

PEOVER SUPERIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Shareen Worthington
Telephone – 01625 861101

Chairman – Kathy Doyle
Vice Chairman – Phil Welch

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.45pm on Thursday 16th May 2019 at Over Peover Village Hall, Stocks Lane

Present: Kathy Doyle (Chair), Phil Welch, David Clarke, John Hehir, Jayne Rudd, Graham Hunter and the Parish Clerk

Members of Public: Two

1. The Chairman opened the Annual Parish meeting by welcoming the Members and the public before proceeding to deliver the annual report. A copy is attached below.
2. There were no questions from the public therefore, the meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at 7.55pm (held immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting)

19.47 Elect Chairman and receive their Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The present Chairman invited nominations for Chairman for the year 2019/20. Cllr Rudd proposed Cllr Doyle; this was seconded by Cllr Welch. All were in favour; Cllr Doyle was duly elected. The Clerk received the Chairman's signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

19.48 Elect Vice-Chairman and receive their Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Chairman invited nominations for Vice-Chairman for the year 2019/20. Cllr Hehir proposed Cllr Welch; this was seconded by Cllr Clarke. All were in favour; Cllr Welch was duly elected. The Clerk received the Vice-Chairman's signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

19.49 Questions or comments from the public

A local resident reported that the 40mph speed limit sign on Stocks Lane had been knocked down.

Action: The Clerk to report the issue to Cheshire East Council.

19.50 Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Irlam, Cllr Mills and Ward Cllr Asquith.

19.51 Receive declarations of interest in any agenda items

No interests were declared.

19.52 Approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 30th April 2019

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.

19.53 Discuss matters arising from the Minutes, not already covered in the agenda

There were no matters arising.

19.54 Gawsworth and Chelford Police

- **Annual Police Report**

The report was noted as having been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Clarke reported on his attendance of the recent Police Surgery and Police Cluster meeting. The next scheduled Police Cluster meeting is scheduled for July.

- **Update on Property Marking Kits**

Cllr Clarke confirmed the police will be issuing kits at Over Peover Village Hall on Monday 3rd June at 7pm at a reduced price of £10 per kit.

19.55 Finance

- **Review Internal Audit**

The internal audit had been completed with only a couple of minor amendments.

Action: The Clerk to submit certificate to external auditor and publish Accounts and Audit on website, along with a Notice of Public Rights.

- **Approval of payments becoming due**

Due to the previous meeting having been held two weeks earlier, a Receipts and Payment report was not issued and was carried forward to the next meeting.

The following payments becoming due were approved:

Came and Co - Insurance	£354.84
JMW Solicitors – Legal fees	£624.80
Arca – Traffic Study	£1680.00

19.56 Planning

- **Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Cllr Welch reported he had met with Cheshire Community Action and received their quote for work on the Regulation 14 documentation. Once complete, residents will have an opportunity to provide comments and feedback before submitting to Cheshire East Council. The referendum is expected to be towards the end of March 2020.

It was noted that Cllr Welch had also written to local businesses asking for their views on planning.

- **Consider Planning Applications**

- i. Paradise House (Public Path Diversion Order)

Comment: While the diversion is small and makes negligible difference to users, there are costs and disruption as a result of the applicant's failure to build the barn in the correct place.

For example, Cheshire East Council have had to spend time and money to make the diversion order. Ordnance Survey will have to update their maps. The Parish Council have to spend time reviewing the diversion. Also, walkers may have out of date maps for years to come.

The Parish Council feel there should be some penalty for the applicant's negligence.

ii. 18/4687M – Boundary Lane (Appeal)

Comment: The Parish Council wishes to **OBJECT** to the proposed development of a farm track on land adjoining Boundary Lane for the following reasons:

1. From local knowledge the Parish Council is aware that since its erection in 1987 the agricultural use of this building has been minimal and it is not frequently accessed by vehicles, therefore the track cannot be described as essential for the purposes of agriculture.
2. Damage to the land by the excavation and installation of a track would exceed any damage caused by infrequent access by farm vehicles.
3. The track would be an incursion into the green belt and would not preserve its openness because of the building's location which is in open countryside and not close to the boundary hedge.

iii. 18/3918M – Over Peover Methodist Church (Appeal)

Comment: The Over Peover Methodist Church is an iconic and much loved building in the village of Over Peover. It is over 100 years old and was built using funds raised by public subscription. Around 350 people attended the opening ceremony on 10th September 1913.

In recent years the congregation dwindled to an unsustainable level and it was declared redundant. The current owners have applied for permission to convert the building to a single dwelling but planning permission was refused by Cheshire East Council on the basis of an objection by Jodrell Bank, which acknowledged that the interference to the operation of the telescope likely to be caused by the proposal was minimal.

The Parish Council is concerned that unless the building's future is secured, it will fall into disrepair. The proposed use as a single dwelling appears to the Parish Council to be eminently suitable and the Parish Council would **support** the appeal.

- **Consider Planning Decisions**

There were no planning decisions for consideration.

19.57 Housekeeping and Maintenance

- **Adopt Code of Conduct**

The updated Code of Conduct from Cheshire East was reviewed and adopted

- **Expenses forms and Register of Interest forms**

All present Members handed their completed forms to the Clerk.

Action: The Clerk to obtain forms from those Members not present.

