

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HANKELOW PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN HANKELOW METHODIST CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, HANKELOW
ON 4 NOVEMBER 2013**

PRESENT:	Councillor G Foster	Chairman
	Councillor G Cope	Vice-Chairman
	Councillor C Ainley	Councillor I Jones
	Councillor A Lee	

Note:

Prior to the start of the meeting, members of the public addressed the Parish Council.

54 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any non-pecuniary or disclosable pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and, in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

No declarations were made.

55 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 September 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

56 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

57 HOUSING SURVEY

Councillor Ainley tabled the Summary of Results from the recent Rural Housing Needs Survey. He expressed his thanks to volunteers (residents and parish councillors) who had assisted in distributing the questionnaires. The conclusions were noted.

The results indicated an affordable housing need within the parish of five households. The figure of five should be treated as a minimum requirement rather than the maximum, for the following reasons.

- The response rate of 52% indicated that there may be affordable housing requirements in the parish, not captured within the survey.
- Responses to the question about new household income, suggested there may be a greater need for affordable housing than indicated as 12 of the 14 (86%) potential new households indicated a household income of below £30,000 which may fall within an affordable housing bracket.

The results would form a basis for developing a village plan. Councillor Ainley had discussed this with Tom Evans (Cheshire East Council) and the next stage would be to establish local interest. The Audlem Village Design Statement could be used as a "template" and the Parish Council could select the most appropriate sections of the document for application within Hankelow.

It was agreed that a Working Group be set up. Councillors Lee, Jones and Foster volunteered. Mr Nigel Cassidy, a local resident, also volunteered as a member of the group. It was further agreed that an informal meeting be held at the White Lion on 14 November at 7.30 pm. The Clerk was asked to enquire if David Higham (Audlem Parish Council) would be available to attend this meeting to offer advice.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Parish Council, together with the Borough Council take into consideration the results of the housing survey, along with other information, when assessing potential future housing within the area;

(b) That potential areas for development within the village be defined as an exhibition to allow parishioners to influence future sites (based on historic, current and potential planning submissions);

(c) That a Village Design Working Group be established comprising parish councillors and local residents;

(d) That the first meeting be held on Monday, 14 November 2013 at the White Lion at 7.30pm; and

(e) That the Clerk invite David Higham (Audlem Parish Council) to attend the meeting to be held on 14 November.

58 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It was reported that preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan which was being led by Audlem Parish Council, had been put on hold for the time being whilst the Parish Council fights against proposals by a number of housing developers. This matter was scheduled for discussion at the Audlem Parish Council meeting which was being held later in the evening.

59 PLANNING

There were no planning applications for consideration.

60 COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID – HANKELOW METHODIST CHURCH

At the previous meeting, the issue of registering Hankelow Methodist Church, under the Community “Right to Bid” scheme, had been discussed. The Clerk had been asked to enquire into ownership of the church; this was the first step in the process.

The church was owned by the Cheshire South Circuit and the Clerk had written to the appropriate Minister (at his home address) requesting the registered address, which was a requirement to enable it to be registered. The Minister was currently out of the country and it was expected that a reply would be available for the next meeting.

61 SAFETY OF WILLOW TREE ON VILLAGE GREEN

At the previous meeting, brief reference had been made to the stability of one of the trees on the village green and whether any action should be taken.

Members agreed that it was unsafe and if it were not the subject of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), steps should be taken to cut it back appropriately.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Clerk make enquiries to establish if the Willow tree on the village green was subject to a TPO; and

(b) In the event of it not being subject to a TPO, arrangements be made for it to be cut back.

62 SPEED WATCH

The Parish Council was updated on recent speed watch activities. Since April, average speeds had reduced by 3 mph. It was noted that the Police were supporting the scheme.

Councillor Ainley reported that during a 3-week period there had been 60,000 vehicles passing through the village. The average speed of vehicles had been noted at 35.1 mph with the fastest recorded speed of 101 mph. 15% of motorists drove at over 40 mph.

63 FINANCIAL MATTERS

63.1 Receipts and Payments Statement for the period to 31 August 2013 Budget Monitoring – Position at 31 August 2013

The Parish Council received a receipts and payments statement for the period to 31 August 2013, together with a budget monitoring statement showing the position for the same period.

RESOLVED: That the receipts and payments statement and the budget monitoring statement for the period 1 April – 31 August 2013 be received and noted.

63.2 External Audit – Report of BDO LLP

The external audit had been completed. A copy of Page 4 of the Annual Return was enclosed. It was noted that there were no matters to report arising out of the audit.

63.3 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payment be authorised:

£65.00 HM Revenue and Customs (Tax on the Clerk's salary for the second quarter)

63.4 Budget 2014-2014

It was reported that Cheshire East Council had notified town and parish councils that the date by which precept requests must be made was 17 January 2014.

64 CHESHIRE COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Parish Council received a list of the awards made by Cheshire Community Action. Councillor Ian Jones (together with village representatives) attended the Awards Evening held on 10 October 2013. A copy of the judges' comments in respect of Hankelow was also submitted.

65 OUTSIDE BODIES

65.1 Councillor Ainley reported on the recent Police Cluster meeting. Councillor Foster reported that the Audlem Burial Board would not be requesting a precept for the current or forward financial year.

65.2 Audlem Village Hall Committee.

Audlem Village Hall Committee had invited the Parish Council to nominate a member to the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Audlem Village Hall Committee be thanked for its invitation and informed that there was currently no-one available to serve on the Committee.

66 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Councillor Rachel Bailey had reported prior to the start of the meeting and was not in attendance for the Parish Council meeting.

67 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of correspondence received since the last meeting.

Cheshire East Council

- o Social isolation events – 8 November (Nantwich) and 15 November (Macclesfield)

- Cheshire East Highways Nantwich LAP reports
- Community Transport Workshop – 14 November 2013 - Congleton
- Elected Member Satisfaction Survey 2013 – Cheshire East Highways
- Partnership Newsletter: Articles requested by 17 December

Cheshire Association of Local Councils

- October newsletter

CVS Cheshire East

- AstraZeneca is working with CVS to distribute toys and gifts to families in need across Cheshire East this Christmas. It was expected that 1600 gifts will be donated and organisations are invited to apply for the gifts which must be collected from Crewe on Thursday, 19 December between 12 noon and 4 pm.
- October e-bulletin
- Training and events update October

68 SHARED INFORMATION

Parish Councillors were invited to share information or to request the inclusion of items on the next agenda.

At this point in the proceedings, Councillor Ainley invited Members to let him have any comments on the Housing Needs Survey, by Friday. These would then be reported back to Ben Buckley the Research Consultant at Cheshire East Council.

69 FUTURE MEETINGS

Parish Council meetings were held bi-monthly on the first Monday in the month. Members now suggested that the calendar be revised to allow meetings to be held on the first Tuesday in the month. The reason for the proposed change was that during the Winter months, the White Lion closed on Monday evenings. The pub provided an informal venue for parish councillors and residents to meet following Parish Council meetings.

RESOLVED: (a) That Parish Council meetings be held on the first Tuesday in the month; and

(b) That meetings continue to be held bi-monthly.

(Noted: The next meeting was scheduled for 7 January 2014.)

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 8.15 pm and concluded at 9.15 pm