

PEOVER SUPERIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk - Liz McGrath
Telephone - 01565 722762

Chairman - Chris Hurst
Vice Chairman - Kathy Doyle

Minutes of meeting held at 7.45pm on Tuesday 25th February 2014 at Over Peover Methodist Church, Cinder Lane.

Present: Chair of the meeting Chris Hurst (CH), Robin Lindsay (RL), Sheila Read (SR), Kathy Doyle (KD), Peter Clarkson (PC), George Walton (GW) and the Clerk.

14.14 Apologies for absence: Trevor Cornish (TC), Tracey Read (TR) and PCSO Lindsey Whitehead

14.15 Declarations of Interest in any agenda item: None

14.16 Parishioner's Question time -four members of the public were in attendance. The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and invited Mr Henry Brooks to address the meeting. Mr Brooks spoke of Cheshire East Council's desire to consult with parishes on what they desire regarding housing need. This process is due to begin shortly and Tatton Estates are willing to provide any help and if there is a desire possible land interests they have. Mr Brooks advised the parish council that engaging with the borough council before they make an approach would allow the parish council more time for deliberation.

Mr Brooks also commented that the recent bad weather had left much of Peover Park and the Hall without a telephone line and anything the parish council could do to assist with a point of contact he would be very grateful. Cllr Doyle was able to suggest a contact.

The Chairman then invited Mr Grahame Bastin who is Managing Director of Technology for Barclays at Radbroke Hall and has overall site responsibility to address the meeting. Accompanying him was Mr Iain Nicol who is the site manager.

Mr Bastin had accepted the invitation to join the meeting in response to two issues raised by the Clerk in recent emails.

1. Congestion to the site during peak hours.
2. Capacity constraints of the site resulting in turning cars away.

The Radbrook Hall site has become very popular in the last 2 years, they have taken on over 300 apprentices aged 16-18 and are recognised as leading the way in apprenticeships. The Site has also grown in profile within the Barclays group. There are 2000 permanent Barclays staff on site and 2000 car parking spaces. Also there are third party suppliers that use the site and it is these users that Barclays are trying to discourage from coming to site. There are options for flexi working, car share schemes and bus services. The aim is to manage the site within its capacity and discourage the introduction of further cars to the site.

The Parish Council made the point that the entrance on Stocks Lane was widened a few years ago to accommodate a two lane traffic entry to the site. It was frustrating and disappointing to see a lane coned off when traffic is backing up off the site. Iain Nicol stated that having done a risk assessment of a two lane entry it was felt that there was insufficient room and to do so may

result in an accident. From Monday 3rd March it is proposed to have two security guards on site and there is also to be wide ranging communication with all on site regarding the new proposals that non Barclays staff will have to make alternative arrangements for parking. Some 3rd party users have already had conversations regarding renting car parking space from local businesses and then car sharing to get to the site. The concern was also expressed that the checking of security passes could in itself cause and issue of traffic backing up on to the A50.

The overall aim is to change the ethos of the site and it is hoped that in the medium to long term the traffic to the site and parking will not be an issue. However in the short term the security staffing levels and common sense in letting traffic on to the site will be such to hopefully prevent the bottle necks that have been developing.

Other measures that are being looked in to are ANR software and other such technology that can assist. Public transport links to the site are an option that has been looked at in the past. The council expressed its belief that the private bus service that was put on by Barclays may have undermined the public bus service and as such has led to the sporadic service Over Peover now have. Cllr Doyle was disappointed that a more collaborative approach with Cheshire East wasn't taken, as Astra Zeneca took to preserve the public service and benefit their Alderley site. Iain Nicol did approach CE council regarding this but he did not get a positive response. Graham Bastin said he was willing to look at this again but in the meantime maybe the coaches could provide a local timetable for locals to share the service to get to Knutsford, Chelford and Crewe?

Whilst the parish Council are supportive of this idea, it needs co-ordinating and the whole public transport situation needs to be looked at with Cheshire East. To this end Cllr Walton offered his services to facilitate a meeting with Barclays, Cheshire East transport and the Parish Council. Mr Brooks pointed out that Bruntwood were looking at similar issues at the Toft site and collaboration there would be beneficial. Also the local rail groups would welcome an input to help with possible improvements to our local rail network connections.

Mr Brooks commended Barclays for consulting with the Parish Council and although Barclays were not always visible their desire to be an asset to the community should be commended.

