting.

**7 PROPOSED FOOTPATH DIVERSION AT HANKELow MANOR**

The Clerk provided Councillors with a copy of the plan of the proposed diversion, together with a consultation document, provided by Cheshire East Council. After perusal of the plan and document, Councillors AGREED that they had no objection to the proposed footpath diversion at Hankelow Manor.

**8 EARLY DAY MOTION ON PLANNING APPEALS**

It was AGREED that the Parish Council should support the Early Day Motion in support of a Bill which will change the planning framework so that Local Councils have the same right as developers to appeal planning decisions. The Clerk was instructed to e-mail the local MP in support.

**9 DEFIBRILLATOR**

A course has been arranged by Heartstart to take place at Hankelow Methodist Church Schoolroom on Saturday, 19 May 2012. It was AGREED that after the course has taken place, the Council can make a decision concerning the placement of a defibrillator in the village.

## 10 REQUESTS FOR FINANCE

There were no requests for finance.

## 11 FINANCE

The Clerk reported a balance of £5,220.96.

Cheques issued since the last meeting:	£
Feed Store	35.00
Clerk's expenses	17.80
Hankelow Methodist Church schoolroom rental	150.00
Parish Plan payment	300.00
Cheshire Community Action fee (Community Pride/Spirit)	25.00
HMRC – tax	65.00
Clerk's salary to end March 2012	260.26
Chairman's Allowance	18.00
HMRC – tax	5.07
J Harren – accounting fees for PAYE	42.00

The Internal Audit of the Council's accounts to 31 March had been completed. The Chairman approved and signed the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2012 which is to be forwarded to the Audit Commission by 24 May 2012.

## 12 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- 1 The Chairman had received the Clerk's formal resignation. It was AGREED that the vacancy should be advertised in the Village Newsletter and it should also be sent to Cheshire Association of Local Councils who would also advertise the vacancy. All applications should be received by the Chairman by 15 June 2012.
- 2 It had come to the attention of the Parish Council that an Alsatian dog at Hankelow Manor was causing problems displaying aggressive behaviour to passers-by. It was AGREED that Councillor I Jones should visit Elliot Hulme at Hankelow Manor to inform him of the complaints and ask him to keep his dog under control. Councillor C Ainley AGREED to speak to the Community Policeman concerning the problem, for advice.
- 3 The Council had received complaints concerning the ploughing of the public footpath along the South Cheshire Way to the River Weaver. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Footpath Officer, Cheshire East Council to report the matter and also to contact Cheshire Footpath Society for advice on the matter.
- 4 It was AGREED that the Council should meet more often and have six meetings per year rather than four. Proposed Councillor I Jones, Seconded Councillor C Ainley.

It was AGREED that meetings should be set for the following dates in 2012/2013.

2 July  
3 September  
5 November  
7 January 2013  
March  
13 May – Annual Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.