

HANKELOW PARISH COUNCIL

Carol Jones
Clerk

Tel: 01270 812065
e-mail: clerk@HankelowParishCouncil.org

Parish Councillors are summoned to the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

The meeting will commence at the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting.

DATE: TUESDAY, 1 MAY 2018

TIME: 7.45 PM (or on the later rising of the Parish Meeting)

VENUE: SCHOOL ROOM, HANKELOW METHODIST CHAPEL



Signed: _____

Enquiries to: Clerk: Carol Jones

Date of issue: 25 April 2018

To: Members of the Parish Council
Councillors C Ainley, G Cope, G Foster, I Jones and A Lee,

cc: Cheshire East Ward Councillor Rachel Bailey

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

Members of the public are encouraged to print off their own copies of the agenda from the village website (http://www.hankelow.info/parish_council.html). If paper copies of the agenda and/or any associated reports are required, please contact the Clerk who will arrange for copies to be made available at the meeting.

A G E N D A

PART 1 – ANNUAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

- 1.1 To elect a Chairman to serve until the Annual Meeting in 2019.
- 1.2 The Chairman will sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, following which the newly-elected Chairman will chair the meeting.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

- 2.1 To elect a Vice-Chairman to serve until the Annual Meeting in 2019.
- 2.2 The Vice-Chairman will sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any non-pecuniary or disclosable pecuniary interest which they have 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.

Whilst the Clerk can advise on the Code of Conduct and its interpretation, the decision to declare, or not, is the responsibility of the Parish Councillor, based on the particular circumstances.

5 MINUTES – 5 MARCH 2018

To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 March 2018. ...

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

End-of-Year Accounts – 2017-2018

The Parish Council is asked to approve the accounts for the financial year 1 April 2017-2018.

The Internal Auditor has conducted the audit and is finalising her report which will follow under separate cover. to follow

7 RISK MANAGEMENT/RISK ASSESSMENT

To consider and approve the risk assessment/management schedule. ...

8 APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES/COMMITTEES

8.1 Outside Bodies

The Parish Council is invited to appoint a representative to the Audlem Burial Board.

8.2 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The Parish Council is invited to re-appoint members to the Steering Group.

The adopted Terms of Reference for the Steering Group are enclosed, and the Parish Council is asked to consider if any amendments should be made. ...

9 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – 2017-2018

The Parish Council is asked to approve the enclosed calendar of meetings for 2018-2019. ...

PART 2 – ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

10 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

- £100.00 Councillor G Foster (Chairman’s allowance) S.15(2) of the Local Government Act 1972
- £280.00(tbc) Came & Company – insurance renewal (effective 1 June 2018)
- £95.00 Jaymar Electrical – fitting of AED cabinet to wall of Hankelow Methodist Church
- £73.44 Cheshire Association of Local Councils – affiliation fee

11 PURCHASE OF LAPTOP

The Parish Council is invited to consider purchasing a laptop and associated software for use by the Clerk.

12 PLANNING MATTERS

12.1 Planning Applications

There are no planning applications for consultation.

12.2 Neighbourhood Plan

To receive the minutes of the NPSG meeting held on 24 April 2018. ...

to follow

The Steering Group will also report progress on preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan including the recent consultation exercise undertaken.

13 GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

On 25 May 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation will supersede the 1998 Data Protection Act.

The Clerk’s report is enclosed and gives an overview of the changes which will affect the Parish Council. ...

Although the deadline of 25 May 2018 is immovable, the Information Commissioner’s Office has advised that it will operate a ‘light touch’ until it is possible for all Councils to have put in place their arrangements for data protection.

The Clerk will report further to the July meeting at which time a draft Data Protection Policy will be submitted for adoption.

14 WHITE LION ACTION GROUP

To receive the minutes of a meeting of the White Lion Action Group held on 20 April 2018. At this meeting, the Group gave consideration to a proposal from a local landowner who is considering purchasing the White Lion as a community venture. ...

15 BENCH AT PARK VIEW

The Parish Council is invited to consider if the bench at Park View should be repaired or replaced. Members are reminded that there is no specific budget-head for this item, but there is a general reserves fund of £1,000 which could be used.

16 DRAINAGE REPAIRS IN THE VICINITY OF HANKELow CHURCH AND THE VILLAGE GREEN

(Item requested by the Chairman.)

The Chairman reported to the Clerk that a group of residents had decided that rather than wait for Cheshire East Council to remedy the drainage problems encountered on both the village green and outside Hankelow Church, they carried out the repairs themselves and are now wishing to be reimbursed for the cost of this work.

The Clerk's view is that as no one had the authority to maintain or repair the drains without permission, the Parish Council does not have the power to reimburse the residents for this work. Moreover, the Parish Council is not the proper authority for dealing with this, and therefore, the Parish Council cannot 'step in' even if it wishes to.

The Clerk considered the following issues when reaching her view.

- It is understood that the residents carried out the repair but purchased the materials to effect the repair. If this is the case, it means that the individuals themselves are requesting reimbursement. The Parish Council is not permitted to pay individuals unless it is to reimburse them for expenditure which was carried out at the Parish Council's request.

The Parish Council did not ask for this work to be carried out.

- The residents could have approached the Parish Council which, in turn, could have considered commissioning the work, with the permission of CEC and in accordance with the Financial Regulations which would have allowed the VAT to be reclaimed.
- If the work was carried out by a contractor, the Parish Council could have considered settling the contractor's invoice, but even in these circumstances, the Clerk's advice would have been that the Parish Council should not become involved.
- What if the work carried out causes problems which are currently unforeseen? In supporting the action, there could be liability for the Parish Council, especially if problems arise which are as a direct consequence of the work carried out.
- What was the standard of work carried out? Was it to an appropriate standard?
- Cheshire East Council has absolute title to the village green and the Parish Council has only qualified title. For this reason, the Clerk believes that the Parish Council is not the appropriate Council to authorise this work.

17 CONSULTATION - REPLACEMENT WASTE BINS

As part of the Cheshire East Council budget-setting for 2018-19, it was agreed that it should consult on proposals to charge for new and replacement bins in Cheshire East as is the case in many other authorities. Currently, CEC supplies 10,000 new or replacement bins per year at a cost of almost £360,000 which is something Cheshire East Council cannot sustain.

As part of this process CEC is undertaking a ten-week public consultation to allow residents to have their say on proposals to bring in charges for new or replacement bins.

This consultation began on Tuesday 13 March and will run until Monday 21 May 2018. The survey is available online at the following link: <https://surveys.cheshireeast.gov.uk/s/Bins18/> or in paper form at all local libraries.

Charges will be agreed on an annual basis as part of the Council's fees and charges and is likely to be in the region of £30 each for recycling and garden waste bins, £35 for a standard black residual bin, or £25 for a smaller residual bin. A 25 per cent concession will be made for households in receipt of eligible welfare support.

CEC is also proposing to put the addresses of residents on all new bins, which should help to reduce the theft of bins across the borough.

18 SHARED INFORMATION

Parish Councillors are invited to share information or report on attendance at any recent meetings of outside bodies. Decisions cannot be taken under this item.

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2 July 2018, subject to approval of the calendar at item 9 above.