In conclusion the Chairman stated that whilst in the short term some further disruption can be expected the Parish Council welcome the initiatives for hiring parking spaces at local businesses and therefore bringing benefit to the local economy. The Parish Council also look forward to working with Graham and Iain and Cheshire East to improve the public transport in the area. The offer of a timetable for locals to use the current coach system was welcomed and it is hoped this can be implemented soon. The Chairman encouraged Barclays to take appropriate short term action as was required to avoid any significant impact on the local community as 3rd party workers were actively discouraged from on-site parking.

The Chairman thanked both Mr Brooks and Barclays for engaging with the parish council and hoped they would continue to do so. He then closed the public part of the meeting.

14.17 To approve the Minutes of the last Meeting on 14th January 2014. -the minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.

14.18 To discuss matters arising from the last meeting, not already covered in the agenda - S106 response has not yet been submitted, the clerk to circulate a response for members to comment.

The enforcement of the illegal works at Roadside Farm have not been actioned. The Chairman has had correspondence with CE, but the Clerk has not received a response. There has been no response to the correspondence to Samuel Smiths regarding the Old Fire Station. GW is to raise both roadside and the fire station with Derek Ward.

14.19 Report from Knutsford Rural Policing None

14.20 Casual Vacancy - the necessary notice has been posted following the death of Cllr McGrath and so far no poll has been called. If no call for a poll by 28th Feb 2014 then parish council must fill the vacancy by co-option. This is by majority vote and approaches to prospective candidates need to be made before the next meeting. There is no point in voting for someone who is unwilling to stand.

The Clerk wished to thank the members of the parish council for their kind words and attendance at Cllr McGrath's funeral. It meant a great deal to the family that so many sent cards and attended the funeral. Mrs McGrath and Ian McGrath have asked if the parish council would allow the planting of a tree in his memory.

The chairman noted that Cllr McGrath had served as a parish councillor for 38 years and that this was remarkable achievement for a volunteer post that serves the community. Cllr McGrath gave his time freely to the community and served as Chairman of the parish council for 10 years. His contribution to the life of this parish was such that it should not go unrecognised. Therefore if it is the wish of the family that a tree be planted, then the Parish Council are more than supportive of this. And will also have a plaque erected near the tree.

14.21 Educational Foundation - Following Cllr McGrath's death a vacancy has arisen on the Educational Foundation on which he served since 1986. The resolution of the council was that Cllr Cornish or Cllr Tracy Read should be approached to take on the role.

14.22 Planning -None

14.22.01 Planning Decisions -

14/0141M Sunnycroft - APPROVED With CONDITIONS

14.23 Housekeeping, Repairs and Maintenance -

War memorial - Awaiting results of search.

Newsletter - well received

Land registry - KD to progress

Cheshire railings Mr Lowe requires area strimming/spraying. Cllr McGrath was going to undertake this. The Clerk to see if a volunteer can be found.

14.24 Highways -

Barclays issue having been discussed earlier, the only other possibility is that of a filter lane being put in. If this was something that the parish desires it should be included as part of the Local Plan.

The Verges on Grotto Lane are becoming churned up and will only get worse as contractor numbers increase on site. The council resolved to write to Dane Plus Housing to see if a solution can be found such as parking in Todds.

Articulated Vehicles are trying to use Batemill as a cut through and getting stuck. There is need of a sign as this problem is increasing.

Boundary sign - Clerk to meet with Dave Thomason to discuss.

14.25 Finance -The following receipts and invoices were approved for payment CH/KD

Over Peover Methodist Church - Room Hire	£15.00
Website creation and maintenance	£150.00
Newsletter printing	£208.00

14.26 Updates from Volunteer Groups

14.26.01 Village Hall - nothing to report

14.26.02 Broadband -concern regarding the lack of new green boxes on A50 could result in very little improvement -KD to follow up.

14.26.03 Website - up and running and training for the parish pages will be updated soon.

14.27 Correspondence - A correspondence list was circulated to members.

The 100 year anniversary of the opening of over Peover School is to be celebrated this year. It was resolved that the parish council should give leather book marks to all pupils to commemorate the occasion.

The Parish wish to enter the community pride competition this year.

14.28 Clerks Review - recommendations from the review is that the clerk receive an 2.5% pay rise from Jan 2014.

Also noted during the review was that the work load was occasionally raised due to projects and when this happens it would be advantageous for the members to take on projects as and when they arise.

14.29 Items for next agenda -

Meeting ended 09.20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING 7.30 PM ON 25th MARCH 2014 AT OVER PEOVER METHODIST, CINDER LANE, OVER PEOVER.