



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 6th July 2015

Present: Cllr C Browne (Chairman), Cllrs M Dudley-Jones, M Garbett,
I Higham, R Norbury and M Taylorson.
Clerk: A Ross
Hall Manager
6 members of the public

Meeting

Commenced: 7.46pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs G Hall, R Grantham & and C Munro

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary interest (DPI).

Councillors R Norbury, M Taylorson and M Dudley-Jones hold allotment tenancies and will leave the room when items 8 to 10 are to be discussed.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2015.

Approval proposed by Councillor M Dudley-Jones, seconded by Councillor C Browne and carried.

4. Update from the 'Projects sub-committee'.

Councillor R Norbury read a report prepared by Councillor G Hall, in this he noted that the steel frame for the new medical centre had now been erected. Also he had been working with the Hall Manager to create a business plan and cash-flow forecast; Councillor G Hall also noted that he was starting to prepare, along with the Clerk and Hall Manager an application to PWLB for a further loan of £500,000.00 to cover the shortfall in funding on the medical centre project. In addition Councillor G Hall had met with Arcus and had agreed the full scope of the phase one work to be carried out on the refurbishment of the Festival Hall; this had a cost limit of £590,000.00; it was anticipated that the phase two work on the refurbishment of the Festival Hall could begin in April 2016 once the £500,000.00 grant from the completion of the medical centre was received. Councillor R Norbury went on to note that John Chapman had been in contact and was still keen to help with the project with regards to the pharmacy and second floor letting. Mrs D Bullock enquired as to whether the second phase works to the Festival Hall would interfere with a dance she had planned for the 14th May 2016. Councillor R Norbury replied that the plan was to ensure that the Hall would only have to close for a matter of days whilst the phase two works were carried out and it would be scheduled around the needs of community use at the Hall.

5. Consider proposal by CEC (Ansa) to replace existing litter bins on London Road with new ones. No cost to the village.

Councillors C Munro and C Browne met with Wes Hutton From Cheshire East Council (CEC) Ansa to discuss several issues; At this meeting Wes Hutton indicated that CEC were willing to replace all the litter bins in Alderley Edge with new plastic bins with tops on; these would serve the village better, as the current open topped ones allow rubbish placed in them to blow around in bad weather.

Motion proposed by Councillor R Norbury, seconded by Councillor C Browne and carried.

6. MOTION: AEPC resolves to accept the proposed settlement regarding the telecoms companies as advised by Slater & Gordon, the Parish Council Lawyers.

Councillor R Norbury gave a brief background on this; The Arqiva mast which had been on the Festival Hall site had had to be removed at cost by PE Jones (mast and base to be broken out) there was also a small amount of outstanding rent on the site; this should have all been settled by Arqiva, but hadn't. John Chapman had advised the council that the costs incurred in pursuing this would be greater than any return which the council might receive. Therefore the council should settle with Arqiva in the matter.

Motion proposed by Councillor R Norbury, seconded by Councillor M Garbett and carried.

7. MOTION: AEPC resolves to ratify the decision that Cllr Browne steps down as Chairman of the Plans Committee and is replaced by Cllr Garbett

Councillor C Browne explained that this was because, in his role of borough councillor he had been made vice chair of the northern planning committee, and, therefore, couldn't comment on some plans which would come through to the parish council.

Motion proposed by Councillor M Dudley-Jones, seconded by Councillor M Taylorson and carried.

8. MOTION: AEPC resolves to prepare new tenancy agreements for the 2015/16 season in respect of Heyes Lane, Chorley Hall Lane & Beech Close allotment sites.

Councillor C Browne briefly explained the background on this after taking legal advice. An initial notice to quit was served on Heyes Lane allotments in 2014, at the same time 12 months notice was issued to Chorley Hall lane and Beech Close allotments ending the Alderley Edge Gardens and Allotments Society tenancy agreement, this, legally, cannot be withdrawn. It does now give the Parish Council the opportunity to update and renegotiate the tenancy agreements as the originals are dated as they were completed in 1976.

