

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HANKELOW PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN HANKELOW METHODIST CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, HANKELOW
ON 6 JANUARY 2015**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor Rachel Bailey (from Minute No. 71)

63 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.

64 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 November 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

65 MATTERS ARISING

65.1 White Lining on Longhill Lane (Minute No. 52)

At the previous meeting, Councillor Ainley and Mr C Foster (a resident) agreed to take measurements on Longhill Road to enable Cheshire East Council Engineers to consider if road markings would be appropriate to improve safety for pedestrians.

The measurements had not yet been taken and it was **AGREED** that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

66 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

At the meeting held on 3 November 2014, it had been agreed that before taking any action to protect the trees in the parish, residents' views should first be sought.

The survey had now been carried out and there were a number of trees which residents consider worthy of preserving through the formal process of Tree Preservation Orders.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for the Tree Preservation Officer to attend a site visit with parish councillors who would be able to show the Officer the trees which had been identified.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the Cheshire East Council Tree Preservation Officer to attend a site visit with Members, as discussed.

67 PERMISSIVE PATH – HANKELOW-AUDLEM

As requested at the last meeting, the Clerk contacted the CEC Public Rights of Way Unit (PRWU) about any liability which might attach if the Parish Council made a financial contribution to the upkeep of the permissive path, when it was reinstated.

The PRWU was unable to offer legal advice and the Parish Council would need to make its own arrangements.

It was suggested that the matter be examined further when Mr Morris (owner of Corbrook Court) provided the legal documentation, which was likely to be in the form of a legal agreement between his company and either the Borough Council or one of the Parish Councils (namely Hankelow and/or Audlem).

RESOLVED: That the matter be left in abeyance until a response from Mr Morris was received.

68 PLANNING

68.1 Planning Application

The Parish Council was invited to submit comments on the following planning application:

14/5608N Hankelow Manor, Hankelow Lane
Land to the south-east of Hankelow Manor: In-fill development of two x
two-storey detached residential dwellings

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised to planning application No. 14/5608N.

68.2 Members noted the following:

14/4300N Lodge Farm – Up to 22 Dwellings

The Chairman attended the Southern Planning Committee meeting held on 17 December 2014 and reported that the application had been approved.

14/4164N Land off Longhill Lane

Although it had been expected that this application would be heard in November/December, the application had been withdrawn by the applicant.

69 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

69.1 Consultation

It was noted that the application for the Neighbourhood Plan Area had been submitted to Cheshire East Council and had been subject to a six-week consultation period which concluded on Friday, 2 January 2015.

69.2 Minutes of a Meeting of the Steering Group – 11 November 2014

The Steering Group had not yet held a formal meeting. There had been an informal meeting with parish councillors from Buerton Parish Council at which Tom Evans (CEC Spatial Planning Team) had been in attendance.

69.3 Terms of Reference for the Steering Group

At the November meeting, the Parish Council adopted the Terms of Reference which had been used for the Parish Plan Implementation Group. This had been an interim measure only to ensure that progress could be made.

The Parish Council now considered draft Terms of Reference. The following amendments were agreed:

- The Steering Group to report bi-monthly to the Parish Council.
- In addition to the three parish councillors, membership shall comprise up to four volunteer members.

The Parish Council agreed to hold the first meeting of the Steering Group on 15 January 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, as amended, be approved.

70 SHARED INFORMATION/REPORT OF MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no shared items from Members.

It was reported that the Clerk had attended the Area Meeting of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils on 11 December 2014, at which time the focus had been on neighbourhood planning; Tom Evans (CEC Spatial Planning Team) made a presentation. The Clerk's note of that meeting was submitted for information.

71 BUDGET – 2015-2016

Initial consideration had been given to the draft budget at the meeting held on 3 November 2014. Members were now invited to finalise the budget.

The following amendments to the draft schedule were agreed:

- Line 21 Neighbourhood Planning Increase to £1,500

The draft budget amounted to £7,240, subject to any amendments required as a result of consideration of the Clerk's salary (Minute No. 75 below). The calculations were noted:

	£	£
Balance at bank on 30 September 2014	4,470.00	
ADD VAT re-claim	458.00	4,928.00
LESS expected spend to 31 March 2015	(1,459.00)	3,469.00
Balance available on 1 April 2015 (rounded)	<u>3,469.00</u>	
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Budget for the forward year	7,240.00	
LESS Expected balance on 1 April 2015	(3,469.00)	3,771.00
Precept required (rounded)	<u>3,770.00</u>	

(Note: Borough Councillor Rachel Bailey arrived during discussion of Minute No. 71.)

72 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Rachel Bailey reported on Cheshire East Council matters of interest, including the following:

- 93.6% of schools in the Borough had been rated as either 'good' or 'outstanding'.
- Cheshire East Council had received a grant to fund a new partnership between CEC and Keele University to enable a study to be undertaken into whether CEC could generate long-term, renewable energy from geothermal power.
- 'Arms-length' companies were to be set up to cover services such as planning, building regulations and land registry.

73 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3 March 2015

74 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

75 CLERK'S SALARY – 2015-2016 BUDGET

(Reason for exclusion: Staffing matter)

(Note: the Clerk withdrew from the meeting prior to discussion of this item.)

The Parish Council considered whether the Clerk's salary should be increased in line with new salary guidance received from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC).

The Parish Council agreed to appoint the Clerk to Spinal Column Point 29 which was an annual salary of £1,490.

(Note: the Clerk re-joined the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

The amendment to the Clerk's salary did not impact significantly on the budget proposals as indicated in Minute No. 71 above, but it was AGREED that the precept request be rounded up to £3,780.

RESOLVED: (a) That a budget of £7,250 for 2015-2016 be approved;
(b) That the Clerk be authorised to request a precept of £3,780 from Cheshire East Council;
and
(c) That the Clerk's salary be increased to £1,490 with effect from 1 April 2015 in line with the published recommendations from NALC/SLCC.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.40 pm and concluded at 9.05 pm