- **Village Hall**

A meeting was recently held to review the legal advice received. A separate meeting was also held with the PCC to discuss ownership of the Village Hall and the proposals for progressing with a new hall.

- **Roles and Responsibilities**

The current list was reviewed however, it was decided that any amendments should be made with all Members present. Carried forward to next meeting.

- **Playground Equipment Maintenance**

The activity trail on the parish field was identified as a moderate risk at the recent annual inspection. A quote of £195 + VAT for the repair was presented and duly approved.

Action: The Clerk to ask Pentagon Play to proceed with the repair.

It was noted that an Ash tree is leaning over the Parish field boundary adjoining Mr Marshall's land. A quote for £600 + VAT has been received to cut the tree down to ground level.

Action: Cllr Welch to discuss with Mr Marshall.

- **Distribution of Newsletters**

The Clerk issued the newsletters to Members for delivery to all residents.

19.58 Correspondence

An email was received from a resident concerning his views regarding the proposed new village hall and expressing his disappointment with the Parish Council's objection to his recent planning application. The Chair had previously shared his comments with Members.

It was noted that Cllr Clarke had attended the Lower Withington Parish meeting to discuss the proposed premises licence application for the Blue Dot Festival. Cllr Clarke agreed to attend the next meeting at Jodrell Bank on 20th May.

19.59 Items for the next agenda

Roles and Responsibilities (carried forward)

Meeting concluded at 9.15 p.m.

The date of the next PC meeting is Tuesday 25th June 2019

Chair's Report 2019

It has been a very busy year for Over Peover Parish Council and much has been accomplished.

Arrivals and Departures

This year saw the departure of our clerk, Liz McGrath, who had served the Parish with great commitment and enthusiasm for eight years. We are very grateful to her for all she has done for the parish during her tenure and we are most thankful to know that she is well on the road to recovery after her unfortunate accident.

George Walton our Ward Councillor and Parish Councillor Sheila Read retired in April. I would like to express my gratitude for their many years of service and helpful advice and support to the Parish Council.

Mrs Shareen Worthington took up her duties as Parish Clerk in September. She has adapted very quickly to her new role. We have come to value her expertise and support greatly.

Broadband

After many years of campaigning the second tranche of Superfast Broadband became available in the village along Stocks Lane and Grotto Lane and even some of the houses along the A50, which weren't within the original scope of this phase, have been covered. It was worth the wait as these premises now benefit from FTTP (Fibre to the Premises) which gives unimaginable speeds. We are continuing to press Connecting Cheshire to extend the scope to cover the remaining houses on the A50.

Neighbourhood Plan

A great deal of work has been carried out this year and I congratulate Cllr Phil Welch and his team on their achievements. The drop-in consultation days were very successful, attracting many residents who were able to comment and make suggestions on all aspects of the work. A traffic survey has confirmed the massive number of vehicles passing through the village at rush hours. This data will feed into a professional traffic study, made possible by the generosity of Mr Chris Rudd, to consider the potential for the mitigation of traffic speed and volume. which will form part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Planning

The Parish continues to see a large number of planning applications, many of which seek to push the boundaries of what is permissible in the Green Belt. The Parish Council endeavours to respond in a measured and reasonable way and will be steered by the Neighbourhood Plan Design Guide when this is adopted. Residents can make their own views about planning applications known by posting on the Cheshire East Planning Portal or in person at a Parish Council meeting.

Local Co-operation

We are hoping to set up a Parish Forum between local parishes to consider items of mutual interest. We are also intending to set up a Liaison Committee between the Parish Council and Barclays at Radbroke to deal with matters affecting the village.

Community Speedwatch

There is now a band of trained Speedwatch volunteers who will be carrying out random speed checks in the village. We hope this will have the desired effect. Anyone wishing to join this elite corps would be most welcome.

Village Hall

The fundraising efforts last year were both successful and enjoyable but the funds raised are only sufficient to enable the day-to-day running expenses to be covered. The significant repairs needed are well beyond our budget. We continue to investigate the options for a new village hall but there are complex ownership problems to overcome. Our thanks to the Village Hall Sub-Committee for the work they have carried out to date.

Improvements to the Village

We are constantly looking for ways in which we can improve the village for residents and any suggestions are always welcome. Thanks are due to Mr. William Stobart whose groundsmen have worked miracles on the Parish Field. It has attracted many admiring comments. The new goal posts provided by Mr. Stobart are in continual use.

The War Memorial opposite has never looked better and this is due to the efforts of Mr. Robert Ball and his expertise in treating the stone and replacing/galvanizing the posts and chains. The transformation has led some to believe that a new War Memorial has been installed!

Our charming Christmas tree this year was provided by Cllr George Walton and felled and transported by Mr. Myles Dobell, for which many thanks.

Mr. Walton also pressed for the resurfacing of Well Bank Lane by the Dog Inn and the replacement of the illuminated Keep Left sign and lamppost outside the Whipping Stocks which were damaged over a year ago.

The Parish Council continues to press for the rebuilding of the Old Fire Station opposite the Park Gate Inn, which is owned by Sam Smith's brewery.

Finally, I am sure I speak for all residents when I say thank you to all the Parish Councillors, who expend much time, energy and effort in carrying out their duties on behalf of the Parish.