Motion proposed by Councillor C Browne, seconded by Councillor M Garbett and carried.

9. MOTION: AEPC resolves to formally respond to the request from AEAGS dated 23rd April to collect rents for 2014/15 season for all three current allotment sites.

Cllr Browne proposed and Cllr Garbett seconded an amendment to the motion so that it read:

AEPC resolves to formally respond to the request from AEAGS dated 23rd April to collect rents for 2014/15 season for Heyes Lane allotment site.

Amended motion proposed by Councillor C Browne, seconded by Councillor I Higham and carried.

10. MOTION: AEPC resolves to confirm the acceptance of an annual £400 management fee to be levied by AEAGS for the collection of rents and maintenance of grounds, with this sum to be deducted from rents collected annually. (this is a flat fee combined across the three sites and is instead of the 30% already levied)

Councillor C Browne proposed to scrap motion 10 from the agenda as it would be dealt with under item 8.

Motion proposed to scrap agenda item 10 by Councillor C Browne, seconded by Councillor I Higham and carried.

11. Reports from Councillors.

Councillor M Dudley-Jones reported that there was pressure building on the council to come up with a definitive parking solution for the village. He indicated that Councillor M Taylorson had contacted CEC Highways officers for a second time and that they were in the process of developing cost options for the PC to review. To work out where the main parking problems were, he had put together a team of about 20 volunteers to survey the village at different times of the day. He indicated that the team would begin this next Monday. Councillor C Browne had already been in contact with the head teachers of all the schools in Alderley Edge to discuss the parking problems caused at school drop off / pick up. After this survey

Councillor M Dudley-Jones felt the council could then proceed to come up with some suggestions to be discussed about temporary or permanent parking arrangements to help alleviate the parking problems. Councillor M Taylorson also reported that the council needed to get the costings right on any parking solution and also wanted to ensure that the village was making the best use of what they already had. Councillor I Higham reported that she and Councillor R Grantham had now met with representatives from all the schools, clubs and local societies in the village and would be in a position to start their new youth parish council in September.

Councillor M Garbett read a report from Cllr Munro that she attended the Trafford Borough Council, Sale Locality Partnership Workshop on 11th June and passed on to Rachael contact details for their Youth Cabinet. Also found it very interesting and useful with ideas for working with charities, groups and traders in our area. Updated the list of volunteers and supporters and has distributed it by e-mail to the other councillors. Sent out invitations by e-mail and letter to traders in the village and surrounds inviting them to a 'Meet the Councillors' evening which is being held on Tuesday 21st July at 5.30pm in The Trafford Arms. Contacted 'Signs of the Times' who supplied the 'Welcome to Wilmslow' boundary signage. They are sending a current price list, but costs are in the region of £686 per sign with £170 additional cost for the two posts to support the sign.

Councillor M Garbett reported that he had attended the PCC meeting in Macclesfield but was still awaiting the minutes from this meeting. However the report given by chief inspector Rob Dickenson given in the public participation section had covered most of the points he was going to raise. He noted that other parish council representatives from the local area had raised many objections to the new police deployment from one central base; however, it didn't affect Alderley Edge, as it did, Congleton or Poynton etc.

Councillor C Browne reported, he had met with the local highways partnership and that they had a budget of £40,000.00 to spend between Alderley Edge, Wilmslow and Handforth on highways access schemes and that Alderley Edge was to benefit from a share of this. The scheme would involve additional dropped pavements and kerbs in the village on Congleton and Macclesfield roads and at St Hilary's Park. This scheme is intended to improve access for prams and wheelchair users in Alderley Edge. Councillor C Browne also reported that he met with CEC Project Officers involved in the Alderley Park development and that they would continue to hold joint briefings with the Ward Councillors for Alderley Edge, Prestbury & Chelford, but that the Chair of Alderley Edge Parish Council would also now receive an invitation as well. CEC Project Officers have also offered to attend a future Parish Council meeting to provide other Councillors & members of the public with an update on progress.

Meeting Closed: 8.34pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For

Councillor C Browne
CHAIRMAN