

# ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2012

**Present:** M Williamson (Chairman), MJ Connor, N Schofield, JD Bergin, MD Lloyd, F Keegan, MW Maczkowiak

**In attendance:** 2 representatives from the press  
5 members of the public  
Hall Manager

**Meeting**

**Commenced:** 8:01pm

**1. Apologies for Absence.**

Cllrs DG Herald, S Joseph

**2. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.**

None.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012.**

Approval was proposed by Councillor JD Bergin, seconded by Councillor F Keegan and carried.

**4. Matters Arising**

None

**5. Parking in the village and surrounding roads.**

Paul Burns has published a report regarding parking in the village. Public notices are on display in selected streets where the council is proposing to introduce residents parking schemes. This has raised concerns as in his report he suggested that these schemes should not go ahead until other parking issues were addressed, particularly with regard to displacement.

Cllrs Williamson and Keegan are having a meeting with Paul Burns on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March to discuss a number of issues which were raised and will circulate a report from that meeting to other councillors.

The Parish Council position on residents parking schemes is that parking should be planned as a strategy for the whole village and not a piecemeal approach. They will also follow up on a commitment from Cheshire east to look at displacement.

**6. Litter.**

Cllr Connor commented that she had never seen the village look so bad with litter and would like to get the Primary School to do a litter campaign for the Diamond Jubilee to clean up the village.

She will speak to the PCSO about issuing on the spot fines to people dropping litter.

There was a discussion about the role of Cheshire East in street cleaning and the fact that the street sweepers have now been deployed elsewhere. Cllr Keegan suggested that as we already pay for this service, the Parish Council should demand it back. Cllr Williamson will phone Wes Hutton to discuss further. Cllr Williamson made reference to a LAP litter scheme in Handforth that has been successful and suggested a similar scheme for Alderley Edge.

## **7. Poor condition of local (to Alderley) and Cheshire East roads.**

A discussion followed about the poor condition, lack of maintenance and litter on the road between Handforth Dean and Nether Alderley. As Ringway Jacobs are contracted by Cheshire East to provide this service, Cllr Williamson agreed to request a copy of the Service Level Agreement and contact Ringway Jacobs. With regard to other local roads, Cllr Keegan suggested that the Parish Council ask Cheshire East for a copy of their Inspection Records for Chorley Hall Lane (Blackshaw to Windermere) and Macclesfield Road. Cllr Williamson will follow this up and circulate a report by email.

## **8. Repairs to Cemetery and War Memorial.**

Cllr Williamson reported from an email from Cheshire East that they are undertaking an internal review of memorials across Cheshire East. It was agreed that Cllrs Williamson and Maczkowiak will meet with Arthur Pritchard to discuss the memorial and will arrange another meeting with the appropriate officer to discuss the cemetery.

## **9. Farmers Market – proposed changes.**

Mrs Munroe having had a response from Cheshire East reported that it would be too difficult to move the Farmers Market into the village. She has now asked Cheshire East if it would be possible to move the market into the park for a one off event in April. She wants to combine the market with other fun-day events and effectively rebrand the market and hopefully make it more successful. There was a division of opinion on whether or not the Parish Council should support this.

Mrs Munroe requested a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the Christmas event and it was agreed that Cllr Williamson will get back to her with some dates.

## **10. Festival Hall**

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting were circulated and Cllr Williamson reported on the meeting.

Condition report – The Hall Manager is to get quotes for further work

Parking - Options were discussed

Refurbishment – A form of words was agreed for a statement which will be issued to the press, the Parish Council wants the community representatives to include people from the Parish Plan Group and regular users of the hall.

There was a discussion about whether or not the committee should have a chairman. Cllr Williamson didn't want the availability of the chairman to dictate the meeting dates and it was suggested that the Hall Manager should be the chairman.

## **11. Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Schofield asked about the closure of the By-pass and both himself and Cllr Keegan agreed to send an email to Cheshire East outlining reasons why the closure is unacceptable.

Cllr Connor requested more help from other councillors for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. She would like to have a meeting with a few other councillors to finalise the arrangements. The publicity posters were circulated and there was a discussion about giving a gift to the Primary School children.

Cllr Connor raised the issue of members of the public making negative comments in the press about selling off playing fields and other matters. A discussion followed about the best way of keeping the public informed. Cllr Williamson stated that when the transfer of the allotments takes place the Parish Council will take a proposal to the village and ask for their endorsement.

Cllr Maczkowiak wanted an update on the parking issues on Oakfield Close. Cllr Williamson has been chasing this up and is still awaiting a response.

Cllr Maczkowiak asked about the planning of Open Spaces. Cllr Williamson reported that at the moment this is tied up in the 'Local Development Framework' which is due to be introduced in 2014. Information has been collated to create a list of sites and Cllr Williamson will ask his contact to provide this.

Cllr Bergin reported that there seems to have been an increase in petty crime. It was suggested that he liaises with the PCSO on this. A few councillors met the new Inspector, Cllr Williamson will draft a report from this meeting and circulate to other councillors.

The discussion moved on to drinking and Cllr Williamson discussed an arcangel initiative which has worked well in Wilmslow. He will invite the person who runs it to meet the Parish Council, although there is no resource within Cheshire Police to introduce a similar scheme to Alderley Edge.

Cllr Lloyd has made progress on the new website and hopes to have it finished soon.

Cllr Keegan believes the best way to tackle local issues is through the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. There are 32 active schemes in Alderley Edge and there is money in the budget to expand those. Cllr Williamson will follow this up and request an overview of the reports that go from the Police to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

**Meeting Closed:** 9.18pm

#### **ACTION SUMMARY**

<b>Undertaken By</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>When For</b>
Cllr Williamson	Report on parking meeting	As soon as practicle
Cllr Connor	Initiate litter campaign	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Speak with Wes Hutton re litter	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Contact Ringway Jacobs and CE re roads	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Contact Mrs Munroe re meeting date	As soon as practicle
Cllrs Schofield & Keegan	Letter re by-pass	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Obtain list of open spaces	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Draft report on meeting with new Inspector	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Obtain NW reports	As soon as practicle

**Councillor M Williamson**  
**CHAIRMAN**